1. The Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Bill 2016 (the Bill) ensures that regional communities in Queensland, in the vicinity of large resource projects, benefit from the operation of those projects. The Bill limits the use of fly-in, fly-out (FIFO) workforce arrangements and ensure that local workers from nearby regional communities are not excluded from employment in the operation of those projects.
2. The objectives of the Bill are to:
* prescribe the social impact assessment process for resource projects;
* prohibit 100 per cent FIFO workforce arrangements for operational workers;
* prohibit discrimination against local residents in the recruitment process for operational workers and enable FIFO workers to move into the local community if they choose; and
* ensure that assessment and approval processes on the social impacts of resource projects are the same under both the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* and the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.
1. The anti-discrimination provisions in the Bill will be delivered through amendments to the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991*.
2. The Bill also amends the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* to prohibit underground coal gasification (UCG) and in situ oil shale gasification activities in Queensland. However, holders of mining tenements for the UCG trial projects will not be prevented from carrying out activities necessary for environmental rehabilitation, and the decommissioning and removal of plant and equipment related to the carrying out of their UCG activities. There are no granted mining tenements where in situ oil shale gasification activities are being, or have been, carried out.
3. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Bill 2016 into the Legislative Assembly.
4. *Attachments*
* [Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Bill 2016](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)