




Speech By
Hon. David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

CS Energy; Hielscher, Sir Leo AC

 **Hon. DC JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (9.40 am): The Crisafulli government is delivering affordable, reliable and sustainable power for Queenslanders. It is what we promised and it is what we are delivering after 10 years of decline under those opposite. It means investing in our existing generation assets as part of our budgeted \$1.6 billion electricity maintenance guarantee, and that includes most recently an \$80 million planned maintenance of Callide C3. The importance of fixing Labor's maintenance failures is again highlighted by CS Energy's internal root cause analysis report and the Jonah Group incident investigation report in connection with the C3 explosion in April. The reports, released publicly this morning by CS Energy, confirm the issues identified in the Brady report. These issues grew under Labor and they were never fixed by Labor, but we are fixing them.

As CS Energy stated in their media release this morning, the key findings of the report highlight the inadequacy of progress in embedding process safety in the organisation. The report also identified other longstanding unresolved issues including: ineffective clinker management; inherent design flaws in the control system logic which delayed the shutdown of the unit; inadequate risk control, poor planning and governance; and operator shortages and gaps in operator training. Ultimately, these reports confirm that longstanding maintenance practices and cultural issues embedded into CS Energy under the previous Labor government caused not one but two explosions at the Callide Power Station, but we are cleaning up Labor's mess.

CEO Brian Gillespie said this morning that the CS Energy board has now taken decisive action following the incident, initiating a cultural transformation with a focus on safety leadership, clearer governance, and improved risk management. He went on to say—

The findings released today have informed our ongoing work to build a safer, better CS Energy.

I thank the new board and management and the entire team at CS Energy for their endeavours so far to change culture and practice and I look forward to their continual work supporting Queensland's energy system.

Mr Speaker, forgive me for prolonging my ministerial statement this morning. However, I could not let Sir Leo Hielscher's state funeral this afternoon pass without honouring him. He counselled treasurers of all political persuasions, serving 15 of them. I was fortunate enough to benefit from the wisdom of his experience on several occasions. This distinguished giant of the Public Service was the economic architect of contemporary Queensland. His innovative funding solutions for economy-enhancing infrastructure transformed Queensland from a mostly agrarian state into a diverse, vibrant and sustainable powerhouse. He was imbued with an instinctive understanding of risk, sharp foresight and the ability to be gracious and encouraging yet tough and tenacious.

Sir Leo understood politics but never let it get in the way of what mattered: good policy that served the best interests of the Queensland people. With that sense of duty, Sir Leo embodied the very essence of the term 'public servant'. Queensland is great because of Sir Leo Hielscher. Vale, Sir Leo.