




Speech By
Tim Nicholls

MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD

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ADJOURNMENT

Queensland Racing

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (7.24 pm): There is a stink in racing in Queensland, and that stink is coming from the Labor Party. That stink is affecting everyone in the racing industry and it is particularly affecting the people in my electorate: the people in Hendra, the people in Mein Street in Hendra; the people in Kitchener Road in Hendra; the people in Gordon Street in Hendra; and the people in Goble Street in Hendra. They are being affected because of the incompetence of this do-nothing, lazy Labor Palaszczuk government. What are they suffering from?

Last week two tonnes of organic fertiliser—let's call it what it is: chicken poo—was dumped on the track and left to sit there, and it blows straight across the residents' houses. That follows two months of dust flying through their houses and it follows two months of something called Stabilock, a plastic stabiliser, being exposed and blowing into their houses and clogging up their swimming pool filters. This follows a month after a public meeting where guarantees and assurances were given by Racing Queensland that still have not been fulfilled.

Why should the residents of Hendra—indeed, why should the entire racing industry—not be surprised by what has happened? There have been three racing ministers in three years. We had the mighty Bill Byrne, who did not do anything in relation to the racing industry for six months. He sat on his hands while the track at Eagle Farm was left fallow. Then we had Minister Grace. Do you remember her? There were 200 plus amendments on the first piece of legislation she brought in. The entire bill had to be rewritten. Last August she said, 'I am targeting racing returning to Eagle Farm in April 2018.' She is 10 days away. Minister, how is that promise looking? It is looking about as good as your promises not to introduce new taxes.

Now we turn to Minister Hinchliffe, the third of the Labor ministers—the triumvirate of failure—coming fresh from the rail fail. How does he get his messages? They are tweeted to him on a Friday afternoon. What does he do? He stands up today and issues a warning to Racing Queensland. We have also had three chief executives at Racing Queensland in three years, and the latest one fell on his sword today. Was he pushed or did he jump? The word on the street is that he was pushed. Who is paying the price? Racing in Queensland. After three years under this government there is not one scintilla of care for the racing industry. Since last year the racing industry has not been able to race at Eagle Farm, which generates 40 per cent of the state's wagering turnover.

(Time expired)