



Speech by

Hon. V. LESTER

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL

Hansard 18 May 2000

EVELYN STREET, YEPPOON

Hon. V. P. LESTER (Keppel—NPA) (7.22 p.m.): I believe that we have reached the stage at which Governments and councils have to be much more careful in the granting of housing approvals. I refer to an area of land near Evelyn Street in Yeppoon. I am not blaming anybody; I am simply saying that behind that street is a natural gully that has been a breeding place for possums, scrub turkeys and all sorts of other animals. A developer has come in who, it appears, has worked within the law. To be fair, he has left a small amount of land untouched, but it is nowhere near large enough to sustain these animals.

I simply say that, when we have a natural gully or rainforest area, somehow that area must be left alone. I refer also to developments that are being constructed on top of hills. That is fair enough, but down at the bottom often there is a lot of natural rainforest where animals live. Just a small number of trees left around a suburban area can make a difference. I know of people in Brisbane who have developed small rainforests in their backyards as best they can. It is surprising to see just how those areas have attracted frogs and other little animals.

I know that this is only a small matter that relates to the whole issue of animal and environmental protection. However, Ron Watson of Yeppoon has raised issues that I believe are worth backing. Unfortunately for Ron and other people who live in Evelyn Street, this issue appears to have passed us by.
