COUNTRY
LIBERALS

MEDIA RELEASE

BUILDING OPPOSITION TO A NEW TAX

Peter Chandler MLA

Date 25th May 2011

Member for Brennan, Peter Chandler, says the Henderson Government should explain the impact of a carbon tax on the price of housing.

"I'm amazed at the number of people who have spoken to me on the streets and at Palmerston markets about the impact of a carbon tax on the cost of living," Mr Chandler said.

While there are genuine fears in the community about the environment, there is little confidence that the carbon tax will mitigate climate change.

The overwhelming view is the tax will hurt the economy, cost jobs and increase prices.

"If we are going to be fair-dinkum about protecting our environment we should look at simple, practical steps rather than trying to save the world by giving this greedy Labor Government a new revenue stream.

"Last week the Housing Industry Association resolved to oppose the carbon tax because it would disadvantage the national economy and the housing industry.

"HIA said it believed the Emissions Trading Scheme, which Kevin Rudd scrapped last year, would have increased the upfront cost of the average new home by $6000 – and that the actual cost increase could have been much higher.

"HIA says a carbon tax would lead to higher costs for building products including bricks, tiles, glass, concrete, steel and aluminium.

"It will also strike at the competitive advantage of Australian building supply manufactures and force builders to look overseas.

"Surely the Henderson Government cannot support a policy which will lead to even higher costs of living for Territorians.

"The Chief Minister must make it very clear to his colleagues in Canberra that his Government does not support the carbon tax."