



Speech by
**Mr DENVER
BEANLAND**

MEMBER FOR INDOOROOPIILLY

Hansard 18 August 1999

CSIRO SITE, INDOOROOPIILLY

Mr BEANLAND (Indooroopilly—LP) (10.28 a.m.): The Government is proposing to establish a natural sciences precinct at Meiers Road, Long Pocket/Indooroopilly. The site comprises some 17 hectares and involves the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Primary Industries, the CSIRO and the University of Queensland. Over a period of some of 20 years, it will employ some 1,200 people. No doubt because it is that type of establishment, this centre will grow and grow. So the number of 1,200 employees will no doubt increase substantially.

However, clearly the site is far too small for the proposal. Considering the long-term development that is proposed for this centre, involving many tens of millions of dollars, it is a very small site. Therefore, I ask and appeal to the Government to reconsider this matter. It is a proposal that has been on and off the agenda for quite a considerable period but in recent months has been considered seriously.

There are other sites available—some around the city and some perhaps not so close to the city—which would be more suitable. I believe that we have to consider the long-term potential of this site, considering that it is where some of the modern sciences are going to be studied. One of the issues involved in the site employing 1,200 people is the considerable increase in traffic that that number of people will create in the area and the problems that will flow from that. There is a residential area in this region of Long Pocket and once the traffic flow is doubled, trebled or quadrupled, the whole character and environment of the area will be changed dramatically.

I ask that Ministers, particularly the Minister for Natural Resources and the Minister for Primary Industries, and the Government as a whole reconsider this proposal and, instead, because of its long-term potential, consider placing the precinct somewhere that would be more suitable. The centre is going to grow and grow and there will be tens of millions of dollars involved. It would be a shame to spend the money on that site and find that in another 10 or 20 years, the site is totally unsuitable.
