



Speech by

Hon. V. LESTER

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL

Hansard 3 March 1999

REVOCATION OF STATE FOREST AREAS

Hon. V. P. LESTER (Keppel—NPA) (4.42 p.m.): We have examined all six proposals. They all make commonsense. On a personal note, I was interested to hear the Clermont-Blair Athol railway line mentioned. It was very dear to my heart when I was the member for that area. I happened to be in the Cabinet on a day when there was a bit of money to spare, and I was able to secure that link between Blair Athol and Clermont. It is great to see how it has progressed from there.

This issue is a commonsense one. I congratulate the Cooloola Shire Council for acting as the trustee, as mentioned in proposal No. 6. This plan is terrific. It specifies that education is a primary management objective for the proposed reserve. The plan will allow for the land to be managed as an exhibition of farm forestry strategies and it will provide passive recreation opportunities for the local community. People will also be skilled in environmental strategies. That is very good indeed. Certainly, it is great to see that this excision of 4.25 hectares of land in the forest will go ahead. I will leave my contribution at that, because the other members of the PCJC need me to be present at a meeting. I wish the House all the best in its endeavours.
