



Speech by

Mrs E. CUNNINGHAM

MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE

Hansard 19 November 1998

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT BILL

Mrs LIZ CUNNINGHAM (Gladstone—IND) (7.15 p.m.): I would like to clarify a couple of issues with the Minister. I indicate my appreciation for the replies that his officers have already given to some of my questions. The Minister indicated that he would put those answers on the record. I think a couple of those answers do not need to be placed on the record. Can the Minister detail any changes that are proposed in the new structure of the Estates Maintenance Fund? Will the restructure create any staff redundancies? Will the lease of unallocated State land under the Lands Act 1994 attract native title claim or negotiation? I think they are the only ones of my earlier questions that we need answered on the record.

The insertion of new sections 5A and 6—there may be other sections that I have not caught up with; I did not know this Bill was coming forward—gives the corporation the ability to buy and sell land. As a result of my experience at home, I know the importance of the negotiations between Government and large industries to provide a site and to negotiate infrastructure. Will the new head of power that the Minister will have introduce the spectre of third-party acquisitions? At the moment, it is not possible for the State Government to acquire land from private landowners and then renegotiate that land with a company for gain, potentially to the middle person, that is, the Government. At the moment, if it is freehold title land, the private company must negotiate with a landowner for the acquisition of that land. The reason that provision has been retained for years is that it protects landowners from the significant powers of acquisition that the Government carries for the purposes of Government business. Does this Bill introduce that spectre of third-party acquisition? I seek the Minister's clarification.
