



Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

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APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

APPROPRIATION BILL

Consideration in Detail (Cognate Debate)

Appropriation Bill

State Development and Regional Industries Committee, Report

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (12.51 pm): I too rise to speak on the State Development and Regional Industries Committee estimates report. Obviously I was in a completely different estimates hearing to the speaker who just resumed his seat because it was thanks to our side of the House that we were able to inquire around the budget rather than just sit there and listen to the dodgy Dorothy Dixers prepared by the ministers to try to hoodwink Queenslanders into what the government wants us to believe. We all know this is a government that has lost control of the books; they have lost control of the budget in Queensland. We know that from seeing blowout after blowout.

We saw the Deputy Premier announce that we are going to have 2.2 million people by 2046, but there are no infrastructure plans to meet that target. I know the member for Kawana will have something to say about that. When you ask the water minister about infrastructure plans for the increase in the Queensland population in the south-east corner before 2032 there is radio silence. We know that this is a government that has failed to plan because the only thing they are trying to control right now is the chaos and the crisis surrounding this government.

What about the Pioneer-Burdekin hydro hoax? They cannot even get their facts straight. The hearing uncovered the stark contradictions between the ministers on the so-called cornerstone announcement. The Treasurer claimed that the Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro project is absolutely proceeding, while Minister Linard said it will only proceed if approvals are given for the project. Who is right: the Treasurer or the environment minister? We know the water minister had no clue about this announcement before it was made.

I also used the opportunity to quiz Sunwater, who knew nothing about the announcement. Queensland's operator of water assets in regional Queensland knew nothing about the announcement before the government decided to scribble on the back of a piece of paper and stand up and announce this big pumped hydro hoax. They had not even undertaken a desktop study—not at all. They had not even scratched anything on to a bit of butcher's paper—nothing at all. The question remains: where did the idea come from? Was it because the Premier wanted to get away from the Mackay health debacle? Is that why she went there and announced this big pumped hydro hoax?

We also know that Queensland Hydro was not even formed until months after that announcement. There are so many more questions. Now when we talk about blowouts, my goodness me. The speaker who just resumed his seat wanted to talk about Rookwood Weir. That was thanks to Michelle Landry and the former federal government, who got in and actually made this project happen.

Mr Whiting interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I will take that interjection. The Queensland government is the builder of dams and what have they done? They have blown it out by \$201 million. This is a fifty-fifty project, but the blowout is being paid for 100 per cent by the Queensland people. Thank you very much, Palaszczuk government! No wonder they never build dams in this state, because all they do is rip down walls. When they do try to build a dam, guess what happens? There is a \$201 million blowout and Queenslanders are not going fifty-fifty because the Queensland government cannot negotiate with their own federal colleagues to make up that shortfall.

Mr Whiting interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hart): Pause the clock. Member for Bancroft, you are warned under the standing orders.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Thank you for your protection, Mr Deputy Speaker. I note the member for Bancroft talked about the raising of Burdekin Falls Dam. I ask: where is the business case? Once again this is a government that goes straight into a big public announcement just to get a bad story off the front page of the paper. They make the announcement and there is no business case. I know TEL in Townsville will be looking for that business case, so that will be interesting.

Then there is train manufacturing and the blowout there, yet we have a Korean company saying in their local media that they are manufacturing the trains. We know that the member for Maryborough is gunning for his boss's job, the minister responsible for train manufacturing. There is a \$2.4 billion blowout and he is still arguing. He is still talking about why he should still hold that job. The assistant minister has his head down because he knows that that minister should go and the Premier should sack him.