



Speech By
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MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Carmichael Mine

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (3.00 pm): You know Queensland is not heading in the right direction when the employment minister cannot even utter the words 'Adani Carmichael mine' and the jobs at risk there. The actions of this government and the way it has mishandled Adani have been nothing short of duplicitous. Prior to the 2015 state election the Premier tried to walk both sides. She wanted voters in regional seats to think she supported regional jobs but also knew that green preferences were needed in inner Brisbane seats. She tried to have it both ways. This was the Premier's catchcry when asked about it during the election campaign: 'I'm for jobs in the Galilee Basin, but it must stack up commercially.' The member for South Brisbane went even further. The then deputy opposition leader said that Labor would abandon 'unprecedented' support for the Adani project and said any secret deal was 'simply an outrage'.

After the election the Premier changed her tune. With every visit to Townsville or Rockhampton, the Premier tried to present herself as the champion of the project. We have now learned that as far back as June 2015 the Cabinet Budget Review Committee provided approval for the Treasurer to start discussions on a secret royalties deal with Adani. This is the exact type of secret deal the Premier and the Deputy Premier had raged against in opposition, yet the public was kept in the dark. As this secret plan was developed, the Premier took every opportunity to pose alongside Adani's representatives about jobs and shout about these jobs. I table a photograph of her with Mr Adani himself shaking hands about this great project.

Tabled paper: Photograph of the Premier, Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk MP and Adani Group Chairman, Gautam Adani [\[768\]](#).

When Townsville was confirmed as Adani's regional headquarters, the Premier called it a 'new dawn'. In another media stunt, the Premier took a delegation of regional mayors to India and, as I said, the Premier called it a 'new dawn'. It has now been reported that prior to that visit the Under Treasurer made a secret formal offer over royalties rates to Adani. Tellingly, the Under Treasurer also formed part of the trip to India in March. In the same month the Premier was in India, left factional leaders the Deputy Premier and the environment minister met with militant activists determined to kill the project including GetUp! and the Environmental Defenders Office. While the Premier was in India, the Deputy Premier was meeting the detractors of this project. The battlelines for this civil war were drawn then. The fix was in.

Knowing Adani was only a week away from making a final investment decision on this important project, last week Labor's left damagingly leaked details of the proposed royalties holiday. The Deputy Premier, who had argued against secret deals in opposition but had reportedly known about the secret deal for over a year and a half, made the decision that her job was more important than the jobs of regional Queenslanders. This act of sabotage has put the Adani project on indefinite hold. The people of Queensland have been held ransom by a small group of vested green interests. The Premier's handshake has been shown to be worthless. Her leadership has failed the test. Queenslanders deserve better.