




Speech By
Lance McCallum

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Record of Proceedings, 25 June 2025

MOTION

Energy Industry

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (5.50 pm): Many of the contributors to this debate have begun their contributions by talking about power prices, the impact that they would argue of net zero, the cost of different forms of energy from renewables to coal, to gas et cetera. Let's get one thing clear and on the record as part of this debate: Queenslanders' bills are going up because of one thing and that is—

Mr Head: The former Labor government.

Mr McCALLUM:—the LNP government. On 1 July, after—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr McCALLUM: They can sit there and laugh about it, but whether it is the Katter party members or any member from the other side of the House who get up and cry about the fact that their constituents are coming to see them worried about their power bills, which all of our constituents are, just remember it was the LNP that went to the election and promised to lower power bills in Queensland. Yet, from 1 July we are going to see power prices in Queensland going up by at least 3.7 per cent on the regulated price, and I have seen bills in my own community in Bundamba that are going up by over 11 per cent—broken promise No. 1 from the LNP.

When it comes to power prices, the member for Traeger did say that he was yet to be convinced, to be honest, about the cost. I want to thank the honourable member for Traeger for his contribution. When it comes to things like net zero targets which do facilitate and encourage net zero generation, as in solar, there are many Queenslanders—we are the leading state in the nation—who have put solar panels on their homes or their businesses. Why? Because it brings down their emissions and it also brings down their bills. Probably every member in this House will have constituents who have solar panels on their homes and they will be reducing their energy bill or indeed they will be a net exporter into the grid. I think that really does need to be put onto the record in this debate.

When it comes to net zero targets, outside of residential bills, net zero also encourages and supports jobs and investments in many sectors right across our state. It helps keep Queensland industries competitive and it helps protect Queensland jobs, like in the member for Traeger's electorate.

When it comes to the North West Minerals Province, whether it is traditional resources that are being mined there, whether it is copper or zinc, or you look at the new economy minerals that exist there, they are being supported by net zero targets. Net zero targets are driving an enormous amount of investment in our regions, whether it is in the north-west or in other parts of Queensland. It is worth remembering that when you look at industry associations for fossil fuels, whether it is gas, whether it is coal, most of them have committed to net zero targets. Why do they do that? Because they operate in a global market and they want to protect their ongoing sustainability and viability against the competition they have overseas.

Net zero is protecting jobs here in Queensland, and net zero is building our industries—our existing industries, our industries that have been the backbone of our state and are still so important, but also our new industries, our growing industries and our future industries.

I will finish on the member for Callide's contribution where he said you cannot cost something that does not exist—

(Time expired)