



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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# Media Statement

October 18, 2017

### **A plan to stop the power bill bite fright and grow Surat Basin jobs in the process**

RELIABLE electricity and moving to an era where you're not afraid to open your power bill – that's what the Federal Coalition Government is aiming for by dropping the Clean Energy Target, Maranoa MP David Littleproud said.

“Under our energy plan, we're scrapping renewable subsidises because – as the ACCC outlined this week – they don't work and are ultimately passed on to the consumer, making your power bill cost more,” Mr Littleproud said.

“The Coalition's policy will level the playing field and encourage investment in coal-fired power to provide reliable, base-load energy while allowing renewables to compete fairly on reliability and affordability.

“The Labor State Government's solution to reliability is to ask Queenslanders to reduce their consumption during peak periods which, for an energy rich state like ours, is mind blowing. This is clearly the result of its reckless rush to increase renewable energy from 4% to 50% which will only turn electricity into a luxury.

“To address Queensland's energy crisis, I've continually called for the Kogan Creek Power Station to be expanded and grow Surat Basin jobs in the process but Labor's CS Energy puppet have previously said 'market uncertainty' ruled out this plan to make our power bills cheaper.

“Yesterday the Federal Government clearly debunked CS Energy's 'market uncertainty' scapegoat so now it's time for the state government to expand Kogan Creek so it can't ask Queenslanders to turn their air conditioners up to 26 degrees this summer.

“The choice is stark – a Federal Government that'll scrap renewable subsidies, increase reliability and put pressure on power prices or Bill Shorten's and Queensland's Labor's 50% renewables target, which will cost an extra \$66b in subsidies that you'll pay for in high bills.”

While the Federal Government is tackling sky-high power prices by scrapping subsidies – Mr Littleproud said it's now up to the Queensland Government to finally address soaring network charges that represent more than 40% of your power bill.

“If the state government really wanted to reduce power bills for Queenslanders than reducing network charges would be a huge step. But I fear the state government is addicted to the \$1.5 billion in dividends it takes from its power companies to prop up their financial mismanagement,” he said.

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