



Speech by

**Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE**

**MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE**

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Hansard 16 May 2000

**SUN METALS ZINC REFINERY**

**Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE** (Surfers Paradise—NPA) (Leader of the Opposition) (3.27 a.m.): Again today we have seen the incredible hypocrisy of the member for Brisbane Central in seeking to take the credit from Labor Governments before him, as well as coalition Governments, for Korea Zinc. Why is Stage 2 of that project in doubt? Because the honourable member for Brisbane Central sided with the CFMEU; he sided with the picketers outside the gate.

**Mr BEATTIE:** I rise to a point of order. The Leader of the Opposition is misleading the House. I had discussions, as did the Deputy Premier, with the Choi brothers today and it is going ahead.

**Mr SPEAKER:** The Leader of the Opposition.

**Mr BORBIDGE:** I am confident that it will be going ahead under a coalition Government, because the Premier backed the picketers. He backed the CFMEU and he put Stage 2 of Korea Zinc on the backburner. That is the reason that today Korea Zinc got the Prime Minister to do the opening, not the Premier of Queensland. They know that when the Premier of Queensland could have done something to back them up, the Premier of Queensland was subservient to the CFMEU and his Labor-based colleagues in Townsville who were on the picket line. He backed the picketers against a company that had come to Queensland to invest a lot of money and to create a lot of wealth over a long period.

Let us see if Stage 2 starts in the very near future. Let us see if Stage 2 starts under a Government and under a Premier who betrayed the trust that the former Premier Wayne Goss gave to Korea Zinc, the parent company of Sun Metals. We had a Labor Premier in this State who did the right thing by that company. We now have a Labor Premier who did the wrong thing by that company and who today seeks to take the credit for a project that he sought to sabotage.

Time expired.

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