




Speech By
Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

MINING AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (8.17 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Mining and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012. The bill amends a number of acts: the Mineral Resources Act 1989; the Fossicking Act 1994; the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004; the Petroleum Act 1923; the Geothermal Energy Act 2010; the Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2009; and the Mines Legislation (Streamlining) Amendment Act 2012. The bill also amends the Environmental Protection Act 1994, the Environmental Protection (Greentape Reduction) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012 and the Wild Rivers Act 2005.

Mining brings with it many opportunities and responsibilities. Some miners take all of the opportunities and ignore their responsibilities. Fortunately they are rare. Most miners take both opportunity and responsibility seriously. Take sandmining, for instance. I have a number of sand mines in my electorate. In discussion I have discovered that what on the surface appears to be pollution of sites is, in fact, quite the opposite: a restoration of those sites. It is important for government to look carefully at, and at times audit, activities to ensure the right and appropriate actions are being taken.

Jacobs Well is a lovely part of my electorate. Imagine driving down to Jacobs Well—

Ms Bates: On the M1?

Mr CRANDON: You can drive down the M1 on a quiet afternoon and head out to Jacobs Well. You can take exit 38 if it is not congested, but you might have to go down to exit 49.

Mr Rickuss: Drive past the Gem Hotel on the way.

Mr CRANDON: Yes, you can go past the Gem if you take exit 38. You head down to Jacobs Well, which is a lovely little area. It is absolutely gorgeous. There are a couple of sand mines down there, but there are some nice fences around them. Down there you can go fishing and you can go swimming. It is a beautiful area. The great thing is that there is a volunteer marine rescue service that is second to none. The Jacobs Well—

Mr Costigan interjected.

Mr CRANDON: Absolutely. I take that interjection.

Mr Rickuss: Do most of them work at the sand mines?

Mr CRANDON: No, none of them work at the sand mines, actually. Many of them work outside of the electorate, but that is okay. I accept them as my constituents when they are there.

Mr Rickuss: Mr Deputy Speaker, relevance?

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Berry): Order! Member for Coomera, I understand the member for Lockyer considers that you are bordering on irrelevance.

Mr CRANDON: I have no understanding of that, Mr Deputy Speaker. After all, we are talking about the Mining and Other Legislation Amendment Bill and I am referring, of course, to the sand

mines in Jacobs Well. As I said, there are a number of sand mines in a very lovely local and it is imperative that we preserve the area for future generations, which brings me back to the topic. In preserving the area, we also need to provide appropriate public transport, not only for residents but also for those who choose to work in the area, whether they work in the sand mines or elsewhere but live further away and do not have the luxury of a licence or private transport. The issue of access to work and to public transport is fundamental to any community that is so close to the M1 and the rail network. Whether we are talking about sandmining, opal mining or bauxite mining, it is important to remember that we need to consider the needs of the community within the area, cut red tape and green tape, and overcome the tyranny of transport and other needs of the local community. On that note, I commend the bill to the House.