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GROWING QUEENSLAND'S RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR

Report No. 4

May 2011

DISSENTING REPORT

Laid upon the Table of the House	
No. 53117	4389
10 MAY 2011	
MP: _____	
Clerk's Signature: _____	

The LNP is strongly supportive of the Renewable Energy Sector in Queensland, however the LNP members of the Committee can not support a number of recommendations contained in Report # 4 *Growing Queensland's Renewable Energy Electricity Sector*, May 2011.

The LNP members of the Committee are concerned this report calls for actions that are inflationary, will hurt Queensland's economy and will increase the cost of living for Queenslanders.

We welcome the contribution by both community and industry into this wide ranging committee report, however we are highly concerned many of the strategies recommended in this report are not sustainable or economically responsible.

Under the Labor Government there has been an obvious and systemic failure in provision of energy infrastructure that has lead to a crisis in Queensland's power distribution and generation industries. This has resulted in the cost of energy supply our community becoming less affordable and a rising cost of living.

Queensland is an energy rich state, with abundant coal and gas supplies, yet we pay more for power than most other developed nations.

The LNP strongly supports a sustainable and growing renewable energy sector, however we believe the determining factor must be the benefit of Queenslanders both in the short and long term.

The Labor Government has failed to plan for the future, instead has lived too much for the moment, as a result Queenslanders can't afford the recommendations contained in the report.

It is our belief that the recommendations would result in the Government penalising Queensland for no tangible gain.

The LNP members of the Committee believe industry needs mechanisms that will encourage change toward new technologies and development.

We believe incentives are needed, not increased taxation, if Queensland is to achieve real sustainable and renewable energy outcomes. Unfortunately the targets recommended in the report for 2020 and beyond are set only to create a headline today.

The Labor Government's economic mismanagement is responsible for the financial state of the Queensland economy. It is the ill conceived strategies and wasteful practices by this Government and its Labor predecessors that have led to the parlous budgetary state Queensland now faces.

We are concerned the recommendations in this report are counter-productive, they serve only hurt our fragile community.

The first recommendation of this report encourages the Federal Government to proceed with and set its Carbon Tax system 'as soon as possible'. The LNP members of this Committee do not support this recommendation and this recommendation is not supported by the wider Queensland community as it will destroy Queensland industry and jobs without tangible return.

The report goes on to set aspirational targets for changed electricity production and changed supply to remote communities.

It actively de-incentivises the hybrid/electric automotive industry by insisting/mandating that only 'Green Power' be used to recharge any electric vehicle used on Queensland roads.

The recommendations of this report seek to tax on one hand then subsidise with the other. The LNP members of the Committee are concerned this is not the basis for a sound strategy for a strong renewable sector. This strategy failed with the water tank rebates, failed with the Federal Government's insulation debacle and will fail Queensland's renewable energy sector.

The report makes recommendation that would set out to subsidise people in rental properties to purchase 'green power' and would penalise people with pool or air conditioning, essential parts of life for many Queenslanders.

The LNP members of the committee acknowledge all the good work done by Parliamentary Officers and thank the community and industry who provided input and goodwill.

There are valid recommendations contained within the report and are worthy of support. The LNP members of the Committee unfortunately cannot support the report as a whole as some of the recommendation will badly hurt Queensland and its economy.

Yours sincerely



Jeff Seeney MP



Peter Dowling MP