

Mr Rick Humphries
Lock the Gate
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By email: richardhumphries@bigpond.com

Dear Mr Humphries

LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY RESPONSE TO ELECTION SURVEY

Thank you for your letter dated 1 November, 2017 on behalf of your members. Unfortunately, Queenslanders aren't getting ahead and the community is crying out for leadership because Anastacia Palaszczuk and Labor are doing nothing.

Labor is stuck in neutral and Queenslanders are paying the price, through higher car registration, soaring electricity bills and a lack of congestion busting infrastructure.

When our finances aren't managed properly, governments do not have the funds to provide the services that a growing state needs – in our hospitals, a better education for our children, more resources for our police to protect the community from drugs and crime and investing in infrastructure that creates jobs and improves our standard of living.

A Tim Nicholls-led Liberal National government will **Build a Better Queensland**. The LNP's plan will create jobs, support small business, invest in education to raise standards and provide better services for families and retirees.

An LNP Government has five key priorities to create positive change for Queensland. If elected, we will –

1. Create jobs across Queensland and better manage our finances
2. Take action on the cost of living
3. Better support Queensland families
4. Provide safe and liveable communities
5. Build the roads, bridges and dams we need

The previous LNP Government did more than any other previous government to mitigate the impact of the gas industry on individuals, industries and communities. These included the establishment of the Gasfields Commission, the Regional Interests Planning Act which established priority agricultural areas and other priority land use areas, reinvigorated the Coal Seam Gas Compliance Unit, publishing underground water observation data and providing restricted land protections to landholders, for the first time.

The previous LNP Government did more than any other before it to protect land and water resources, while allowing for sustainable economic growth, particularly in regional areas. This includes expanding the area of land covered by the Strategic Cropping Land map, the establishment of Strategic Environmental Areas in the Channel Country and on Cape York Peninsula and requiring coal and mineral resource project proponents to secure non-associated water licences, for the first time.

The previous LNP Government took a practical and innovative approach to legacy mine site management and rehabilitation. This included undertaking rehabilitation works that actually resulted in several listed abandoned mine sites being taken off the abandoned mines register, something that had not occurred in Queensland for many years. The LNP also called for expressions of interest for industry led proposals to reduce the environmental risk of the former Mount Morgan and Mary Kathleen mine sites.

The LNP notes that there has been a process of consultation with the resources sector regarding proposed reform of the Financial Assurance framework in Queensland, which resulted in the introduction of a Bill into the Queensland Parliament by the current Government prior to the election being called. The LNP was not consulted by the Government during that process. This Bill has referred to a parliamentary committee for scrutiny, but this committee has not reported prior to the election being called.

The LNP has no plans to increase resources sector royalty rates. The royalties that are currently received by the Queensland Government from the resources sector help to pay for the public health, education, transport, police, emergency, training, environmental, justice, community housing and recreational services, amongst other things, provided to the people of Queensland. The LNP is proud of its \$500 million commitment to re-establish the Royalties for Regions program, axed by Labor.

The recommendation of the Queensland Land Court with respect to New Hope's Acland Stage 3 coal mine project is subject to a judicial review and the LNP respects that process. The former LNP Government put in place the Darling Downs Regional Plan, established under the Regional Interests Planning Act and expanded the Strategic Cropping Land map, both of which impose robust and assessment processes on any resources project proposed in that region, on land which meets the relevant criteria.

The LNP will not veto any application for funds through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund for a project in North Queensland that is approved by the independent board appointed by the Commonwealth Government to assess those applications. The LNP supports the Carmichael coal mine and associated rail and port projects and expects the proponent to adhere to all of the conditions of its various state and federal approvals, in accordance with the law of Queensland and Australia.

We have been travelling the state and listening to the concerns of Queenslanders. They want better government – not more government. It's our commitment to be a common sense government that listens, plans and acts to **Build a Better Queensland**.

Please feel free to share this response directly with your members, or in any regular publication.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M O'Dwyer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael O'Dwyer
State Director