




Speech By
Lachlan Millar

MEMBER FOR GREGORY

Record of Proceedings, 23 May 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Regional and Rural Queensland

 **Mr MILLAR** (Gregory—LNP) (9.59 pm): Tonight I pay tribute to the Leader of the Opposition, Tim Nicholls, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Deb Frecklington, and the entire LNP shadow cabinet, who continue to travel throughout regional Queensland. As the Leader of the Opposition continues to demonstrate, regional and rural Queensland is in the LNP's DNA, and we are determined to listen and implement policies that will build a better Queensland. From Cape York to Coolangatta and from Brisbane to Bedourie, the LNP will deliver for all of Queensland.

The Leader of the Opposition, Tim Nicholls, the shadow minister for energy and water, Michael Hart, and the shadow minister for agriculture, Dale Last, spent last Thursday inspecting showpiece agricultural industries in the Emerald irrigation area. We were joined by the Central Highlands Regional Council mayor, Kerry Hayes, the Central Highlands Development Corporation General Manager, Sandra Hobbs, and agricultural adviser Liz Alexander. We visited the Fairbairn Dam, which is the lifeblood of the Emerald area and the Central Highlands. We also visited one of the biggest citrus producers in the southern hemisphere, 2PH Farms. Owner Craig Pressler gave us an opportunity to inspect the state-of-the-art processing facility based in Emerald, which employs over 300 people. 2PH Farms exports mandarins to key destinations such as China and South-East Asia. We also visited many other agricultural areas.

On Friday the whole shadow cabinet attended the Emerald community forum. All shadow cabinet members met with key community groups—which is something that the Labor Party has not done in Emerald—to discuss key issues.

Mr Costigan interjected.

Mr MILLAR: Absolutely. We discussed key issues such as attracting teachers to smaller remote and rural schools, sealing critical roads such as the Tambo-Springsure Road and supporting country racing. We also had the opportunity to show people what the Central Highlands has to offer. The LNP understands regional Queensland and is ready to govern for all of Queensland.

Here is the thing: what is disappointing is the absolute mess that the Labor Party has caused when it comes to the Adani Carmichael mine. What we have is a civil war between the green Labor movement or, as they like to call them, the left and the right of the cabinet.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr MILLAR: I take the interjection. They are winning and they have shut down the Premier.

Mr SPEAKER: I am trying to help you, member for Gregory, so that Hansard can accurately record your contribution. Would you like to continue?

Mr MILLAR: We need a Labor government that is prepared to back the Adani Carmichael mine. I ask: do you back it or don't you back it? They have stopped the mine in its tracks, destroyed regional

jobs and shut down any prospects for towns such as Emerald, Clermont, Alpha, Jericho and the list goes on. In Central and North Queensland our opportunities for job growth have been stopped in their tracks by the loony left faction of the Labor Party, which is more interested in winning seats in Brisbane-based areas at the expense of rural and regional Queensland.

(Time expired)