1. The former Daintree Electricity Supply Policy was introduced to discourage development in the environmentally sensitive Daintree region by preventing the construction of new electricity networks or the extension of Ergon Energy’s (Ergon) existing network.
2. The area is excluded from Ergon’s Distribution Authority and electricity supply via Ergon’s network is limited to each end of the Daintree region, near Forest Creek and Wujal Wujal. Most of the area has never been connected to the electricity grid.
3. The policy prevents residents and businesses in the area from developing their own isolated networks. Each resident or business is required to use their own individual generator which is expensive and inefficient.
4. Far stronger development and environmental controls are now in place at a local, state and federal level to manage growth than at the time of the introduction of the policy in 2000. Isolated networks can now be developed while meeting strict environmental requirements.
5. The cost of adding the region to Ergon’s Distribution Authority is prohibitive and would be an excessive burden on other electricity consumers in the state.
6. Cabinet approvedthe repeal of the Daintree Electricity Supply Policy whilst continuing to exclude the region from Ergon’s Distribution Authority.
7. *Attachments*
* [The Daintree Electricity Supply Policy](Attachments/Policy.pdf)