



21st September 2018

Cairns port finds false support from Entsch, again

On Wednesday 12th September Mr Entsch spoke on the Cairns Port in the Parliaments Federation Chamber in Canberra. KAP candidate for Leichhardt Daniel McCarthy is calling out the incompetency and mischief making.

“Mr Entsch may have not only utterly embarrassed himself but revealed he is completely out of touch and clearly out of his depth with the Cairns Shipping Development project”, says Mr McCarthy.

“The development of the Cairns Shipping Port is one of the most important issues for the future of our regional economy, yet Mr Entsch has made a mockery of it in attempting to muddy the waters”, says McCarthy.

It is the Federal government’s own Reef 2050 plan that has applied draconian restrictions to Cairns port. The related State Government legislation is a required outcome of the Reef 2050 plan.

Then Mr Entsch went out of his way to vilify the KAP state members stating they did ‘absolutely nothing’ for Cairns with the Sustainable Ports Bill in 2015. The inflammatory statements are factually incorrect.

“The facts are, in 2015, the state KAP members put an amendment up to the Sustainable Ports Development Bill, for Cairns to be made a priority and to securely deliver the Cairns Shipping Development Project”, says Mr McCarthy.

“Mr. Entsch’s own party, the LNP, voted with Labor against the amendments to the bill. The failure of both major parties to support the Katter Party’s bid to have Cairns listed as a priority port is what ensured Cairns remains as a boutique port,” says Mr McCarthy.

“In my opinion, the speech is unacceptable. I am calling on Mr Entsch to retract his false and misleading statements and to correct the record. Leichhardt deserves better”, says Mr McCarthy.

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Attached: Page 117 of Hansard record: House of Representatives: Main Committee: Official recording of the Federation Chamber proceedings: Wednesday 12th September 2018.