



Speech by

**Michael Crandon**

**MEMBER FOR COOMERA**

Hansard Wednesday, 19 May 2010

---

## **SOUTH-EAST QUEENSLAND WATER (DISTRIBUTION AND RETAIL RESTRUCTURING) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

**Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (8.26 pm): I rise to make a short contribution to the debate on the South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Traveston Dam: what did we have there? Nothing but waste—a waste of \$500 million or thereabouts. We had \$2.5 billion for the water recycling debacle. The water grid was built on a cost-plus basis. It is going to cost you a couple of thousand dollars to employ somebody and you just whack on another 20 per cent for yourself, no problem at all. So what happened? The cost blew out to about double what it should have cost to bring that water grid to fruition. Billions have been spent on a desalination plant that is just ticking over.

What is the result of all of this? Very little in real terms except for one thing: price rises for water for my constituents as well as for everyone else in South-East Queensland. I am told that the cost will be up from around the \$506 per household that it was last year to \$747 per household in 2012-13—a 50 per cent increase. That increase is on top of price rises in electricity, fuel, and on and on it goes. The big sleeper in all of this is the fluoride issue. That debacle is not over yet. In that regard, there is more pain to come. That is all just further confirmation of the mismanagement and incompetence of this government. When will it stop? When this government is voted out of office. That is when it will stop. The people of Queensland have had enough.