



Speech By  
**Hon. Steven Miles**


**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 May 2024

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### Coal Royalties

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Premier) (9.54 am): Yesterday, my government made history. We locked in a \$1,000 energy bill rebate for every Queensland household—that is 2.2 million households that will get \$1,000 back in their pockets. The Albanese Labor government has tipped in an extra \$300, bringing the savings to \$1,300, meaning most households will not pay an electricity bill until 2025.

This is the biggest cost-of-living relief measure ever delivered by any government in Australia. It is a measure that will directly drive down bills while keeping inflation low because that is what is important to Queenslanders—Queenslanders like Rob, who joined the Deputy Premier and me yesterday to explain just what this will mean for his family of six. ‘We are excited to see it,’ he said. ‘It definitely can help families, especially large families like us. The cost of living is definitely going up—we see it every week with our grocery bills—so \$1,000 off our power bill is going to be a big win for us.’ My government is doing what matters for Queensland.

This year, we have made kindy free for four-year-olds, saving about \$4,800 a year. We are delivering free TAFE and subsidised training to ensure a good job is within reach for every Queenslanders. We have over \$8 billion in rebates and concessions for Queenslanders right now. These measures are only possible because our government is making multinational coal companies pay their fair share through our progressive coal royalties. Those royalties have delivered \$16 billion back to Queenslanders—\$16 billion that would otherwise have gone back to the shareholders of big business mining companies.

This funding has helped our government deliver projects like the new Moranbah Hospital; new hospitals at Toowoomba, Coomera and Bundaberg; expansions to the Cairns, Mackay and Townsville hospitals; funding for LifeFlight and the Royal Flying Doctor Service; new dams for big pumped hydro builds; the Fitzroy to Gladstone pipeline; the Browne Park redevelopment in Rockhampton; and, of course, CopperString.

Today, the Deputy Premier and Treasurer will introduce a bill to safeguard our coal royalties, to keep them in the bank so they can benefit generations to come. Our plan will ensure the royalties we receive from multinational mining companies cannot be lowered by the government of the day—only by a vote of parliament. This means any reduction in what is owed to Queenslanders would be subject to the public and parliamentary scrutiny it deserves.

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Members to my left, you will cease your interjections. The level of conversation generally is too high in the chamber.

**Mr MILES:** This means any reduction in what is owed to Queenslanders would be subject to the public and parliamentary scrutiny it deserves. Queenslanders deserve their fair share of these coal royalties. The laws will protect investment in cost-of-living relief, industry infrastructure and medical care across Queensland. Only a Labor government will lock in guaranteed funding that will ensure Queensland continues to deliver nation-leading, cost-of-living relief, game-changing infrastructure and world-class healthcare facilities. I look forward to the House supporting this move to lock in progressive coal royalties for all of Queensland.