




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2017

MOTION

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Electricity Prices

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (6.31 pm): I rise to support the motion moved by the member for Indooroopilly. I have to say—to follow the Labor member who just spoke, the member for Lytton, who has obviously drunk the Kool Aid—seriously! Come on! Here we have a member of this House—

Ms PEASE: Mr Speaker, I rise to take a point of order. I take personal offence at the member for Nanango's comments and I ask that the member withdraw them.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I withdraw, but it is incredible that we have a member over there who has obviously read the speaking notes that have been handed around. They are all reading from the same—

Mr HINCHLIFFE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition knows that when a withdrawal is made it needs to be without qualification. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition said, 'I withdraw but ...' and then said a number of other things. I think the Deputy Leader of the Opposition needs to rephrase her comments.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I withdraw my comment in relation to the Kool Aid and drinking it. What we have seen is a member in this House—

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order, members! Pause the clock. We will wait.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Yes, I can hear you, member for Kawana. I do not know what you were drinking. We are all on the same page.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: It just shows how out of touch those opposite are, particularly those from Brisbane city. I quote the member for Lytton when she said that all Queenslanders can benefit from the Premier's big announcement in relation to Alinta Energy. I see the member for Cairns shaking his head, and so he should because everyone outside of the Brisbane CBD cannot—sorry, I will correct that. In the Labor Party's words, everyone outside of South-East Queensland can get this big discount, but let me read this. Any member of this House who resides in the postcode—

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. I am having difficulty hearing the Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Let me give you an example of somewhere within South-East Queensland. I appreciate that people in Bundaberg and Kingaroy automatically do not get it but, if you live in the postcode of 4306, guess what? You also cannot get this discount that the Premier is carrying on about. I will read out some of those regions because they are quite close to the Premier's own

electorate. They are in the Ipswich region in areas like Amberley, Blacksoil, Karalee, Karana Downs, Ripley and Willowbank. I ask the members for Ipswich and Ipswich West what they are doing about this, because I know that my constituents in Somerset who are hurting from electricity prices will not be fooled by this Premier and her incompetent government and by all the headlines that say it will ease the cost of living for them and ease the cost of power because it is a falsity. The Premier should hang her head in shame. She is even misleading the people in South-East Queensland, irrespective of the people in Roma or out west. Do not worry about them. She is misleading the people in her own backyard.

What I can say is that higher power prices are a tax by stealth—pure and simple. We have been travelling around this state meeting businesses, mums and dads, people who are fed up and frustrated with the Looney Tunes talk from this Labor government. We heard this morning that the CCIQ survey shows that power prices are the No. 1 issue for businesses.

We have a Premier here who has presided over a period of the highest ever electricity prices in the state of Queensland. We have seen their mad rush for renewables. What is that going to add to power bills? We heard the member who spoke just before me carrying on that we should have more and more renewables. What have we heard? It is going to cost \$10.8 billion. Where do you think that money will come from? Those prices will end up on the power bills of each and every Queenslanders. They will end up on the bills of each and every mum and dad across Queensland, each and every pensioner, each and every business owner, each and every small business owner and each and every major industry who have decided that they have to leave this state because of this incompetent government and their mad, headlong rush into renewables.

All they are doing is pushing power prices up. They are taxing Queenslanders and, from what we have heard from those opposite, they are proud of it because apparently everywhere across Queensland can get this great discount that we read about in the paper. Anyone outside of South-East Queensland knows that that is a falsity. They are misleading the people of Queensland. It is typical of this Labor government to completely forget about rural and regional Queensland. Only the LNP will stand up for the people of Queensland.

(Time expired)