



Speech By  
**Tim Nicholls**


**MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

---

Record of Proceedings, 24 May 2017

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Leadership**

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.47 pm): This is a bitterly divided government so riven by power struggles that it is freezing out Queenslanders from the more than 6,000 jobs which would be created by the Adani Carmichael mine. Since the election of this inexperienced do-nothing Labor government 15,000 young Queenslanders have lost their jobs. The Adani project had given them hope, but as it stands now that hope has been dashed—lost to a petty and pitiful Labor Party indulgence over who is the boss. In failing to stand up to the Deputy Premier and the green preference whisperers who threaten her seat, the Premier has failed the test of leadership.

When it comes to the Deputy Premier, the Premier's nod is as good as her wink, but when the Premier shakes hands on a deal with the Adani mining company it delivers nothing but duplicity to job-hungry Queenslanders. That is not leadership: it is craven buckling to the factional warfare of the Labor Party with ramifications that are now well beyond the usual internet sniping. Adani is reeling, this Premier is now staggering and the public sees her as the face of a cabinet in crisis.

Last week we had a malicious leak from the left which was designed to scuttle the \$16.5 billion Adani Carmichael mine. Instead of staring down this emergent threat to Queensland's jobs, billions of investment, hundreds of millions in taxes and royalties and the next wave of resource projects, we have a Premier who blinked. By her failure to lead and her failure to take strong decisive action, the Premier pushed away an exasperated Adani. The Premier now says to Queensland jobseekers, 'All bets are off'. Today we learned of a leak from the right—first we had the left and then we had the right—about a secret letter from the Under Treasurer to Adani confirming that a deal had been done—the same deal the Premier shook hands on in March, during her much vaunted tour.

How can Queensland business leaders be expected to trust the Premier's word when she does not honour her handshake deals? This Labor government has abandoned workers and jobs to court dirty Greens preferences. For a Premier of Queensland there can be no more demonstrable failure.

*(Time expired)*