




Speech By  
**Linus Power**

**MEMBER FOR LOGAN**

---

Record of Proceedings, 3 June 2015

**TRANSPORT LEGISLATION (FEES) AMENDMENT REGULATION (NO. 1):  
DISALLOWANCE OF STATUTORY INSTRUMENT**

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (8.21 pm): Madam Deputy Speaker, I urge you to take note of the clock. On this Wednesday, 3 June, we note the date, the time and the place. This is the moment when the economic credibility of the alternative LNP government was trashed. This is where those opposite surrendered any pretence that Queenslanders should have another look at the economic credibility of the people who went to the last election with the Strong Choices asset sales. I rise with regret that this is the last vestige of economic credibility that the LNP hoped to hold on to after the economic disaster that was the last Newman-Springborg-Nicholls government. The very revenue that this last government had promised the people of Queensland is to be trashed, throwing it away without any semblance that the LNP could put forward an economic plan that Queenslanders could have confidence in. In this case we see that the Liberal National Party went to the last election with a failed economic plan to sell off \$34 billion of Queensland's assets, but it has now junked that. This act of economic vandalism of its own budget is indeed only matched by the vandalism of the assets of Queensland that the LNP took to the last election. It went to the election pretending to have a plan for growth, but now we have found out that under the last two quarters of Nicholls's failed directorship of the Queensland economy we saw Nicholls's negative quarters of growth. We know that its pretence to grow the economy was junked too.

Every member of this parliament feels keenly that we want to provide the services and infrastructure that the people of this state need, especially the road funding that Queenslanders rely on. We on this side are keenly aware of the costs that Queenslanders face with their household budgets. We must balance these two. That is our challenge in this place. However, if we are to cynically attack any measure that raises revenue needed to provide essential services, then we would fail the very Queenslanders who entrusted us to be here. The public is more and more cynical about the role of those who seek to represent them and this disallowance motion would further feed into the cynicism that Queenslanders feel about politicians, especially the LNP members opposite who are so cynically seeking to mislead the public through this disallowance motion. I say with a heavy heart that this is exactly the cynical game playing and misleading sort of leadership highlighted in the recent report of former premier Rob Borbidge and former treasurer Joan Sheldon. In a scathing report, they made it clear that these types of misleading stunts have to end. We have heard in this place that the LNP made it clear through its budget and its campaign that it had no other intention and had not budgeted for anything else but this same increase. The hypocrisy of this action is simply breathtaking and flies in the face of the report that those opposite commissioned about themselves. However, the report has only been out a short time and perhaps the members of the LNP have not had enough time to internalise their behaviour in the direction of this report.

I represent the growing suburbs of the western part of Logan taking in the Wembley Road overpass, the Logan Motorway, the Mount Lindesay Highway, Camp Cable Road, Teviot Road, Chambers Flat Road, Cusack Lane, Browns Plains Road and Waterford Mount Tambourine Road.

They are the backbone of a network shared by council and state that are vital for Logan residents to get to work, shopping, sport and to visit friends. Already I have had the opportunity to sit down with the roads minister to talk about their needs, the challenges and the opportunities to improve those roads. Many who travel on the Mount Lindesay Highway would know that in the last term of the Labor government there was an extensive investment in the Mount Lindesay Highway building overpasses at Crowson Lane and Chambers Flat Road where they intersect with the Mount Lindesay Highway and the overpass at Stoney Camp Road and Granger Road. They are major investments that will stand the test of time. They are built to be ready to take more lanes under them. That is forward thinking for future needs—a lasting Labor investment.

However, the investment under the LNP sadly dwindled to less than one-tenth of the investment committed. I have had to fight hard to get these roads back on the agenda that had been deprioritised by the LNP. Already I have worked with the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and he is undertaking a review of the entire length of the Mount Lindesay Highway to assess the safety and needs of the road. I am sorry to say, Minister, that I will continue to be at your door to remind you of Logan's needs. However, the residents of Logan know that if the economic wreckers and hypocrites take their vandalism to the elements of the budget that were part of their budget, then we destroy all of that good work. Logan locals do not want to see forward budgets and investments torn up and thrown away. They need vital investment in our roads and they need this government to be committed to improving the quality and safety of our roads. The opposition's legacy of letting down Queenslanders on the costs of living leaves us little confidence in terms of what those opposite say here. Queenslanders do not forget the record 22 per cent increases in electricity bills those opposite delivered in just one year—a whopping \$440 increase on the average bill. They do not forget. They do not forget that just months ago the LNP reinforced that it would have made this same change. It was in the LNP budget. It was in the midyear economic review. It was part of the LNP government at the election and it would have been part of an LNP government. The hypocrisy is breathtaking. I am less angry than simply disappointed that we do not have a more responsible, measured opposition. I can do nothing but urge MPs present to support this measure as presented by both parties at the election, at the budget and at the midyear economic review and to reject the member for Indooroopilly's discredited disallowance motion.