




Speech By
Jim McDonald

MEMBER FOR LOCKYER

Record of Proceedings, 25 October 2023

MOTION

Progressive Coal Royalties

 **Mr McDONALD** (Lockyer—LNP) (11.59 am): I rise to speak to the amendment moved by the member for Toowoomba South, our shadow Treasurer. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to do that, and I support the addresses of the Leader of the Opposition and the shadow minister. I support the shadow Treasurer and our leader when they said that in 2022 we supported the bill, in 2023 we supported it and again in 2024 we will support it, but let's have a look at what this motion is really about. This motion is purely about Labornomics. Labor economics: when they run out of their money, they come after yours. Even Labor members know that they cannot manage money; 27 times the Treasurer said there would be no new taxes—27 times—and then announced these so-called progressive coal royalties.

Culture is all about how we do things around here. There are global investors in Queensland and they are proud people—proud like Queenslanders—and when they come to Queensland to invest in our rich resources it is very big slap in the face when they are not even spoken to. I note that in his motion the Treasurer talks about BHP CEO Mike Henry, who said certain things. I will tell you what else Mr Henry said, and I table a full transcript of his speech.

Tabled paper: Extract, undated, of an article by Mr Henry [1742](#).

Tabled paper: Document, dated 27 June 2023, titled 'Mike Henry speech at World Mining Congress 2023' [1743](#).

He talks about how it was a respectful conversation when he dealt with Chile. Yes, there were some rises in the royalties in that country, but not like Queensland. It was a complete disgrace. We had absolute silence and we saw the highest global rise in the world. That is how business in Queensland is being treated by this Labor government and it is a disgrace. As I said, these are proud people. When you treat industry and global investors in Queensland like that, then you have it wrong. You also have it wrong for Queenslanders because, unlike this government, we have been listening to Queenslanders right across this state. One of our priorities is going to be working harder for Queenslanders. We will deliver a prosperous future for our regional communities. We will deliver on the priorities that our communities want because we are listening to them. We will make sure that our responsible program going forward includes things that we will be able to deliver for our communities because they deserve a government that does deliver maternity services right across the state—

Mr Head interjected.

Mr McDONALD: I take the interjection from the member for Callide—like babies being born on the side of the highway. It is absolutely atrocious. We will make sure that we deliver services instead of wasting money like this government with their \$230 million 'Wastecamp'—

(Time expired)