



Speech By
Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 1 September 2021


APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)

Appropriation Bill

Transport and Resources Committee, Report

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (11.45 am): I acknowledge the work of the committee and, in particular, the excellent work of the chair, the member for Kurwongbah. I also acknowledge the Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen in delivering a record energy budget for Queenslanders that will deliver more jobs through cleaner, cheaper power for our homes and businesses. However, the LNP just do not get it. It is clear from their statement of reservation that they neither support nor comprehend the enormous opportunity that renewables and hydrogen represent for Queensland. They raised questions around our 50 per cent renewables target, energy storage, investor confidence and broader energy policy, all of which were answered comprehensively during the estimates hearing but clearly did not sink in. I am happy to clear it up for them again.

We are delivering on our 50 per cent renewable energy target by 2030 and we are making remarkable progress, made all the more remarkable given that in 2015 when we came into office there was almost no operational large-scale solar or wind farms in Queensland after the LNP had cut off our renewables industry at the knees and were planning to sell our energy assets. Today there are more than 3,200 megawatts of large-scale operational renewables across our Sunshine State. Already renewables have delivered around \$10 billion in investment and supported 7,000 jobs in construction alone. With the highest uptake of rooftop solar in the world also generating 3,600 megawatts, we are well on the way to reaching our 50 per cent renewable energy target.

Those figures will continue to grow rapidly because the Palaszczuk government is working in partnership with industry and communities towards a renewable future. Through our signature \$2 billion Queensland Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund, we will support government owned businesses and expand ownership of renewable energy generation and storage, fund projects to develop our hydrogen industry domestically and create local jobs, and create even more jobs by exporting Queensland's sunshine and wind to the world as well as expanding our publicly owned renewables in a way that drives local manufacturing jobs. We have already invested \$145 million in our Queensland renewable energy zones and we have had more than 60 gigawatts of clean energy projects in the pipeline through them, with 192 projects already registering their interest. That includes wind and solar projects as well as batteries, pumped hydro storage and hybrid sites. Our renewables industry is now worth over \$8.5 billion and this incredible additional interest is a huge vote of confidence from business to invest in our supercharged renewable future.

We also have a plan to turn our abundance of renewables into job-creating new industries such as hydrogen. Stanwell plans to construct a 3,000 megawatt export-scale renewable hydrogen facility on 236 hectares at Aldoga, west of Gladstone. I am very proud that CleanCo will kick off work to establish a future energy and hydrogen project at our local Swanbank Power Station. We are investing \$1.5 million to develop a concept-level design to establish the precinct and create jobs. The project will look at renewable hydrogen production and refuelling facilities, an onsite solar farm and modifications to feed renewable hydrogen into the existing high-efficiency low-emission gas power station. This will bring more jobs and more industries through cleaner, cheaper energy and put our local community in Bundamba at the forefront of hydrogen energy technology and jobs.

Finally, the LNP in their statement of reservation stated—

... business and environmental groups, have been calling for certainty on the future of the Queensland Energy market.

...

Dr Kerry Schott from the Energy Security Board has described the current energy market as anarchy.

When we actually look at the quote from Dr Kerry Schott, which is from an article in 2018, we see that it was in relation to the failed National Energy Guarantee of the federal LNP government. The article, headed “I haven’t left anger yet”: NEG architect slams policy “anarchy”, states—

Energy Security Board chairwoman Kerry Schott said she remained bitter over the dumping of the signature energy plan when Malcolm Turnbull was deposed as prime minister in late August.

‘I’m still going through the stages of grief, and I haven’t left anger yet,’ ...

The LNP have been caught out in their report.

(Time expired)