




Speech By  
**Deb Frecklington**

**MEMBER FOR NANANGO**

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**MOTION: ENERGY COMPANIES, EXECUTIVE BONUSES**

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (6.23 pm): I rise in the House today to support the member for Burleigh's sensible motion. Every day we sit here listening to these motions and hope that some form of common sense is going to come into the heads of those opposite in the Palaszczuk government.

**An opposition member:** You'll be waiting a while.

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** I take that interjection. We will be waiting a while. We have just had to sit through a couple of speakers who are out of touch with anything outside of Brisbane. I am disappointed that the member for Gladstone, who should know better, spoke on this issue today saying do not worry about \$1.3 million. I apologise. That may have come from the member for Murrumba. He said something like it is only \$1.3 million. What sort of Labornomics is that? \$1.3 million means a lot to people who are struggling. It means a lot to the mums and dads of the Nanango electorate, the Callide electorate and out in Longreach at the pub that the member for Gregory was talking about. \$1.3 million is a lot of money to small or large businesses and farmers across our great state who are struggling to pay their electricity prices.

What is this government's plan? Put your air conditioner up to 26 degrees! Isn't that rocket science? The member for Murrumba and the member for Gladstone obviously think that it is okay to say to people in Western Queensland and outside of the centre of Brisbane, where, I might add, it actually gets very hot over Christmas as well, 'It's okay, mums and dads, just turn your air conditioner up to 26 degrees.' Let me tell those opposite that half of those people are not even turning on their air conditioner because they cannot afford the increase in power bills under this Labor government.

Under this Palaszczuk Labor government and the Minister for Energy we have seen a 70 per cent increase in wholesale energy prices. Why not give those energy executives an incentive to put downward pressure on energy prices? It is not that difficult. It has worked before. When the LNP was in government we put an executive bonus freeze on the executives at QR. Guess what? Under the LNP the trains ran on time. Under this government—

**An opposition member:** They don't run at all!

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** They do not run at all. I will take that interjection. On Christmas Day they did not run. This year we will have no trains turning up, hot beer, raw turkey and sweaty sheets. The Palaszczuk government has decided to take the LNP's policy. Who in the government decided to do that? That would be the Deputy Premier, the member for South Brisbane, who came out the other day saying, 'We are going to make the trains run on time by freezing executive bonuses.'

**An opposition member:** Bingo!

**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** Bingo! I wonder whose suggestion that was. That is right, that would be the suggestion of the LNP. One of the ways the LNP successfully got the trains to run on time was by freezing executive bonuses. We heard from the member for Murrumba that it means nothing to freeze executive bonuses. Coming from a business background, I understand that to make your business work

you need to meet your KPIs. Only the LNP has a plan to put downward pressure on electricity prices. We will get rid of the unrealistic 50 per cent renewable energy target. We are only at four per cent at the moment and those opposite are already telling us we have to put our air conditioners up to 26 degrees. The LNP will pave the way to build a low-emission, high-efficiency coal-fired power station in North Queensland because the people of North Queensland deserve to have baseload power just like the people in the bottom of the state.