




Speech By
Hon. Leeanne Enoch

MEMBER FOR ALGESTER

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MOTION

Federal Budget

 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts) (12.49 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Premier's motion. This week's federal LNP budget was a disaster for Queenslanders. It was a disaster for our state, for our neighbours and for the members of our community who depend on the National Disability Insurance Scheme and who have been let down by the federal government.

The member for Broadwater stands up here and says that this motion is not very useful because we cannot change anything, that nothing will change as a result of this motion. Let me inform the House that the thousands of people who marched on the former Campbell Newman LNP government in this state to sign up to the NDIS are ready to go again. When we see \$1.6 billion held back from the NDIS, underspent and then used as a surplus, that is disgusting. There will be change in six weeks when there is an election and those people who depend on the NDIS vote. They will remember this motion and exactly what the Morrison government has done to them. I know that the minister responsible for disability services in Queensland will be certain to remind everybody of what they see in this budget.

This budget has also been an environmental disaster. There were no new initiatives to tackle climate change and no new money for the Great Barrier Reef. That is what Scott Morrison is taking to the federal election. For years our government has consistently called on the federal LNP to step up and provide leadership on climate action. I have been calling on the federal environment minister to show some leadership in this space, and still nothing. On Tuesday night we heard more deafening silence from the federal LNP. They have shown no leadership, they have no new ideas and they continue to turn their backs on the scientific evidence that is compelling us to act now.

The LNP's integrity on the subject of climate change is absolutely shot. When we see reports today from Canberra that the environment minister has announced tens of thousands of dollars in a highly marginal seat before the applications for the program have actually opened, the integrity of the federal LNP in this space is absolutely shot. Clearly this budget is just about sandbagging their seats rather than a future, a vision, for our country.

The recent UN IPCC report on climate change was a clear signal that urgent action is needed. Children are marching in the streets and citizens are calling on their governments to forge a pathway forward that reduces emissions, protects jobs and preserves our environment. A few weeks ago I was in Wujal Wujal, where I heard from traditional owners who had just experienced an incredible flooding event. They had no story for that event. They had no story in the history of their existence in the area that matched the experience they had just had. We know that everybody understands this, but we are not seeing the leadership from the federal government. As a government here in Queensland we have set some ambitious targets to ensure we do our part to combat climate change, but we know that more action is needed.

Leading up to the budget, the federal government announced funding to reboot the Emissions Reduction Fund, but now we know that less than 10 per cent of that funding has been allocated in forward estimates. The Morrison government is also staunchly holding to its old emissions reduction targets, even in the face of a global call from the UN Secretary-General urging all Paris agreement signatories to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45 per cent over the next decade and to net zero by 2050.

Stakeholders have been expressing their complete dismay with the federal LNP's budget. One from the Climate Council quoted the extreme weather events we are experiencing that are being made worse by climate change, yet this federal budget failed to deliver on climate. Labor accepts the science on climate change—and we say this every time—but from the federal government we see a lack of leadership and a sense of no understanding of where our future is. All they are doing is sandbagging their own seats without any understanding of what we need to put in place right now to ensure the future of our kids and communities. That is why we will always stand up for the people of Queensland.