

Hon. Andrew Fraser MP Member for Mount Coot-tha



Deputy Premier, Treasurer Minister for State Development and Trade

20 October 2011

State and Council to work together on Legend development in Mount Isa

Acting Premier Andrew Fraser is considering the declaration of the Legend International Phosphate Plant as a 'prescribed project' and has decided to proceed with consultation on such a declaration.

A 'prescribed project' is a project which is of significance, particularly economically and socially, to Queensland or a region.

"Following the Premier's visit to Mount Isa organised by Member for Mount Isa Betty Kiernan, the Deputy Coordinator-General has held meetings on two occasions with the Mount Isa City Council to work towards a planning solution," the Acting Premier said.

"As the local Member, Betty Kiernan has been in regular contact to provide updates on this and other developments in the North West."

The Council continues its role as assessment manager for the project under this approach with the Office of Coordinator-General providing support as needed – and if required an ability to move the assessment along should it slow.

Betty Kiernan has welcomed the announcement which will progress the assessment process for the \$1.4 billion project which has the potential to generate up to 800 construction and 431 operational jobs.

"We are pleased that Mount Isa Mayor John Molony has publically expressed support for a prescribed approach and if a decision is made to declare the project a prescribed project we look forward to working in partnership with the Council to keep the project moving while maintaining a rigorous planning and assessment process."

The consultation process is proposed to conclude on 11 November 2011.

Media contact: Deputy Premier's office - 3224 6361