



Speech By  
**David Crisafulli**


**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Ecotourism

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (7.00 pm): The state government's ecotourism strategy is in tatters. It is in tatters because of a void of leadership. It is in tatters because of a schism that exists between the departments of tourism and environment. No-one is driving the need to get this vital section of our tourism economy going.

Nowhere is this highlighted more than at Green Mountains Campground. This is a project that in 2010 the then environment minister, who ironically is the tourism minister today, said would be a wonderful project. It is a project that in 2017 we heard would be opened by Christmas. In July last year, we were told it would be open by early 2020. The campgrounds are closed. The project has not even started. A project that will deliver jobs and good things for the environment, that is supposed to be the signature project of this government and that was due to be completed by now, has not even started. It is low impact. It allows people with a disability to experience all that is good about Mother Nature. Yet we have a department of environment that is incapable of seeing it to fruition, a department that listens too much to special interest groups, a department that lacks the skill to deliver and a department that lacks the political will to stand up to a handful of people who believe that the only way to protect a national park is to lock it up and allow the feral pigs and weeds to run rampant. That is the point we have reached in this state: a government after a decade cannot deliver a project.

I get asked, 'What is the LNP's position on ecotourism?' We will unlock its potential. We will do it in a sensible and sensitive way. Do members know the best way to do it? By making the departments of tourism and environment one. The days of fighting, of trade-offs, of one department speaking with forked tongue and the other doing all it can to stop will be over. Tonight I make a plea to those opposite—please, will somebody show leadership and make it happen? I do not want to wait to 2021 to give the order to make this happen. I want to see someone on the other side step up, stop kowtowing to special interest groups and find a way to deliver a tourism future for a struggling state.