

CANEGROWERS MAC welcomes government undertaking

CANEGROWERS Mackay Area Committee Chairman Paul Schembri today thanked the Queensland Government for its promise to support Mackay Sugar Limited with an investment of up to \$14 million towards securing Nordzucker's proposal for Mackay Sugar.

Mr Schembri said that the commitment which was earmarked for the upcoming State Budget to be tabled on 11 June was very welcome.

"The investment will underpin the proposed \$120 million investment into Mackay Sugar by Nordzucker," said Mr Schembri.

"It should give growers confidence that the government supports Nordzucker's proposed investment for the future of the local industry," said Mr Schembri.

He said that while the government was making the commitment to assist in securing the jobs of 800 workers who make up Mackay Sugar's workforce in peak season, an additional 800 sugarcane farmers also depended on the viability of the milling enterprise.

"Growers and mill workers, both, have for more than 100 years produced an important high quality product, raw sugar, in the Mackay area sought after by our domestic and global customers," said Mr Schembri.

"The Nordzucker proposal, if it goes ahead, will enable us to continue to produce a valuable export commodity for Asian growth markets to benefit the Mackay economy and the wider Queensland economy.

"It is pleasing to see that the Queensland Government has recognised the importance of this development and is backing it with significant funding."

Mackay cane growers together supply around 5.1 million tonnes of cane to the three operating mills owned by Mackay Sugar – Marian, Racecourse and Farleigh.

More information: CANEGROWERS Mackay Area Committee Chairman Paul Schembri, 0417 604 196

