




Speech By
Samuel O'Connor

MEMBER FOR BONNEY

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MOTION

Climate Change

 **Mr O'CONNOR** (Bonney—LNP) (11.27 am): What an absolute stunt this is. We are not here to talk about what rhetoric the government has on the environment; let us talk about what it is actually doing on the environment. If members look at state and territory greenhouse gas emissions, it shows that since it came to government carbon emissions have gone up by three per cent. The Newman LNP government in this state presided over lower carbon emissions than this current Labor government. Emissions have increased. For all their talk, for all their rhetoric, for all their targets—

Government members interjected.

Mr O'CONNOR: Look at the targets, Minister. The minister can look at the state and territory greenhouse gas inventories. That is the data that is on his government's own website. Carbon emissions have gone up and our carbon emissions from energy generation have actually increased in that time by 20 per cent. While Australia nationally has dropped per capita emissions by over 10 per cent, Queensland has only dropped by four per cent. For a state that has only one-fifth of the national population, we are producing one-third of Australia's total emissions.

We emit more greenhouse gases than any other jurisdiction in the nation, with over 164 million tonnes a year. The decrease in the level since 2005 has been nowhere near what it has been nationally. Compare it to other states: Western Australia has had a 20.8 per cent decrease; South Australia a 32.9 per cent decrease; Tasmania decreased by 108 per cent; New South Wales by 17.2 per cent; Victoria by 24.8 per cent. We are lagging the nation in our carbon emission reductions. One should not listen to what Labor says on the environment, but look at what their actions are.

As the member for Broadwater has prosecuted over many years, the protected areas target of the government is nowhere near being reached. It is increasing at a glacial pace of 0.01 per cent a year. This government calls for matched funding on the Great Barrier Reef despite spending only half of what the federal government spent. In the last week we found out that in three years only four farmers have accessed the \$10 million in funding that was provided to help farmers adapt to the reef regulations totalling about \$3,800. That is an absolute disgrace.

Government members interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Order! Pause the clock.

Mr Fumer interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Minister, I will ask that you cease your interjections.

Mr O'CONNOR: I ask the agriculture minister how no-one in his department noticed that only four farmers were taking up that funding. Only \$3,800 out of \$10 million is an absolute disgrace. It shows they do not care about the actual impact on the reef, they do not care about actually changing those practices to improve water quality, they just care about the rhetoric, they just care about the talk.