



Speech By  
**Bryson Head**


**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 October 2022

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Water Infrastructure**

 **Mr HEAD** (Callide—LNP) (7.25 pm): The Minister for Water today claimed that the Labor Party are big supporters of dams. I am a little shocked by this statement as many good dam proposals in Queensland lie awaiting state government support. Many proposed dams would support farmers so, no, the Labor Party could not possibly support dams that would support food security and farmers in Queensland. Instead, the only dam they want to proactively support is one that will drown farmers out.

Eungella Dairy and many neighbouring farms learnt about their future at the bottom of a dam on the front page of the local paper. This shows the Labor government do not care about our primary producers and the people who feed this state, this country and the world. They have also conveniently neglected the fact that the Pioneer Dam is near one of the best platypus viewing platforms in the state. They had to be dragged kicking and screaming to commit to rebuilding Paradise Dam. We still do not know the truth as to who is responsible for the absolute debacle that it is. We do not know this because it is a former Labor government that made an absolute mess of it, and the Labor Party will always put their mates in front of Queenslanders and the truth. Today the Labor Minister for Water claimed that 2,500 jobs would not exist if the LNP were in government.

**Mr Janetzki** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Kelly): Pause the clock. Member for Toowoomba South, you need to be in your own chair if you are going to interject. I give that as a general warning to all of the members of the LNP who are sitting out of their chairs.

**Mr HEAD:** Today the Labor Minister for Water claimed that 2,500 jobs would not exist if the LNP were in government. In fact, the LNP would have created tens of thousands of jobs because the LNP will not get in the way of dams. We will happily support rural and regional Queensland by backing new dams. The minister today criticised the federal coalition leader for spreading fears about Paradise Dam. I will tell the House what brings fear to rural and regional Queenslanders—a Palaszczuk Labor government.

The Minister for Water can allay the very genuine fears from the Wide Bay-Burnett communities by releasing a joint statement with his federal counterparts committing fully to rebuilding Paradise Dam and highlight the funding in both the state and federal budgets. He should also give a time line on when it is going to be finished. Oh, wait a second, the member for Gladstone does not like giving time lines, just like he has not given Central Queenslanders a time line for when he will resign if maternity services do not come back online in his own electorate.

The fact that the federal government have even thought of turning their back on their promise to rebuild Paradise Dam is an absolute disgrace. The Palaszczuk government has given nothing but endless praise to their federal Labor counterparts since their election, yet here they are leaving the state with another \$600 million bill to rebuild Paradise Dam. This is a Labor government stuff-up, and the Labor government needs to come clean with Queenslanders and ensure their federal colleagues stay true to their election commitments.