



Speech by

Hon. D. HAMILL

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH

Hansard 1 December 1999

ELECTRICITY GENERATION

Hon. D. J. HAMILL (Ipswich—ALP) (Treasurer) (10.19 a.m.): Again the Parliament sees the standards of the Leader of the Opposition. And what standards they are! Not only does he disregard the rulings of the Chair, but he also has a scant regard for the facts and a pathological inability to tell the truth in this place. Let the record show—

Mr BORBIDGE: I rise to a point of order.

Mr HAMILL: And he cannot cop it, either!

Mr SPEAKER: Order!

Mr BORBIDGE: I find those remarks offensive and I ask that they be withdrawn. I will put my honesty and my integrity on the line against the "Net Bet Kid" any day.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! The Leader of the Opposition will resume his seat. There is no point of order.

Mr HAMILL: Let the facts show that the Borbidge Government not only abandoned—

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Treasurer, you have to withdraw first.

Mr HAMILL: I withdraw the comments that I last made. Let the facts show that not only did the Borbidge Government abandon Eastlink, it also failed to adopt either one of two of the significant options which were before it as part of the megawatt bidding process. The two key options which were before the coalition Government were a commitment to commence not a feasibility study, but a commitment to commence expansion at Tarong, and a commitment to undertake Callide C.

Instead, the coalition entered into very expensive take-or-pay contracts with respect to three peaking load stations. Extraordinarily, the coalition believed that it could use the most expensive fuel available—avgas—and put avgas into power generating when there were such coal options as Callide C and other gas options.

The other point which was made by the member for Surfers Paradise, and which I find extraordinary, is that today he has attacked Gladstone—

Time expired.
