




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Electricity Prices

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (2.06 pm): Queenslanders are hurting. Each and every Queenslander is struggling with the cost of living. Do the LNP support any relief for cost of living? You bet we do! After a decade of this tired old Labor government, Queenslanders are facing increases in their electricity bills three times the national average. Queenslanders are facing increases in their electricity prices by 19.9 per cent. AEMO has wholesale spot prices increasing in Queensland to an average of 118 megawatts over the first three months of the year. This is a 75 per cent increase. Queensland was the outlier. Everywhere else it averaged 76 megawatts per hour over the first quarter.

Let us look at the figures that this government decided to cherrypick today. Queenslanders are facing some of the highest increases in their electricity because of 10 years of this incompetent Labor government. Let us have a look at what Canstar said. The Premier claims that it showed Queensland has the cheapest electricity bills on the east coast, but it only used the quarter where the last rebates were rolled out. What about the quarter before that and the quarter after that? Queenslanders are sick of being conned by this government.

Do we need to provide Queenslanders with cost-of-living relief? Absolutely we do. The reason why we are in this sorry state is because we have a government that refuses to look after the power assets that we have. For 1,070 days they have refused to bring Callide back online. They have missed seven of their own deadlines. We are still waiting on the Brady report to explain why. Do not just believe us when we give the reason why power prices are going up: the Queensland Competition Authority and the Auditor-General have said that with Callide down our power prices are going through the roof. With seven missed deadlines, Queensland power prices three times the national average, a 19.9 per cent increase last year in our power prices and Queensland's wholesale energy prices an outlier to every other state, it is time we showed Labor the door in '24.