



Speech By  
**Tim Mander**


**MEMBER FOR EVERTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 18 September 2019

**MOTION**

**Electricity Assets**

 **Mr MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.13 pm): I rise to speak against this motion. What a desperate government that comes into this House today to look for a distraction.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr MANDER:** I take those interjections: 'Let us look at this other shiny bauble over here which is not real shiny anyhow.' This is a government engulfed in an integrity crisis and looking for a distraction. The hypocrisy of those opposite to talk to this side of the House about a track record of asset sales! Let us talk about a track record with regard to asset sales. Let us talk about ministers in this government who were ministers and backbenchers in the Bligh government who agreed to the sale of assets. Let us talk about the members for Sandgate, Cooper and Woodridge. Who else was there? There were a couple of others there as well.

**An honourable member:** Inala.

**Mr MANDER:** The member for Inala—of course! If it were not so serious, it would be laughable. The only side of parliament that sold assets in this state—and the list is endless—is the Labor side. There were many reasons, but what was the one for which the Bligh government was voted out in record numbers? It was because they deceived the Queensland public. They made no mention whatsoever of asset sales in the 2009 election campaign. Just weeks later, then premier Bligh announced the asset sales. Did they rue that day? Not only did they lose the confidence of Queenslanders, they lost the confidence of the trade union movement, which felt betrayed, understandably, by the Bligh government. I will be the first of many who will talk about the track record of the Labor Party with regard to assets.

**Ms Trad** interjected.

**Mr MANDER:** I take that interjection from the Treasurer: 'Come on, Tim.' I will come in and tell you about these asset sales.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! Pause the clock. Members will refer to each other by their correct titles. It is the last warning that will be issued during this debate.

**Mr MANDER:** The hypocrisy is beyond belief. We have a Treasurer who is looking for a distraction, a Treasurer who is engulfed in an integrity crisis—and it gets deeper and deeper—and a Treasurer who thinks it is all over because the CCC said there were no corruption charges to answer, but there are so many more questions. We will never forget it—and nor will the people of Queensland when reminded of the integrity crisis that engulfs this Treasurer. That is why the government is looking for a distraction.

I refer to Queensland Motorways, \$3 billion; Abbot Point port, \$1.8 billion; QR National, \$4 billion; Port of Brisbane, \$2.1 billion, Forestry Plantations, \$600 million; Cairns and Mackay airports, \$738 million; Brisbane Airport, \$289 million; wind energy assets, \$460 million; gas assets and Enertrade, \$268 million; Golden Casket, \$530 million; Power Direct, \$1.2 billion; Sun Gas, \$75 million; Sun Retail, \$1.2 billion; and Allgas, \$535 million. Today, what do Queenslanders have to show for it? We have a debt travelling towards \$90 billion, despite the sale of these assets by a government that deceived the Queensland public. They have absolutely washed all that sale money down the drain, because they cannot manage anything. They cannot manage the Queensland economy, and we are wearing the price of that now. Never have I seen such an own goal by a government that comes into this House and moves this motion. That shows the hypocrisy of the Labor government—the only government in Queensland that sold assets.