




Speech By
Bryson Head

MEMBER FOR CALLIDE

Record of Proceedings, 25 March 2026

MOTION

Fuel Security

 **Mr HEAD** (Callide—LNP) (6.27 pm): No fuel means no farms, no freight and no food. Fuel security is national security and national security is a federal responsibility. What we get from those opposite is complete silence when it comes to the responsibility of the federal Labor Albanese government. What they also forget to do—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! Let's try again.

Mr HEAD: The importance of fuel is not lost on us. It is important for our farmers, our truckies, our civil contractors, our small and family businesses, and our tourism operators. That is why we were the first state to blow the whistle on this problem more than two weeks before the federal government convened National Cabinet and weeks before they were even talking about it. I was on the phone with the Treasurer's team well before the federal government and those opposite in the Queensland Labor Party even realised it was an issue. Why would it take them so long to realise that this is an issue? Probably because they turned their back on the oil and gas industries and the energy sector here in Queensland a long time ago—that is, the sector that produces baseline power and the sector that keeps this country running. They make their green deals, but turn their back on the industries that underpin national security.

Of course, when we did blow the whistle on this, the federal government laughed at us. They mocked us and they made out that 'there's nothing to see here'. They made out that there is no problem and that Queenslanders and Australians can just get on with the job and forget this is a problem. Well, now we well and truly know it is a problem. It is nice to see those opposite finally awake, but it is a shame they have not realised that the people they need to be calling are their mates in Canberra. Why aren't they calling on their mates in Canberra to do something? Because they will always back in their mates over Queenslanders. That is what we see from those opposite. We saw it when it comes to—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! We are getting there slowly. Member for Callide?

Ms Fentiman interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Waterford, you are warned.

Mr HEAD: At the end of the day, we did not need a crisis to understand this is an issue. There is something that those opposite have not been talking about through this. Maybe they need an economics lesson. Something I learned back in grade 8 economics is that when you have a limited supply of something prices go up. Now they are talking about capping prices, but through that they have not mentioned one thing—that is, supply. They have failed to mention supply and what they would do to improve supply in Queensland.

The LNP Crisafulli government backs in the oil industry. We were talking about increasing supply to the state well before there was even an oil crisis. We were doing that through the likes of the Taroom Trough. I was meeting with Omega Oil and Gas again today—

Mr SPEAKER: No props!

Mr HEAD: There is a fantastic ASX announcement that they have been making recently. I have been meeting with that company for a long period of time, as has the minister, who also met with them today. We back in these companies that are doing business here in Queensland.

For a bit of information on what the Taroom Trough may bring, for that company alone, on their publicly released information, one of their bore holes could produce 950,000 barrels of oil in a day. That is nearly a million barrels of oil. What does that mean when it comes to fuel supply here in Queensland? That is the equivalent of 151,000 cubic metres of fuel. When you break that million barrels of oil down to refine it—and I do not have the petrochemical analysis—that is 45 million litres of diesel and 60 million litres of petrol, plus jet fuel, bitumen and other fuels.

What does that mean? For that one bore hole to come into production, if you are taking four decks of cattle from Taroom to the Dinmore abattoir—a good load of Callide's finest beef—that is 85,000 round trips of four decks of cattle going to the abattoir. That is a lot of beef we are bringing on board. Plus, that is enough fuel over a year to keep 60,000 cars on the road.

However, what we get from those opposite, of course, is the politicisation of this. I want to place on record that, through the likes of the Taroom Trough, it is time we had conversations about a refinery on the Western Downs. It would be a great thing for my community. Those opposite—

A government member: They have no plans.

Mr HEAD: I take that interjection; they have no plan when it comes to improving supply of oil here in Queensland. They still failed to pick up the phone to Canberra. It is Canberra's responsibility to fix this fuel crisis and we will keep fighting until they do.

(Time expired)