



Speech By David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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MOTION

Climate Change

Mr JANETZKI (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11.34 am): In the last 15 years this area of policy is emblematic of an issue that has been used as a political weapon. For 15 years we have seen it across jurisdictions. The truth is that this is just the latest example of a highly politicised use of emotion. This is symptomatic of exactly what is wrong with this debate. We have seen it again here today. For this government it is an issue of rank politics and not about the policy. As the shadow environment minister has just explained, under this government all key environmental indicators have actually worsened. Whether it is increased emissions, growth in protected areas moving at a glacial pace or Great Barrier Reef funding matched by the federal government, the moving of this motion shows the rank politics at play.

The federal coalition's approach to this issue has always been about technology. I acknowledge the investment in the hydrogen industry. That is a clear way for the future and means new industries here in Queensland. It will be technology driven change that starts to address these greater problems. It must be driven by technological change rather than by tax. It must be a policy driven over the long term into these new renewable industries. That is why it is good to see this investment into the hydrogen industry. That is a way for the future.

Last Friday I visited the Oakey solar farm on the Darling Downs which is in the electorate of the member for Condamine. He let me come in for the day. Across our region there is a growing acceptance and willingness to engage in renewables projects. There is no denying that. We have wind farms right across the Darling Downs into the Western Downs, the South Burnett and out to Chinchilla in the member for Warrego's electorate. We have solar farms, such as the Canadian solar operation at Oakey that I visited on Friday, right across our region. It is supported by our local industry groups, by TSBE, by chambers of commerce and by the community at large. There is an acceptance that it will be technology driven approaches that will address these deep concerns. It will not be politics that solves these problems, but good policy on the ground by good communities.