



Speech By Hon. Leanne Linard

MEMBER FOR NUDGEE

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MOTION

Net Zero

Hon. LM LINARD (Nudgee—ALP) (6.12 pm): It is a pleasure to follow another LNP member in the House who did not mention net zero once in a motion on net zero. Queenslanders rightfully expect and deserve leadership, certainty and a plan for our shared future. They expect the political leadership to understand the economic direction of our state and nation. They expect the government to be prepared to act to secure our long-term prosperity. Instead, we are seeing a federal coalition that has walked away from Australia's net zero commitment and a state government that is pretending not to.

The federal LNP have torn up years of bipartisan agreements and turned their backs on global science, global markets and global expectations. It is a complete retreat from responsibility at the very moment when every major economy is accelerating with renewable forms of energy. This is not a minor tweak or shift in climate policy. The ideological opposition to net zero has consequences for investment, for certainty, for regional jobs and for our national credibility.

We know the Queensland LNP government are no different. David Crisafulli and the LNP would love Queenslanders to believe that they are free from the turmoil of festering internal politics and of competing ideologies and beliefs on net zero, but we know the truth. We in the Labor opposition want to see the track changes version of the energy plan—the one that did include actual firm closure dates for coal generators, the one that now has the fingerprints of the mining minister on it because their cabinet is completely divided on Queensland's energy future.

We know that their rank-and-file members are desperate to see the Queensland LNP abandon net zero. We know that there are those who sit opposite who still even doubt the science. The member for Moggill has previously implied that anthropogenic climate change was still in scientific dispute. The LNP's former member for Callide called renewable energy a fantasy. The member for Maryborough has confirmed for us tonight that he does not support it. At least he is honest. The most baffling in my books is the Minister for the Environment, who has previously told this House that he stands by his 2012 statement that he is unconvinced of a human role in climate.

While some may have tried to walk their statements back since, it is now the Labor opposition who are wholly unconvinced about their statements. We know that those opposite say one thing but they mean something totally different. We know that those opposite said anything that they thought they needed to say to get elected, but they did not mean it. Those opposite will say anything to stay in government, but they actually believe something totally different. This LNP can try all they like to distance themselves from their federal counterparts, but we do not believe a word out of their mouths, and neither should Queenslanders.

If a political movement denies the science, it cannot build the solution. If it rejects global reality, it cannot deliver investor certainty. If it surrenders to climate denial, it cannot be trusted to protect and create jobs. That is the plan that we had when in government, and now we see a plan for a plan that will never be delivered anyway.

The LNP cannot claim to support a clean energy future while scrapping Queensland's renewable energy targets and marching behind the federal coalition that has abandoned net zero altogether. The Labor opposition moved this motion because we are so interested to see if those opposite can even utter the words 'net zero', and we have heard none of them speak up. The truth is that the only difference between the Queensland LNP and the coalition is that at least the coalition are being honest with Queenslanders that they absolutely do not support net zero. We have seen no practical action from those opposite to get there. They are selling Queenslanders an absolute lie.