



June 4, 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

Labor won't waste the chance to dump on the North

Member for Burdekin and Shadow Minister for North Queensland, Dale Last, has said the introduction of new waste charges by the Palaszczuk Labor Government is more proof that the North of the state is being punished for no reason.

Mr Last's claims come following the revelation that the State Government will slug all Queenslanders with a \$70/tonne fee for waste in addition to existing charges.

"Basically the Premier has doubled the cost of dumping waste for every Queenslanders simply because they cannot stop waste from New South Wales being dumped in Ipswich," Mr Last said.

"Labor promised households will not be affected by any levy and this is yet another promise they have broken."

"This state government has slugged the regional areas time and time again in favour of Brisbane and it simply has to stop."

Mr Last said the introduction of the levy would add more pressure on already struggling households and small businesses. He believes it is another indication of how out of touch the government has become; especially in regional areas.

"This government seems determined to destroy the regional areas of Queensland," Mr Last said.

"First we see regional primary producers slammed with laws that are based on bad science then the Premier insults them for making their voices heard."

"Brisbane might be doing fine economically but there are huge parts of regional Queensland where things are tough and now Labor comes along and makes it even tougher to keep your head above water."

"All that needed to be done was to crack down on Councils in the South East and compliance in general but Labor prefers to dump this levy on people 1000 kilometres from where the real problem is."

"They lied when they said interstate waste increased under the LNP and they lied when they said the levy wouldn't affect households," Mr Last said. "It proves, once again, you can't trust Labor."

ENDS

Current charges for Mixed Commercial General Waste are: Burdekin Shire Council \$132.50 per tonne, Townsville City Council: \$90 per tonne, Hinchinbrook Shire Council \$78.00 per tonne

Media Contact: David Cooper 0427 834 844