




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Federal Budget, Water Security

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (2.59 pm): Yesterday the Premier and her team proudly spruiked Labor's federal budget, a budget of broken promises and a budget that will only make life harder for all Australians. However, it was what the Premier did not say that is all we need to know, especially when it comes to water security in this great state. Yesterday in question time I asked the Premier if she had picked up the phone to the Prime Minister to express her disgust, given more Labor cuts have put Queensland's water security at risk. I was shocked that the Premier said she wants to thank the Prime Minister for cutting water projects. She actually thanked the Prime Minister for what he has apparently delivered for Queensland. How could the Premier of this state, whilst in Far North Queensland, be so out of touch? She seriously could not be any more out of touch with the people she claims to represent.

In the Premier's answer yesterday it was clear she did not want to talk about water security and all the other projects that the Labor government cut last year. Who could forget that last year the Premier had the support of her water minister when he actively advocated against federal investment in Queensland's water security assets such as Urannah Dam and Hells Gate Dam. Now, member for Southern Downs, Emu Swamp Dam has been cut and we know that the Hughenden Irrigation Scheme is on the back burner.

Queensland Labor is now backed by the federal Labor government which does not believe in water security. That equates to them not believing in regional development. It flows on to mean that they do not believe in manufacturing. No wonder the health system is in the toilet in this great state. It is absolutely incredible that the member for Mackay supports a project that was not backed by the federal government. Where is that project? It is absolutely dumbfounding to think that this government, which announced that it was going to do Bradfield in the middle of the election to get it off the table, now say that it has a report into it. The member opposite likes to throw that around, but it is clear he is completely clueless when it comes to water security in this great state. Where does the Labor government stand in relation to water security? It is all in their press releases and not in their budget. We know the Queensland budget cuts it, we now know the federal budget cuts it and, worst of all, we know the water minister actively lobbies the federal water minister to cut these projects.