

**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012**

**QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

**General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5**

**North Coast**

**Thursday 27 October 2011**

## Questions taken Without Notice during the committee hearing

The Hon. JAN BARHAM: Minister, congratulations on your appointment as Minister for the North Coast, which is an important portfolio that is long overdue. It is much appreciated also that the person responsible for the portfolio comes from the North Coast. My question relates to employment and investment. Did you provide information about the investment level of the Broadwater and Condong cogeneration plants and do you have any update on the future of those plants?

Mr DONALD PAGE: I could get that information for you.

**Answer: I refer the honourable member to my answer to QON 38.**

The Hon. JAN BARHAM: Is there any update on where they are going?

Mr DONALD PAGE: As you know, it is a very difficult situation because Delta owns half of that cogeneration plant project. For a range of reasons, including not being able to access fuel, the project is almost in liquidation. So it is a matter of real concern. At one point there was talk about having an overseas buyer to come in and take it on, however, I have not been advised in recent times whether that has come to fruition. I could find out. I would rather take that on notice and come back to you with the detail of it.

**Answer: I refer the honourable member to my answer to QON 38.**

The Hon. JAN BARHAM: You have had no indication of any other opportunities? Is it your understanding that the whole camphor laurel fuel system is a no-go?

Mr DONALD PAGE: I would rather get the detail.

The Hon. JAN BARHAM: Yes, I will put that on notice.

**Answer: I refer the honourable member to my answer to QON 38.**

The Hon. JAN BARHAM: You do not think it is enough to provide fuel levels?

Mr DONALD PAGE: I will get you an update on that.

**Answer: I refer the honourable member to my answer to QON 38.**

The Hon. JAN BARHAM: The budget indicates additional funds for social and crisis housing on the North Coast. Are you able to provide any information about where that will occur?

Mr DONALD PAGE: No, I cannot off the top of my head but I am happy to talk to the appropriate portfolio Minister about that and get that information for you.

**Answer: I refer the honourable member to my answer to QON 39.**