




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 14 February 2019

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Office of Industrial Relations, CFMMEU

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (2.06 pm): I have spoken recently about the alleged targeted campaign of harassment by the Office of Industrial Relations, the CFMMEU and Ms Helen Burgess and others of the Office of Industrial Relations against Enco Precast Pty Ltd. It is clear that the actions of Ms Burgess, a director at Workplace Health and Safety, call into question the independence of the Office of Industrial Relations. It has been compromised. It appears that the CFMMEU have Ms Burgess' mobile number on speed dial. I table a timeline of events prepared by Enco evidencing the targeted campaign pursued by Ms Burgess on behalf of the CFMMEU against Enco Precast.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, titled 'Enco Precast Pty Ltd—Timeline of events with Office of Industrial Relations' [186](#).

On 19 December 2018 I wrote to the CCC requesting an investigation into Ms Burgess's conduct. On 21 December 2018 I wrote to the acting deputy director-general, Mr Tony James, advising of my referral and requested an independent officer take over dealings with Enco. I table copies of that correspondence, as well as correspondence between HopgoodGanim Lawyers and the Office of Industrial Relations.

Tabled paper: Bundle of correspondence, various dates, relating to interactions between Enco Precast Pty Ltd and the Office of Industrial Relations [187](#).

Former deputy director-general, Mr Simon Blackwood, has gone. Where is Mr Blackwood? I understand he was not happy that the CFMMEU had infiltrated the Office of Industrial Relations and fought back against it. All of a sudden a senior public servant with Labor links who has worked for both sides of politics has gone. Evidence of threats, intimidation and trespassing are all clearly detailed in the correspondence.

The watchdog has recently brought action against CFMMEU organiser Blake Hynes after he allegedly called the general manager of Enco Precast an 'f'—expletive—dog 'c'—expletive—during a safety inspection and made other verbal threats of intimidation. This unacceptable conduct is seemingly endorsed by Ms Burgess and the Office of Industrial Relations and the Labor government.

There are countless examples of Ms Burgess's unacceptable, unreasonable and unethical conduct arising from her targeted campaign of harassment against Enco Precast. We have evidence of falsified complaints, forced entry without basis, unreasonable threats of contravention notices, unreasonable time frames for responses, and inspectors unclear of the purpose of inspections after being dispatched by Ms Burgess.

There has also been the unprecedented step of the regulator demanding all names, addresses and phone numbers of every employee at Enco Precast. This is despite an officer's advice who headed up an audit on 7 January that the regulator has no need for this information. It is because the CFMMEU wants that information of the employees.

I call on the minister to release the phone records between Ms Burgess and the CFMMEU. I call on the minister to advise this House of inspectors' union affiliations employed within the Office of Industrial Relations and what conflicts have been disclosed. This conduct by the regulator falls so far outside of section 152 of the Work Health and Safety Act that this minister is either complicit or just incompetent. Ms Burgess should be stood down with an independent investigation.

The minister says it takes longer than 10 minutes to get from the Sunshine Coast to Brisbane. Yes—that was my point yesterday. Ms Burgess was waiting around the corner, having received a phone call from the CFMMEU, because she knew to come from Brisbane to the Sunshine Coast.

(Time expired)