




Speech By
Tim Nicholls

MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.58 pm): Cut and run—the member for Mount Coot-tha, the member for Sandgate, the member for Woodridge! Talk about cut and run! Another day, another far-reaching probe into grubby union donations and dodgy political bedmates, this one now embroiling the federal Labor leader and the first law officer of the Palaszczuk Labor government. This is yet more evidence of the sordid alliance between the unions, the Labor Party and guerrilla green groups.

This noxious weed of allegiance has run riot here in Queensland. The unions have taken control of this Labor government and this Premier lock, stock and barrel. How else do we explain a Premier who has failed to break ties with the vile CFMEU thugs who fund the Labor Party while threatening to rape children? Two weeks after news of this sickening behaviour, we have a Premier who still refuses to condemn the CFMEU, will not return the union's \$180,000 of donations to the Labor Party and plans to keep taking their grubby money. That is not the leadership that Queenslanders are looking for. It is spineless and, frankly, disgusting. It is because this Premier is owned lock, stock and barrel by the union movement.

The Premier appointed the member for Yeerongpilly, a former ETU member, as the Minister for Energy. That minister is clearly the union's man in the cabinet lock, stock and barrel. Queenslanders know that the minister has been lobbied by the ETU to stop a \$13 billion superannuation fund merger to protect union jobs on boards. Queenslanders know that the minister has been lobbied by the ETU to provide pay increases to electrical workers above the government's own wages policy that applies to teachers, nurses, police and ambulance officers. Queenslanders know the price: they have never paid more for electricity than they have under this Premier and this Labor government.

In light of today's revelations, clearly, the Premier's Attorney-General now has questions to answer in relation to the electoral donations from the Australian Workers' Union. There are questions for the Premier, too. Does this Premier back Labor's smear of independent hardworking Australian Federal Police officers as being somehow compromised? Will she today deal with the one real and stark compromise that has rendered her a puppet Premier of the unions? Will she ban union donations? Queenslanders know that the alternative—

(Time expired)