




Speech By
Hon. Glenn Butcher

MEMBER FOR GLADSTONE

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MOTION LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY, CUTS

 **Hon. GJ BUTCHER** (Gladstone—ALP) (Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water) (4.14 pm): I rise to speak in support of the motion this afternoon because it is vitally important that the people of Queensland know exactly what they are voting for when they vote for the LNP. They deserve to know what will happen if the member for Broadwater is allowed to unleash the savage cuts they have planned for Queensland if they ever get into government. On this side of the House, we support progressive coal royalties in Queensland. We support progressive coal royalties because we believe that all Queenslanders own those resources and they should be shared by Queenslanders. We believe that the superprofits of those coal companies should be invested into the infrastructure that is needed for Queensland. We believe in that.

The LNP needs to be up-front with Queenslanders, because when you do not support coal royalties being invested back into communities it means that there are no free kindies for your family and it means that cost-of-living support for Queenslanders is slashed. If the LNP had their way you could say goodbye to Building our Regions in regional Queensland. You could say goodbye to Works for Queensland for our councils in Queensland. You could say goodbye to manufacturing grants, because we know they would get rid of them tomorrow if they had the opportunity. Do you know why? Because that is what they did last time. They have a track record of scrapping great benefits for Queenslanders when they are in government.

When we talk about water and water resources for this community, we know the LNP's history when they were in government. Their history is that they scrapped a dam. They did not build any; they did not design any; they did not plan for any—they scrapped a dam in Queensland. That is their track record. Not only that, but how about the \$25 million repair to Paradise Dam? It was done on the back of a beer coaster somewhere out under a tree. They said they could fix it for \$25 million—what an absolute crock! That is what you expect from an LNP government that comes up with no plans. When the member for Nanango went on ABC Radio and they asked, 'What is your plan for water?' there was no plan. There is nothing. I was listening. I waited. There is no plan. There is no plan by the LNP here in Queensland other than—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Pause the clock. Members, the level of interjection is getting out of hand. Member for Callide, that was highly disorderly. I will start issuing warnings from now on.

Mr BUTCHER: Getting abused by the member for Callide is like getting hit with a wet lettuce leaf. I dare the LNP here in Queensland to run another candidate against me like they did in 2017. The candidate they put forward was working at the Gladstone Ports Corporation, and guess what his job was. His job was to prepare the Port of Gladstone for sale. They put in a candidate who was working for the port who wanted to sell it. He came out and told everyone, 'I'm here to say that we want to get rid of things like the Gladstone port because we don't care about communities just like Gladstone.'

