



Speech By  
**Deb Frecklington**


**MEMBER FOR NANANGO**

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Record of Proceedings, 10 November 2022

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT**

**Water Security**

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (2.12 pm): Water security in Queensland continues to go down the gurgler under this incompetent Palaszczuk government. We know that this water minister's legacy will forever be the water minister who got rid of Emu Swamp Dam, who got rid of Urannah Dam, who got rid of Hells Gates Dam, the minister who got rid of the HIPCo project. This minister and the Premier actively campaigned against these projects. In fact, the water minister has written a letter to the new federal water minister and said, 'I don't support these projects so therefore we've got to rule them out in Queensland.' How does a water minister in Queensland not stand up for a project that will support rural and regional Queensland to provide water security, jobs and futures for people in those areas? What about some of the comments from Townsville Enterprise and Bowen Collinsville Enterprise? They both support these projects respectively. In fact, I was in Townsville just after the announcement and had a meeting with TEL and then Bowen Collinsville and they were outraged at the lack of support from the Palaszczuk government.

We know that the minister has no excuses. He has not talked about the fact that other projects do not have business cases. Emu Swamp Dam is almost shovel-ready. The Urannah project is providing safe, stable, clean, green energy as well as water supply for an area. What does the minister have against that project? I will tell members what the minister has against that project: he has nothing, so he gets personal. When you get personal in this House, you know that the minister has nothing. It is obvious that when the Albanese government is against water projects in Queensland the Palaszczuk government just trots on behind. What does this government have against water? What does this government have against dams? We know that the only people who are standing up for dams in this great state are those of us on this side of the House. I give a big shout-out to the member for Southern Downs: keep going, keep fighting, because Emu Swamp deserves to be built. Urannah deserves to be built. What about the HIPCo and the Hells Gates projects? This government has no clue—

*(Time expired)*