




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

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MOTION

Net Zero

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (5.51 pm): There we have it! The LNP environment minister cannot even bring himself to say net zero in a debate on a motion about supporting net zero. That tells Queenslanders everything they need to know about this government. Queenslanders rightly expect to know where their elected members stand on important issues like net zero. The Premier gave a commitment to Queensland that his government was committed to net zero by 2050. This is a very timely issue given what we have seen with the federal coalition tearing themselves apart over it.

However, the people in the communities of Callide, Mirani or Rockhampton might hear a lot of anti-renewable and anti-net-zero talk from their MPs when they are at home. Down here in Brisbane they lose their voice. Take the member for Callide who likes to run the usual lazy, discredited anti-renewable lines. The member for Rockhampton does not support state-of-the-art battery facilities. Then of course there is 'Mr Net Zero' himself, the member for Mirani. If someone so much as whispers renewable energy anywhere between Rockhampton and Mackay the member for Mirani will be there as quick as a flash to talk down jobs and investment. He was in such a muck lather of excitement when the Queensland LNP voted to ditch net zero at their conference in August that he jumped onto social media to post about it. He posted—

#breaking—the QLD LNP State Convention just overwhelming voted to DITCH Net Zero.

That was followed by a 'clap' emoji. I will table that post.

Tabled paper: Extract, dated 22 August, from the Facebook page of the member for Mirani, Mr Glen Kelly MP, in relation to net zero [1823](#).

It is not just him. The member for Oodgeroo, in an opinion piece that ran in a national newspaper in 2023 titled 'The high cost of climate alarmists', stated—

The trade-offs required to achieve Australia's plan to reach net zero are substantial. They could only be accepted by a government so captured by the narrative of imminent crisis that it believes such an extreme response cannot be avoided.

That did not date very well for the member for Oodgeroo because now she is part of a government that has a net zero by 2050 target.

It is clear that there are anti-net-zero ideologues in the LNP. Net zero by 2050 is their government's target. That is why the anti-renewable and anti-net-zero MPs are silent when they are here in Brisbane. We have a Minister for Youth who is on the record as saying—

Around 92 per cent of the world's GDP is covered by commitments to net zero ... Queensland is in a fierce competition locally and internationally to secure as much of that investment as we can.

The anti-net-zero ideologues are silent. The energy minister was on the record as recently as July saying—

We are committed to net zero by 2050. That is our commitment. This is where the energy road map plays an important first step in that.

A government member interjected.

Mr McCALLUM: Wait for it; it is coming. Some caucus colleagues will not stand up to the energy minister and say that they do not support net zero. As the LNP progresses their energy plan, which includes more renewables and moving towards net zero, including through this parliament, it is the members for Mirani, Callide and Oodgeroo who will vote for it.

Finally, there is the Premier who has said on the public record—

Our primary target, the biggest focus, is net zero by 2050.

He feverishly papers over the enormous divisions within his own government, aided by weak MPs who will not stand up for what they really believe in.

The people of Central Queensland, the Redlands and the Greater Whitsunday region deserve members who actually stand up and deliver for them. At the moment they have members of parliament who will not even stand up for themselves. The time for hiding and the time for silence has come to an end. It is time to either vote in support of their own net zero by 2050 target or grow a spine and vote against it if that is what they truly believe.