




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

Record of Proceedings, 30 November 2016

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Renewable Energy

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply) (2.47 pm): What a fascinating, if dreary, contribution from the member for Burleigh. Who gave us high electricity prices? It was the LNP—43 per cent over three years. They did not get network costs under control. Here he is complaining. What did he do when prices increased by 43 per cent? He did absolutely nothing.

The Palaszczuk government's energy policies are absolutely clear. Electricity price stabilisation is happening—1.2 per cent per annum on average over the first two years. This is in stark contrast to the appalling record of the member for Clayfield and the member for Burleigh. We are committed to the transition to renewable energy and are playing an active role in that space. If Germany can do 32 per cent and California can do 30 per cent today, we can do a lot better than seven. That is what Queenslanders want us to do. They want us to get on with it.

They also look forward to more than \$630 million worth of investment coming into Queensland for renewable energy—a lot of it in North Queensland. The largest solar farm in Australia will be at Dalby. That will be delivered under this government and is something the Newman government could have done but chose not to do. Those opposite say that they are for jobs, but they gave us the highest unemployment level in 11 years under Tim Nicholls. That is because they missed opportunities such as large-scale renewables in Queensland.

We are also very clearly committed to keeping our assets in public hands. When we do that, we can get better outcomes for electricity consumers in Queensland. That is what we did when we directed Energex and Ergon to cop it sweet with the determination and pass it on to consumers—something the opposition did not do for three years. That is why they are in opposition.

We also commit to supporting vulnerable Queenslanders. There are 157,000 Queenslanders on low incomes who will be better off because of today's response to the QPC report—a compassionate government, an in-touch government. We will back consumers who need it, unlike those opposite. All we got from them was the promise of a \$120 reduction on power bills. Remember that one? What a cracker that was! I guess we will get another version of that sometime in the next 12 months, but it will not be worth the paper it is printed on. We also saw the member for Burleigh come out with a policy. He came out with a policy, and let me quote the article—

'We have to start thinking outside the box,' he said in an interview in Charleville ...

...

... why don't we build some sort of power station here in town?

That is the great contribution from the member for Burleigh. He did not say what kind of power station but some kind of power station in Charleville. What an amazingly comprehensive policy!

(Time expired)