



---

## INNISFAIL ADVOCATE COLUMN AUGUST 2010

---

**Date: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

**For immediate release**

### **LABOR / GREEN DEAL IS HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF**

I have a terrible sense of déjà vu about the current federal election campaign. It is as if the story of the last Queensland state election is repeating itself. The Gillard Labor Government has signed a preference deal with the Greens for the coming federal election, just like the Bligh Labor Government signed a preference deal with the Greens before the last state election.

North Queensland has suffered badly since the re-election of the Bligh Labor Government with the implementation of policies that were part of its deal with the Greens. I am very concerned North Queensland will again be in the firing line if the Gillard Labor Government is re-elected and the terms of its deal with Greens are implemented.

In North Queensland, the Bligh Labor Government has expanded the Wild River declarations across vast tracks of Cape York Peninsula. It has introduced the so-called reef protection regulations that look set to keep cane growers and graziers filling out paperwork several hours a day to undertake basic farming activities without any justification. It has introduced the ban on the management of regrowth vegetation and created buffer zones that will result in lost production area.

More recently, new restrictive regulations have been introduced on the activities of landowners adjacent to wetlands. All these new layers of regulation and red tape have come about within 18 months of the last state election, because the Bligh Labor Government did a deal with the Greens. Now that we know that the Gillard Labor Government has done a deal with the Greens, what can we expect within 18 months of the federal election? Why won't Labor and the Greens tell us what they are up to?

Julia Gillard and Bob Brown have already said the Labor/Green alliance will put an Emissions Trading Scheme back on the table. With no other country around the world committed to an ETS, this massive new tax will seriously hurt the Australian economy, especially in regional and rural areas. The Labor/Green alliance is also committed to imposing the super profits tax on the mining industry, which will again cause significant problems for the economy and jobs in North Queensland.

Not content with targeting our major industries with new taxes, the Labor/Green alliance is also looking to impose restrictions on our lifestyle in North Queensland, with a proposal to turn one million square kilometres of the Coral Sea into a "no take" marine park. The best way to explain what is being proposed by Julia Gillard and Bob Brown is an additional one million square kilometres of Green Zone. Unfortunately, North Queenslanders understand what Green Zones mean – no fishing.

North Queenslanders have seen the result of a preference deal between the Bligh Labor Government and the Greens at a state level. With this evidence in front of us, can we risk the fall out of a preference deal between the Gillard Labor Government and the Greens at the federal level?

---

Contact:	Andrew Cripps MP Member for Hinchinbrook	Address:	PO Box 1515 Ingham Qld 4850	Ph:	07 4776 1428
		E-mail:	<a href="mailto:Hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au">Hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au</a>	Fax:	07 4776 3503

---