



Speech by
Ian Rickuss

MEMBER FOR LOCKYER

Hansard Wednesday, 17 October 2007

TRANSPORT OPERATIONS (ROAD USE MANAGEMENT—GREEN VEHICLES CONCESSION) AMENDMENT BILL

Mr RICKUSS (Lockyer—NPA) (8.12 pm): I rise to speak in the debate on the Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Green Vehicles Concession) Amendment Bill 2007. I think it is actually a Pyrrhic victory for the shadow minister that only the member for Logan is speaking against the bill. None of the other Labor members are speaking against the bill. It is a victory for the member for Burdekin who has brought in such a good bill. It is astounding that no-one on the other side is game to speak against the bill.

Mr Reeves interjected.

Mr RICKUSS: Except the ratbags up the back there.

Mr Stevens: Mr Deputy Speaker, could the member resume his seat if he would like to interject.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hoolihan): Perhaps we could have your contribution through the chair, member for Lockyer. The member for Mansfield, we need some quiet.

Mr RICKUSS: Certainly, Mr Deputy Speaker, I would be more than happy to address you when I speak about this bill. The halfwits up the back keep interjecting.

Mr REEVES: Point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker. I take personal offence at the comment and I ask it to be withdrawn.

Mr RICKUSS: The member is in his seat. I was talking about the members up the back.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: Mr Deputy Speaker, if the reference was directed at me then I take offence at the reference.

Mr RICKUSS: It definitely was not directed at the member. It was to the phantom member sitting there.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Lockyer, you have been asked to withdraw.

Mr RICKUSS: I withdraw.

Mr Cripps interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I remind the member for Hinchinbrook that his seat is not where he is presently seated.

Mr RICKUSS: I must admit that it is actually a victory for the shadow minister. When talking about green vehicles I must congratulate the Howard government for the gas subsidies that it has brought in. There has been a great uptake there. That has improved the quality of the environment. Gas vehicles are efficient vehicles as are the green vehicles.

This is a good bill. I know it was the minister for transport who addressed this bill but I would ask the minister for climate change and sustainability to address the House on this issue.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I remind the member for Lockyer that this is a transport bill and the minister for transport is in the House.

Mr RICKUSS: I acknowledge that.

Mr Mickel: Ask your own member; it's not my bill.

Mr RICKUSS: I acknowledge that. In 2005 only one of the EPA's executive vehicles was an environmentally friendly vehicle. I would be interested to find out exactly how many of the EPA's executive vehicles are environmental vehicles. There are quite a few Calais on level 2 idling away and polluting the atmosphere when I hop into my car at different times. I have actually converted my electorate office car to gas because of the benefits that Mr Howard provided.

Mr McArdle: Wonderful man.

Mr RICKUSS: Terrific man.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Perhaps the member for Lockyer could come back to the debate.

Mr RICKUSS: I realise it is not his bill or his department's, but it would be interesting to know from the minister what percentage of Q-Fleet vehicles are green vehicles.

Mr Mickel: I'm sure the member will tell you.

Mr RICKUSS: I hope she does. I support this bill. I highlight the fact that it is a Pyrrhic victory for the member for Burdekin.

Mr Mickel: Tell me about John Howard again. I want to hear about him.

Mr RICKUSS: It is excellent the way John Howard has promoted gas conversion. I fully support the member for Burdekin.