HOW TO VOTE SHOOTERS FISHERS and FARMERS



Issues I'll be fighting for



Northern Tablelands By-election 22 June

Ben Smith

Fighting New England REZ

The Nationals were part of the movement to implement the New England Renewable Energy Zone, a reckless renewable plan that will threaten the lives and livelihood of New England residents, particularly farmers. The project has faced huge opposition and Shooters, Fishers & Farmers have been part of this opposition from the very beginning, fighting the wastage of taxpayer-funded incentives on poor projects. Along with the rash of offshore wind turbines, solar installations and the HumeLink transmission lines across the state, SFF is exposing projects like New England REZ for the virtue signalling they are.

Rural, Regional & Remote Crime Failure _

After three terms in government when the National Party could have addressed this, crime is even worse in rural, regional and remote areas. The Country Mayors Association put together a Crime, Law and Order Summary and approached Nationals members of the lower house who refused to do a committee of inquiry. After having no success with the Nationals, the Country Mayors Association approached SFF Leader Robert Borsak MLC to do an Upper House inquiry. When he sent this to the Upper House members of the Nationals they immediately stalled it, because they knew a committee chaired by Mr Borsak would reveal their own past incompetence. Instead, the Nationals demanded the premier set up a committee. So now there is a 5 person lower house Committee for Community Safety in regional and rural communities, containing 3 members of the government from Western Sydney, one Nationals member and an ineffective independent, Mr Donato. In their usual style, the Nationals have ensured that no good will come from the inquiry, leaving country communities continuing to struggle.

Poor Health Services

Hunter and New England Health Services were amalgamated 20 years ago. Throughout this period New England has had Nationals local members and services have only deteriorated. The Hunter region gets most of the benefits and New England suffers the consequences. Hospitals go up to 60 hours without doctors in situ and many times when a person is seriously ill or injured local nursing staff have to treat them with only a teleconference to advise them.

To add insult to injury, ambulance services are seriously lacking as there's a general staff shortage and staff retention is also poor. The Nationals failed to address this during their time in government and they have not held the new government to account, either. It is clear that the Nationals care nothing for the wellbeing of residents.

