




Speech By
Michael Hart

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

Record of Proceedings, 30 November 2016

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Electricity Prices

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (2.43 pm): Labor promised so much yet has delivered so little. This is an inexperienced government that, after 18 months, has to begrudgingly release the Productivity Commission report into electricity pricing which shows that Queenslanders will be paying more under Labor. The draft Productivity Commission report, which has been ignored by Annastacia Palaszczuk, was unequivocal. It said that a subsidy of nearly \$11 billion would be required for Labor's extreme renewable energy policy; electricity prices for households and industry would increase; Queensland's economy would shrink; and Queenslanders would be subsidising electricity prices for consumers in other states.

The bottom line is that Labor's extreme energy policy is unfair, unaffordable and unachievable. Again, Labor has abandoned workers and their economic security by being hell-bent on appeasing the Greens to protect their own jobs. As at 1 pm today the final report from the Productivity Commission had not been released, yet 10 minutes ago the Treasurer released the government's response. What is Labor hiding? It has now been 183 days since that final report was given to the government. This is the last possible day on which this government could respond to that report.

The government is hiding behind some means tested subsidies, but what about the rest of Queensland? What about the other 1.1 million households? What about the majority of Queenslanders? Given Labor's secrecy, it will not be good news. Honest, hardworking Queensland householders will be paying more. Taxpayers will be funding Annastacia's crazy green schemes. Workers will pay by losing their jobs as Queensland industries become uncompetitive and as jobs move to other states and overseas. Labor is not working. Labor is failing workers. Labor is failing families.

If the Premier is serious—if the Premier is fair dinkum—she will rule out higher prices for Queensland families, rule out billions of dollars of taxpayer funded subsidies and rule out job losses because of Labor's crazy green schemes. Labor has broken its election promise that more renewable energy would lower electricity prices for families and businesses and create more jobs. Labor has broken its election promise to develop policy responses that help put downward pressure on electricity prices. Labor has provided Queensland families with no certainty.

(Time expired)