



Speech by

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MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

Hansard Tuesday, 22 March 2005

GOLD COAST, CRUISE SHIP TERMINAL

Mr LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—Lib) (6.31 pm): I rise in the House this evening to express my utter dismay at the Labor government's constant and unrelenting lack of foresight with regard to the building of a cruise ship terminal on the Gold Coast. I say at the outset that the Gold Coast needs a cruise ship terminal. The Gold Coast is a tourist mecca and I will support any kind of infrastructure that can add to the value of our tourist market on the Gold Coast.

The problem I have with the current proposal for the cruise ship terminal is the proposed position in the Southport seaway section of the Broadwater. The northern part of the Spit is sacrosanct and there has been this consensus on the Gold Coast for many years that, after the development of the Sheraton Mirage, there would be no more development north of that site.

The member for Southport and the member for Broadwater can say all they like that they campaigned on the basis that there would be no terminal in the Broadwater, but they cannot escape the fact that putting the terminal in the seaway mouth is putting the terminal in the Broadwater. If it is not the ocean it is the Broadwater. Putting the terminal on the Spit flies in the face of what Gold Coasters want. This is not a case of nimby—not in my backyard. I do want it in my backyard. That backyard is on the Southport bank of the western side of the Broadwater.

I also do not understand why this government is prepared to pay top dollar for a substandard option. We have had study after simulation after report into the viability of the seaway option, only to find out what commonsense would tell members if they visited the proposed site—that is, the seaway is not entirely suitable. In last week's *Gold Coast Bulletin* we read about a cruise ship captain, Attilio Guerrini, who lives on the Gold Coast. He was saying that it would be advisable for the government to consult cruise ship captains, the people who steer these ships, on the viability of the proposed cruise ship terminal site. He stated—

I'd like to answer their questions and then put my ideas forward because you have to think about ... space and the draught and wind and weather conditions.

Members should remember that this man drives the largest cruise ship ever to sail to Australia. I guarantee the Premier, the relevant ministers and the members for Southport and Broadwater that if they were to receive advice from captains they would be told that the seaway is not the most suitable site for this project and that putting it there to half-fulfil a local election promise is dangerous and irresponsible.

I would also like to address the comments of the Premier and his unfounded and childish attack on the federal member for Moncrieff, Steven Ciobo. To claim that Mr Ciobo's comments were breathtakingly stupid does not contribute to the debate in any manner, shape or form. Moreover, for the Premier to state that Mr Ciobo is on an illegal substance is downright ridiculous. Mr Ciobo is a fine federal member of parliament and deserves an apology from the Premier for such malicious, scurrilous and slanderous remarks. I urge the Premier to stand up in this place and say on the record why exactly it is such a bad idea to put the cruise ship terminal on the Broadwater.

Time expired.