




Speech By
Joseph Kelly

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

Record of Proceedings, 25 October 2023

MOTION

Progressive Coal Royalties

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (11.53 am): Last week I was at the Holland Park State High School for its annual awards night, and next week I will be at Whites Hill State College for its awards night. Both of those school communities absolutely support progressive coal royalties because of what they allow us to build in those schools—new manual arts blocks, new health hubs, wellbeing and welfare hubs, new classrooms and new admin blocks, all built with progressive coal royalties.

The week before I was at Stones Corner with the Minister for Housing inspecting 82 new social and affordable houses built with—you guessed it—progressive coal royalties. I regularly see my friends from my old workplace, the QEII Hospital—I bump into people from there and I bump into people from the PA Hospital—and I can say that they, too, support progressive coal royalties because we are using them to expand both of those hospitals. Every person in the electorate of Greenslopes who is worried about the cost of living and who opens their electricity bill to see the government's rebate supports progressive coal royalties. It is really sad that all of these measures are under threat from the Leader of the Opposition.

I take being a member of parliament extremely seriously and I take every vote I make in this place extremely seriously. As someone who has crossed the floor and voted in a different way to my party at times, I know how important the way you vote in this place is and how important it is that you go back to your community and explain yourself when you have had to make difficult decisions. It is absolutely reprehensible and disgraceful that the Leader of the Opposition just a few months ago voted to support the path to treaty legislation but now has completely and utterly backflipped on that. What does that say about the character of the Leader of the Opposition? How could you trust anything the Leader of the Opposition says—

Ms SIMPSON: I rise to a point of order, Madam Deputy Speaker. This has nothing to do with the motion. I draw your attention to the standing orders with respect to relevance.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Member for Greenslopes, you are starting to deviate. I will bring you back to the motion.

Mr POWER: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The opposition leader made statements about what he would support in the next two years and the member is making a point about what he would do afterwards and whether we can trust him.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I am confident that the member for Greenslopes will be able to come back to the motion.

Mr KELLY: The Leader of the Opposition in fact made statements in this very chamber today which, given his demonstrated pattern of behaviour in the past, call into question any decisions and anything that he may say. It is not just progressive coal royalties on which people in my community are

very concerned about the position of the Leader of the Opposition and whether or not they can trust him. Tree-clearing laws are also very deeply felt in my electorate. My professional colleagues in nursing and midwifery will be extremely concerned about having a government with a potential health minister who is the only nurse in this parliament to vote against safe nurse- and midwife-to-patient ratios. We have heard outlined the fantastic introduction of the bill—

(Time expired)