

CopperString progress hot topic at NQ Sustainable Resources Reference Group meeting

The Chair of the North Queensland Sustainable Resources Reference Group (RRG), the Honourable Tony McGrady AM has welcomed the participation via video-conference of the Honourable Dr Anthony Lynham, Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy in today's RRG meeting on the CopperString 2.0 project.

Mr McGrady said the RRG is a broad-based group established to promote the linkages between the CopperString transmission line and sustainable resource development across North and North-west Queensland. The RRG consists of representatives from Local Governments, business and community leaders along the Mount Isa to Townsville corridor, members include the Mayors of Cloncurry and Burdekin Councils, the CEO MITEZ, Chair of TEL and CopperString project founder John O'Brien as Deputy Chair.

Today's RRG meeting was very positive as it was a great opportunity to listen to Minister Lynham's optimistic view about the growth potential of the North West Minerals Province and discuss the Queensland Government's \$14.8 million development funding allocation for the project, announced as part of the COVID19 Queensland's Economic Recovery Strategy – Unite and Recover for Queensland Jobs.

CopperString founder and Townsville based businessman, Mr John O'Brien thanked the Queensland Government for its support and for providing \$14.8 million for the project to continue progressing down the approvals pathway.

CopperString's aim is to provide cheaper power for our world class North West Minerals Province by connecting up to the national grid. By extending the National Electricity Market out to the North West, there's a real potential to drive improvements to the global competitiveness of mining and minerals processing projects and deliver more jobs to regional Queenslanders.

"CopperString will be a critical piece of energy infrastructure for North and North West Queensland because cheaper power will drive the minerals and industrial manufacturing sector in North Queensland forward and unlock "A-Grade" renewable energy resources to underpin the rapid de-carbonisation of the North and North West Queensland regional industrial economy, Mr O'Brien said.

CopperString is expected to lower the cost of electricity in the NWMP by up to 40%, making Queensland's minerals resource sector more globally competitive, creating more jobs, and attracting more investment, however, to deliver our vision we've got more work to do.

The Chair of the RRG, Mr McGrady thanked everyone for participating in the meeting today and said he looks forward to using the great support the CopperString project is getting from the resource companies in the NWMP, from local, state and federal governments, business representatives and the local communities to deliver the project and begin construction in 2021.

For further information: <http://www.copperstring2.com.au> or email info@copperstring2.com.au

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