



Speech by

Mr. R. CONNOR

MEMBER FOR NERANG

Hansard 27 May 1999

FISHERMEN'S HUTS

Mr CONNOR (Nerang—LP) (7.14 p.m.): Tonight, I rise to speak about fishermen's huts. This morning during question time the responsible Minister, Rod Welford, would not guarantee the future of fishermen's huts, whether they be freehold or permits to occupy.

I want to put the Minister on notice that the people of north Queensland will not accept their fishermen's huts being bulldozed; they will not accept a bunch of south-east Queensland based greenies dictating the lifestyle of north Queenslanders. That is what it is. To north Queenslanders, fishermen's huts are part of their culture and lifestyle. It makes living in north Queensland worth while.

This Minister and this Government have to understand that the people of north Queensland are different and they will not take this sitting down. They will fight and they will fight and they will fight, because the Minister is taking away their homes. When those people have days off and when they have their holidays, they make their fishermen's huts their homes. Yet the Minister is going to bulldoze them.

These people will not accept that. They will fight it. They will form human chains around those huts before they will let the Minister bulldoze them. They will stand in front of the bulldozers, they will fight and they will fight. I put the Beattie Labor Government on notice and say that, if it takes away those fishermen's huts from north Queenslanders, it will not win another seat in north Queensland for a generation. I put the Government on notice about that.
