Gerry Wood, Independent Member for Nelson, says the CLP claimed there was a smell about the previous Labor government and the way it handed over Stella Maris to the unions, so much so that they set up an inquiry into the affair.

Now, he says the boot is on the other foot, with the CLP’s Minister for Lands and Planning exempting a developer from the normal rules of development in the rural area.

Gerry says this smells like Government favouritism which is exactly what the CLP accused the ALP of doing.

Gerry says that the Minister has made a mockery of good governance, of orderly planning and given rural people and the local member the one finger salute and told them they are irrelevant. This is because King Dave now rules the People’s Republic of Tollnerville where unfettered development reigns supreme and dissent from residents is not be tolerated.

Gerry says the Minister might try and deflect the issue with his usual vocal haw-haw-hawing but it won’t drown out the anger of rural residents who see the approval of this urban subdivision smack in the middle of the rural area as typical of an arrogant Government meaning there is a good chance of the CLP losing the seat of Goyder at the next election unless this decision is reversed.

Gerry says he has written to the Chief Minister asking him to reverse this crazy decision, but if he doesn’t he will be calling on Parliament to set up an inquiry at least as powerful and well-funded as the Stella Maris inquiry immediately. The inquiry will look at all the circumstances around the approval of this subdivision including the authenticity of some of the statements made by the Minister when he made his decision and look at the ramifications if it goes ahead for the future of rural living in Litchfield.