



Speech by

Jann Stuckey

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

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TUGUN DESALINATION PLANT, DAMAGED PROPERTIES

Mrs STUCKEY (Currumbin—LNP) (9.27 pm): Residents in the Currumbin electorate who live along or adjacent to the Tugun desalination pipeline route have asked me to represent them on the floor of the Queensland parliament. They are beside themselves with worry and want me to place on record their ongoing grievances with the lack of this government's assistance to ensure that their damaged properties are restored to pre-desalination plant construction condition. Residents are seeking an independent engineering building inspection condition report to be completed on their affected homes as, despite being offered a pre-construction building condition survey report, none of them who have contacted me have been offered a post-inspection survey.

Why on earth were these people offered pre-construction reports that were pretty detailed documents in the first place if there was no intention to follow up? When residents are left to their own devices to book post-inspections, they tell me they are appalled to find out that they are not done on the entire property as they were in the first instance. Only the parts that residents claim to have altered are inspected, not the entire property as happened in the original survey. They want to know why some people's claims have been favoured over others in the same street. A few people have had repairs done fully, others very partially and others completely refused.

Residents have been given a range of reasons why their properties are not in the same condition they were in prior to construction of this plant and associated pipelines. This is a cruel way to treat people who patiently put up with enormous disruptions over a prolonged period, some even being moved out of their homes for weeks on end. They are desperate to have their homes restored to preconstruction condition. I call on this neglectful government to support these residents and provide the means for them to have an independent engineering building inspection condition report at no cost to any of the people who were offered a preconstruction inspection.

Both the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy and Minister for Trade and the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning have been playing a game of seesaw, which is fully reported in *Hansard*. By behaving in this manner, both were able to abrogate their responsibility to their respective portfolios and, more importantly, to the citizens of Queensland—namely, those in the Currumbin electorate to whom they owe a big apology.

I stand in this House as a voice for the people of my electorate who put their trust in me to represent them actively. They feel they have been hung out to dry by this Labor government, whose ministers have been flipping them between each other to avoid any responsibility. It is not only residents who feel hung out to dry; the Tugun Seahawks Football Club has seen its facilities deteriorate rapidly since construction began. After pleading with this government since last year to even get a hearing, which it finally received last month at a closed meeting with the abovementioned ministers, the club is still struggling to survive on a weekly basis as deplorable conditions get even worse—no night lights, portable dressing rooms, potholes opening up around the grounds, no spectator stands. And still the government refuses to listen.