



Speech By  
**Andrew Cripps**


**MEMBER FOR HINCHINBROOK**

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Record of Proceedings, 24 May 2017

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

**Carmichael Mine**

 **Mr CRIPPS** (Hinchinbrook—LNP) (2.53 pm): Over the past few days we have seen one of regional Queensland's most significant and shovel-ready economic development opportunities, Adani's Carmichael coalmine project in the Galilee Basin, shaken to its foundations because of the administrative and political incompetence of the Palaszczuk Labor government. The uncertainty that has been created across Central and North Queensland is extraordinary. It is severe and it is unforgivable. These communities have lived with Labor's politically schizophrenic position on the Adani Carmichael coalmine project for many years. The support is on and off. It is hot and cold and changes diametrically depending on whether government members are talking to people in Bowen or Brisbane. It is disgraceful and it is pathetic. It is certainly no way to run the state.

Yesterday the Deputy Premier ambushed the Premier in parliament. Ministers avoided like the plague saying the word 'Adani' during ministerial statements—it was just as farcical as that classic episode of *Fawlty Towers* where no-one was allowed to mention the war—until the Deputy Premier broke cover and staked out her ground on behalf of the loony left. The efforts by the Premier and the Treasurer to close the deal with Adani, reportedly over the past two years, to try to secure an investment for Queensland, have been undone by the naked political ambition of the Deputy Premier. They have now joined the ranks of the Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines in that hopelessly compromised position of having one leg either side of the barbed wire fence erected by Labor's left faction.

The Deputy Premier's statement before cabinet on Monday and her opportunistic answer to the question from the Deputy Leader of the Opposition yesterday are a clear indication that there is one almighty blue going on within the Palaszczuk government for the soul of the Queensland Labor Party. Meanwhile, thousands of jobs in Central and North Queensland hang in the balance. The most viable first mover into the Galilee Basin has been derailed. A final investment decision, worth tens of billions of dollars, has been indefinitely delayed. The Premier of this state is effectively a political hostage to the left faction of her own party and a lame duck who cannot deliver. Even one of their own, Townsville Mayor Jenny Hill, has said—

If some people who live in coffee-sipping inner Brisbane think they are going to destroy the rest of Queensland, they have a huge fight on their hands.

Tens of thousands of Queenslanders would benefit from the development of Adani's Carmichael coalmine project, yet Labor's left faction is blocking it to preserve a subversive political alliance with the extreme activist groups and to satisfy Labor's addiction to Greens preferences.