




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

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MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Energy and Jobs Plan

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (2.22 pm): We are delivering for Queenslanders now and into the future. We are delivering good jobs and better services and protecting and enhancing our great Queensland lifestyle. One of the key ways we are doing this is through our signature Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan. It is a plan that puts Queenslanders first and foremost. It is a plan that will deliver jobs, investment and economic growth through more clean, cheap and secure power. By 2032 it means that 70 per cent of Queensland's energy supply will be renewable, and that increases to 80 per cent by 2035. It will create Australia's largest energy SuperGrid that will transport clean energy from the regions to power our homes, businesses and industry while creating over 100,000 new, good industrial jobs in hydrogen, renewables, manufacturing and critical minerals.

Approximately 95 per cent of the \$62 billion of investment under this plan will be invested in regional Queensland. Best of all, it keeps Queensland's energy assets in the hands of Queenslanders. The fact is that more cheap, clean power delivered through continued public ownership has put downward pressure on our power prices whilst delivering over \$11 billion in investment and 8,000 jobs in construction alone since our election.

It is through our continued commitment to public ownership that we are able to deliver real cost-of-living relief to everyday Queenslanders right now. We have delivered a \$175 rebate this year alone and a total of \$575 since 2015, thanks to continued public ownership. That is what Labor governments deliver. In fact, our approach has been so successful that it is now being adopted by other states, who are now seeking to return to public ownership of power assets. Victoria and South Australia are making moves back to public ownership following failed privatisation of energy.

Here in Queensland we have a state LNP that is addicted to privatisation. It has a record of cutting, sacking and selling. When last in government, the LNP tried to sell our energy assets. They defunded large-scale renewables of publicly owned—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, members!

Mr McCALLUM: They do not like it. They do not like to be reminded that they scrapped the Office of Clean Energy entirely—gone—and the Office of Climate Change—gone. What did they deliver for everyday Queenslanders? A 44 per cent increase to electricity prices. Queenslanders were swift and firm in their rejection of the LNP and its privatisation agenda. It is an agenda that the LNP has never once apologised for. It is an agenda that the LNP still has. We just saw the Leader of the Opposition say that the LNP will devise a debt reduction plan. That is LNP speak for asset sales. They are also going to deliver a service delivery strategy. Translation? Service cuts.

It has been entirely predictable to see LNP members attempt to politicise the current events at Callide Power Station. They have called for an investigation even though two are already underway. It is easy to see straight through the insecure, insincere veneer of concern for the workers and the power

station when it is the same workforce and power station that they tried to privatise. In contrast, under our energy plan Labor is looking after the workforce through a \$150 million job guarantee and the first-ever Energy Workers' Charter.

The truth is that the LNP will always see our energy assets and our energy workforce as expendable. They will try to privatise them again the first chance they get. I challenge the LNP to either publicly rule out privatising our energy assets or finally come clean to the people of Queensland.