




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR HERVEY BAY

Record of Proceedings, 2 May 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Cost of Living, Electricity Rebate

 **Mr TANTARI** (Hervey Bay—ALP) (6.15 pm): I rise to talk about the very exciting news that was announced earlier today for the people of Hervey Bay. In my adjournment debate speech I was going to speak about something else, but I just cannot go past today's announcement. It was the most brilliant announcement for the people of Hervey Bay and for Queensland generally.

Today's power announcement will have an immediate impact from 1 July. Every Hervey Bay household will be receiving a \$1,000 rebate off their bills. If you are a concession card holder in Hervey Bay, you will not only receive the \$1,000 rebate but also still receive the state government subsidy of \$372. Concession holders in Hervey Bay, as of 1 July, will get a total rebate of \$1,372 off their power bills, and that is for every household. This is great news for people struggling with the cost of living and everyday expenses. They will receive at least another \$1,000 rebate off their power next year. For the average household, this \$1,000 power rebate, or \$1,372 for concession holders, will mean they will not pay a cent on their next quarterly energy bill after 1 July. This has only come about because the Miles government backs our progressive coal royalties which gives back to each and every household in Hervey Bay their just deserts because we own the coal that big mining companies dig out of the ground.

This comes with a warning. Make no mistake: if the people of Hervey Bay elect an LNP government at the next state election, none of these cost-of-living measures will be coming back to them in the future under an LNP government. The LNP have already indicated through the Leader of the Opposition's silence that progressive coal royalties will be axed and the money that belongs to every Hervey Bay household will be returned to the big coal companies, because that is what the LNP does. The LNP are only here to profit their big business mates over the mums and dads of Hervey Bay. When every cent counts, it is only Labor and the Miles government that will deliver cheap power and real cost-of-living relief to all Queenslanders. Do not trust the LNP. They will do everything in their power to return coal royalties back to their big business donors.

Putting this into context, when you include this financial year and next financial year, households in Hervey Bay will have received a combined total of \$1,700 off their power bills. For concession holders and pensioners—the most vulnerable in our community—this will come to a grand total of \$2,444 off their power bills over the last financial year and the coming financial year. This is what Labor governments do, whereas an LNP government will do nothing more than return your power back to big business and make you pay more for your power. What we do in Labor is free TAFE and free kindy; what we know they do over there is cut, sell and sack.