




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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**ENERGY (RENEWABLE TRANSFORMATION AND JOBS) BILL; CLEAN
ECONOMY JOBS BILL**

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (11.44 am): I rise to speak in support of the cognate bills. I only want to speak about one aspect. I urge residents of Logan to read the comprehensive speeches made by the minister and the member for Bundamba. I have been listening really carefully to the speeches of the LNP members on this bill. They say they support the goals—that has been stated up-front by the member for Bonney—and they say they are even going to vote for these changes, but when you look deeply into their speeches they are telling a different story. Every time they speak, they speak out against any sort of renewable energy. They hate solar in their speeches, they hate wind energy in their speeches, and they especially hate publicly owned renewables. They have also taken a special liking to speaking out against hydro dams and especially pumped hydro dams. They are totally against them, and this is curious. They are going to get to the goals but they are totally against the means we have put forward to get to those goals.

Here is what Queenslanders need to consider. How are they going to do it? We understand that the Liberals and Nationals, especially those in Queensland, support Peter Dutton and his plan for nuclear reactors but they will not answer the following questions for Queenslanders. Who will own these nuclear power plants they are planning? Where will they be built? They will not tell us the design and they will not tell us how much they will cost.

If they do not tell us these things honestly, we need to look at what other power stations are being built. In the UK, a country we all know fairly well—and the member for Toowoomba North certainly does—they are currently building Hinkley Point C. That country was the very first in the world to establish a nuclear industry—something we are yet to do. Hinkley Point C was a result of a process that started in 2008, with site selection happening in 2010. They started construction, but there have been delays, complexities and redesigns, and this is in a country with the longest civil nuclear program in the world. The plant will not be operational for a full 23 years. Even if the LNP got their way and could do it, we would not be seeing anything until after 2050. Our energy system will be totally transformed by 2050.

If they will not tell us that, we need to look at Hinkley Point C and see the cost. Just one reactor—and remember the Duttonator is planning heaps all across Queensland and across the nation—has now got a budget of over \$89 billion, but they will not tell us the cost. Much of that expenditure was not done in 2024 dollars; it is sunk expenditure which would mean this is an even more expensive project. That was before the inflation that came post COVID in steel and concrete.

The other thing is that they will not tell us who is going to own their myriad nuclear power plants they are putting across Queensland. Hinkley Point C is a French-Chinese consortium. They need to tell us whether French-Chinese consortiums are going to build a whole number of nuclear power plants all across Queensland and Australia, but they are not telling us.

Another important question they need to answer for the people of Logan is where the reactors will be located. When we were debating this previously, I asked where they would be located. I asked the LNP members to put their hands up if they were going to have one in their electorate—and I ask them that now: put your hand up if you are going to put one in your electorate—and none of them put up their hands.

Mr Stevens interjected.

Mr POWER: I note the interjection from the member for Mermaid Beach where he just said they are going to put them in Logan. Again, another member at that time said they were going to put them in Logan. I am deeply worried about this because they would site one next to the Logan River and we all know that nuclear power plants owned by Chinese-French consortiums take enormous amounts of water. This means they do not have a plan for transitioning to electricity, except to attack renewables in every single format. However, they do have a plan to locate nuclear reactors in dangerous places, and indeed even actively suggesting that they put them in Logan. I feel—

An honourable member interjected.

Mr POWER: They have not yet ruled it out. They have no plan to support renewables. They have no plan to support solar, wind or pumped hydro; they only have a plan for nuclear so their intent is quite clear. I noted very carefully that the Leader of the Opposition said he would not support nuclear power unless there was bipartisan support. We all know what 'bipartisan' means for the member for Broadwater. It means bipartisan between the Liberal and the National parties, and then he will do it.

I stand here as the member for Logan to passionately support renewable energy and the plan that we have put forward to the people. I commend this transformation of our electricity, but I absolutely condemn the LNP's privatisation plan and nuclear plan.