



Speech By  
**Colin Boyce**

**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 February 2021


## **APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) (2020-2021) BILL**

### **APPROPRIATION (2020-2021) BILL**

#### **Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)**

#### **Appropriation (2020-2021) Bill**

#### **Transport and Resources Committee, Report**

 **Mr BOYCE** (Callide—LNP) (5.51 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the debate on the Transport and Resources Committee's estimates report on the Appropriation (2020-2021) Bill. Once again it has been made quite clear to me that the estimates process does not work as it should. In fact, I think it is rather farcical. What I have seen is a government and its ministers involved in instituting a process of unaccountability where we are, in many cases, unable to question or examine properly the performance of government. This has been outlined clearly in our statement of reservation attached to the committee report.

I concur with what the member for Kawana said in his address earlier today where he highlighted the fact that the government has delivered a budget one month after the state election, having claimed that they could not deliver a budget before the election because of COVID-19. This was obviously only a ploy to hide the state of Queensland's economy from everyday Queenslanders before the election. It was just another example of a government that has manipulated the process to become unaccountable. The government will now blow out the state's debt to somewhere in the vicinity of \$130 billion. This is a concern for every Queenslander because at the some point in time somebody will have to pay it back.

I would like to conclude with some thoughts on the energy sector. At estimates I asked questions of Minister de Brenni with regard to the AGL wind farm at Coopers Gap in my electorate which, of course, he sidestepped and did not answer. I note that this morning the minister made reference to a statement I made with regard to the renewable energy sector being an illusion. That it is because it cannot provide reliable, frequent base load power. The minister knows this. It cannot provide power 24/7 and never will. This is what industry and business needs to survive.

We have seen the results of the closure of base load power supply in South Australia and Victoria. We are about to see it again in New South Wales with the imminent closure of Liddell Power Station. The government is taking us to the future with a 50 per cent renewable energy target. That will require the closure of some of the base load energy supply in Queensland at some time in the future. As such, I predict load shedding and lack of supply for Queenslanders.

I close by acknowledging my fellow committee members and thanking Ms Deb Jeffrey and her staff for preparing our papers and reports.