

*A strong voice for our future*

**BRITTANY LAUGA MP**

B Urb Dev (Urb&Reg Plan)(Hons), C.dec

**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL  
AND ASSISTANT MINISTER  
FOR EDUCATION**



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Lauga calls on Canavan to approve mine

Hundreds of mining jobs are in limbo because of Federal Government inaction in signing off on the Olive Downs coal mine in Central Queensland, the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said today.

Ms Lauga said the Olive Downs mine southeast of Moranbah, was approved by the Palaszczuk Government on 13 May 2019 through the Coordinator General, yet the mine's owners are still awaiting Federal Government approval.

"A decision by the Commonwealth Minister was due on 24 June 2019, 30 business days after the Federal Government received the Coordinator-General's evaluation report.

"This is the maximum allowable time under the Federal Government's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

"Bewilderingly, it's now been over 6 months and still no federal decision," said Ms Lauga.

She said this inaction was delaying a new coal mine that will bring a \$1 billion investment along with 500 full-time equivalent jobs during construction and an average of 1,000 full-time equivalent operational jobs, with an anticipated operational life of 79 years in regional Queensland.

"I understand the project is ready to start construction within two months of receiving final approvals.

"I'm calling on the Federal Resources Minister Senator Matt Canavan to get these approvals sorted and more jobs flowing for Central Queenslanders."

**ENDS Contact John 0400787037**

**ELECTORATE OFFICE**

Shop 3, Evia Building Normanby Street  
Yeppoon QLD 4703

**POSTAL ADDRESS**

Post Office Box 1474  
Yeppoon QLD 4703

**CONTACT**

Phone: (07) 4913 1500 Fax: (07) 4913 1509  
Email: keppel@parliament.qld.gov.au

**WEBSITE**

[www.brittanylauga.com.au](http://www.brittanylauga.com.au)