




Speech By
David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 25 October 2023

MOTION

Progressive Coal Royalties

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11.27 am): That was a lot less motion and a lot more audition, that one—and let me explain the strategy. Let me explain to the House the strategy behind what happened here. The decision to move this motion was cooked up in the Premier's office because the Treasurer would have said, 'The health minister failed dreadfully last sitting. Let me at 'em!'

An opposition member: 'Give me a go!'

Mr CRISAFULLI: 'Give me a go; let me at 'em!' The Treasurer has asked whether we support it, and I think it might be appropriate for me today to give the Treasurer the comfort that he is looking for, so here goes. In 2022 we were asked that question in this very body and we supported it. We were asked the question again in the budget in 2023 and we supported it. For the benefit of the Treasurer, we do not want to get ahead of ourselves but we will have another opportunity before Queenslanders get a chance to pass judgement on this unruly mob reeking with chaos and crisis, but let me look into the future: we will support it in 2024. We will support it. Let me tell members what has happened. For two years we have had a Treasurer of this state running around Queensland desperately trying to get somebody—anybody—to report it.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order! Pause the clock. I would remind members, particularly those making interjections, that we do not comment on members who are absent from the chamber. I call the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr CRISAFULLI: Mr Deputy Speaker—

Mr Dick interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr Dick interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Treasurer! Order!

Mr CRISAFULLI: Mr Deputy Speaker—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr CRISAFULLI: Mr Deputy Speaker, I am trying to get the call.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have the call.

Mr CRISAFULLI: It was difficult with the Treasurer yelling across me, but—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will manage the chamber, Leader of the Opposition.

Mr CRISAFULLI: The Treasurer has not been able to buy 10 centimetres of column inches in two years on this issue. For two years he has tried to run a scare campaign and it has not worked because our voting record and our intentions have been clear to the public. Let me make a couple of points. From day one we called this out for what it was. It was a deceitful plan and it was a dishonest plan, but it was the only plan that was there. Whilst the Treasurer might not believe that a commitment is worth something by the way he conducts himself, we do and we have spent a lot of time repairing the broken relationships this Treasurer has undone.

Investors from around the globe are questioning whether or not it was them. Japanese investors, who have poured decades of investment and job creation into this state, wonder if they have done something wrong. They have had the rug pulled out from under them without the Treasurer having the decency to look them in the eye.

I can explain why these royalties were put in place. It is because this government cannot manage its projects. Sitting opposite us is a minister who presided over a \$2.4 billion overrun on one project. That is the cost of a hospital. This is a minister who cannot manage his portfolio—a minister who will never be held accountable, who can say anything he wants and who knows he is as untouchable as the youth offenders this government has created.

Let me make an observation: nothing this government says at the next election will have any ounce of credibility. The government promised 1,450 extra police. They have gone backwards. There were 202 fewer police in the last 12 months. The government promised several thousand extra teachers and now they are trying to crab walk back from that. The government promised no new or additional taxes and they have broken it time and time again. Nothing this government says has an ounce of credibility.

The opposition has been clear in our voting record and in our tone. What we will say to the people of this state at the next election is that the choice is clear: a government that will do and say anything to cling to power or an opposition that is hungry to serve the people; a government that has breached the trust of the Queensland public time and time again or an opposition that is united, focused and disciplined; a government that will continue to find every excuse to cling to power or an opposition with the right priorities for Queensland's future, and that involves ensuring Queenslanders know that this will always be the best state to live, work and invest in.