



Speech by

**Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE**

**MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE**

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Hansard 4 March 1999

**GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE**

**Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE** (Surfers Paradise—NPA) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.22 a.m.): This morning we have seen the penny drop in respect of honourable members opposite. The can't do Premier leading a can't do Government has decided that he has to try to tell the people of Queensland what his lamentable excuses for inaction and indecision are. The simple fact is that the only significant achievement of the Beattie Government in its nine months in office has been to secure Baywatch for Queensland because Sydney did not want it. The simple fact is that there has been a range of lost opportunities under this Government.

This morning the Minister for Transport announced the rail link from Brisbane Airport. What he does not tell the House about is the very substantial delay on the original timetable and the agreement signed by the previous coalition Government. We see in respect of a whole range of issues how this Government is simply not performing. What have we lost? We have lost the World Garden Exhibition and Briztram. We now have a second-rate replacement for Briztram that will not service the areas of the original proposal put forward by the coalition Government. We saw the absolute debacle over Expo 2002. The Premier wanted the project until it was offered to him and then it was too hard. This morning we heard a report that the Disney project has gone to Hong Kong. We have seen the loss of the superstadium—a project that could have been delivered to the people of Queensland without cost to the taxpayers of this State. We saw the loss of the Flinders dam, and the Nathan dam is in doubt. That project, on the admission of former Premier Goss, would have generated 100,000 jobs. Instead, a power station—

**Mr ELDER:** I rise to a point of order. If the Nathan dam is in doubt, it is the work of Senator Hill, not this Government.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! There is no point of order.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** We fixed it. We fought the fight for the Nathan dam, when members opposite could not give a damn about it. This Government's record speaks for itself.

Time expired.

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