



Speech by

# Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 23 May 2007

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Climate Change

**Hon. PD BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.47 am): The newly announced 'Stern style' Garnaut Climate Change Review is an important initiative for Queensland and Australia. Climate change is one of the biggest problems we face and it cannot be ignored. That is why my government is taking action on so many fronts.

Mr Speaker, as you may know, I have established a high-powered Future Strategies Division within my department. It will expedite policy development on energy and climate change issues. We have additionally established an Australian first in the Queensland Climate Change Centre of Excellence.

Following a suggestion from my deputy, Anna Bligh, my government along with those in the other states and territories has commissioned Professor Ross Garnaut to undertake a climate change review. I look forward to the results. I seek leave to incorporate the details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

We are also, Mr Speaker, taking our place among world leaders in finding solutions that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and that's why we are investing in clean coal technology.

Clean coal is the key to unlocking cleaner energy for the next and future generations, and Queensland has plans to export our innovations around the world.

So as a leader in climate change mitigation, my Government welcomes Professor Ross Garnaut's Climate Change Review which has been commissioned by Federal Labor and the State and Territory Governments.

Importantly, this Review will examine the costs of inaction as well as the impact climate change will have on our economy, environment, our future water resources, and jobs.

In the absence of a Commonwealth Government initiative of this calibre, the Garnaut Review will provide the much-needed independent assessment we need so that we can influence and drive climate change policies right up to the international level.

My Government looks forward to working with Professor Garnaut's secretariat in coming months.

The final report, expected late next year, will give us valuable insight that will assist us in keeping Queensland's strong economic performance on track despite the climate change challenge.