



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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### Media statement

October 10, 2017

#### **Labor Bogeyman will turn off your appliances to control electricity supply with record-breaking summer temperatures predicted**

TODAY it was revealed that under the Summer Preparedness Plan, drawn up by the Queensland Labor Government's Energy Security Taskforce, ongoing blackouts are predicated and outlined a suite of extraordinary measures which has Maranoa MP David Littleproud fuming.

"It's a plan to limit supply, intrude into Queenslanders' homes to switch off their appliances without warning and demand families and businesses turn their air-conditioned to 26 degrees – it's mind boggling in this day-and-age," Mr Littleproud said.

"Last year, almost a year to the day on October 12, Labor released its '*Credible Pathways to a 50% Renewable Energy Target for Queensland – Draft Report*' which included an option to close one of Queensland's coal-fired power stations.

"This State Government is driving Queensland into the dark ages and would rather close a coal-fired power station and go into your home unannounced to turn off your appliances rather than addressing the real issues."

Mr Littleproud – who represents 42% of the state, including rural and remote communities where the temperature soars during summer – said CS Energy's Kogan Creek Power Station is ready to expand and could be the answer to Queensland's energy crisis.

"I visited the state-owned Kogan Creek Power Station and it has the ability to expand operations. There's a coal mine already operating, with coal deposits to last hundreds-of-years, so it makes sense to expand this operation to address the energy price crisis and grow Surat Basin jobs in the process," he said.

"Power bill fright means we already have seniors and our community's most vulnerable hesitating at turning on a heater during winter and now that we're facing a record-breaking summer, electricity is fast turning into a luxury.

"How can Labor in good conscience milk \$1.5 billion from state-owned generators – like Kogan Creek Power Station – but let seniors and families doing it tough balk at turning on their power because they're frightened of the next power bill? It's absolutely disgusting and it has to stop.

"The State Government's 2017-18 Budget forecasted a \$1.5 billion windfall over the forward estimates from the state-owned generators – that's a 110% increase on the dividend contained in the 2015-16 Budget.

“There are some exciting proposed renewable energy projects in Maranoa but I also believe coal remains a vital part of our baseload system because we can’t replace our baseload with something intermittent and very costly.”

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