




Speech by

Peter Wellington

MEMBER FOR NICKLIN

Hansard Tuesday, 13 November 2012

MINERAL RESOURCES (MARY RIVER DAM SITE) AMENDMENT BILL: ORDER DISCHARGED

 **Mr WELLINGTON** (Nicklin—Ind) (11.12 am): I wish to respond to the minister's contribution and the member for Gympie's contribution. I note that they both recognise the intention to retain the previous government's restrictive area instrument so that the government can ensure that its new prospective strategy for the valley can be enforced, not just dealing with state government land but also dealing with the land in the future as it changes ownership. But what is important and what has not been acknowledged by either speaker is the need to ensure that the description that is available for searching is consistent with that intention. The description must be consistent with that intention.

At the moment the description on the site refers to something which is totally contrary to the government's intention, totally contrary to the minister's intention and totally contrary to the member for Gympie's intention. This is what constituents have been saying. This description must be changed so there is consistency so that when someone undertakes a search, as I did this morning, what we will not see is continual reference to that restrictive area instrument as it currently is. As at half past nine this morning, for the Mary River dam site, Kenilworth—119 and 118 the description is 'Mary River dam site Traveston Crossing'. That must be changed so the government's intention is consistent with the document. That is the basic principle.

In relation to the unintended consequences that the minister and the member for Gympie have referred to, I simply say that regularly we see bills introduced and amendments moved in the process. My expectation was that in due course we would have a series of amendments if it were to proceed to that stage. The reality is that the government has focused its attention on this matter and the reason I did not take the matter up with the current minister is that they were raised with the Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning. We will see on the parliamentary record a series of answers that the Deputy Premier provided to those questions. Can I simply say that at long last we have the government's focus and attention on the importance—

Mr Gibson interjected.

Mr WELLINGTON: I am not taking your interjection, member for Gympie. You have had your chance. I am responding to your contribution. I was also at the Mary Valley Festival and a number of people congratulated me on shifting the focus of the government to get this matter resolved. I look forward to proceeding to the next stage where the government will be able to come up with a better choice of words to reflect the government's intention.