



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TONY WINDSOR MP
INDEPENDENT
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

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Letter to Editor

13th December 2005

Dear Editor,

Comments made by National Party candidate for Barwon Kevin Humphries that I did not support the ethanol industry and specifically the Primary Energy project in Gunnedah proves that Barwon needs to elect an Independent at the 2007 NSW election and severely undermines his credibility as a potential MP.

Mr Humphries comment is at best ill informed and at worst a blatant lie and follows a well worn path established by the National Party.

The comment is easily refuted by the attached letter dated 14th May 2004 from Primary Energy signed by Matthew Kelley thanking me for the 'amazing interest and support shown by you (me) in our project throughout the past 24 months.'

Mr Kelley went on to say, '...you Tony, have provided support for our cause beyond the call of normal duty and have aided in applying pressure to the parties involved to ensure legislation was achieved that will see the development of a strong domestic Renewable Fuels Industry for rural Australia.....We know this has been achieved in the face of adversity and I congratulate you in taking the leadership and strength necessary to achieve this outcome. An amazing result!'

Mr Humphries wouldn't know that the proponents of the ethanol industry including Mr Kelley spent 18 months working out of my Canberra office to lobby for assistance, working very hard to achieve the result they did.

Mr Humphries says in his letter that he 'highlighted the difficulty that Mr Anderson would face in Cabinet gaining support for the industry's development and that this was a good opportunity for him (me) to help provide regional support for such a project.'

His argument is flawed in that Mr Humphries says he joined the National Party to get things done then admits that the then Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the National Party that held the balance of power in the House of Representatives couldn't achieve a result for the ethanol industry in the cabinet without the help of an Independent.

The number of speeches I made and questions I asked in the Parliament along with media releases put out on my position of support for the ethanol industry and for the Primary Energy project are easily obtained and should leave any reader including Mr Humphries in no doubt as to my support and efforts for both the industry and the project.

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For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080 or 0427 66 8868

Mr Humphries also conveniently neglects to tell your readers that out of a visit to Tamworth by the then Opposition Leader Mark Latham in early 2004, Mr Latham agreed to meet with the proponents of the Gunnedah and Dalby ethanol plants and myself – a meeting that subsequently took place in Mr Latham's Canberra office.

At this meeting Mr Latham agreed to support an amendment to the fuel excise freedom arrangement that Democrats Senate Leader Lyn Allison was proposing.

Once that agreement was obtained, the National Party's 'do nothing' position on ethanol was exposed and they were forced to support an excise freedom period.

Up until then, the National Party ran the untruthful line that the ethanol industry could not progress because of Labor, despite the fact the Government had the Democrats and Greens supportive of the ethanol industry and working on the final amendment of the excise exemption period eventually increasing it from 5 years (as was originally proposed by the National Party despite industry advice that they needed longer) to 8 years.

The reality is that had Mark Latham not taken the time to come to the country and the ethanol meeting did not take place, the Nats would probably still be sitting on their hands waiting for orders from those great exponents of free trade, the fuel companies.

Mr Humphries comments should therefore be seen as nothing more than a political swipe and if anyone in Barwon needed a reason to vote for an Independent at the next election, I think this is a good one. For a prospective candidate to put his name to this untruthful rubbish shows where the National Party has slid to in its credibility.

It is a very bad start for someone trying to put themselves forward as a credible candidate for Parliament - but then again, it does show that his obedience school training is working!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Windsor". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tony Windsor MP
Member for New England



**Primary Energy
Pty. Ltd.**

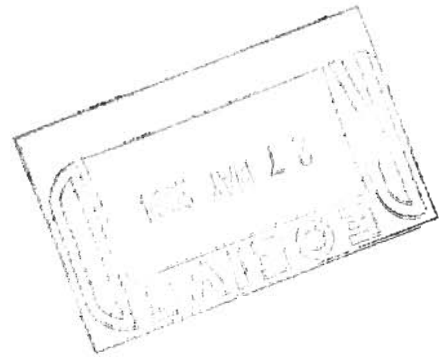
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14th May 2004

The Hon Tony Windsor MP
Federal Member for New England
PO Box 963
Tamworth NSW 2340



Dear Tony

Energy Grants (Cleaner Fuels) Scheme Bill 2003

I am writing on behalf of Primary Energy to formally thank you for the amazing interest and support shown by you in our project throughout the past 24 months and for supporting the Energy Grants Scheme Bill that was passed in the Senate during April.

After several visits to Canberra we understand the demands and requests that are placed on our Members and we appreciate the time, efforts and struggles that you and your staff have endured to ensure that our project is given the maximum opportunity for success.

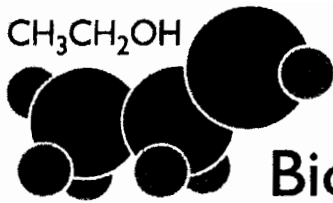
In my opinion, you Tony, have provided support for our cause beyond the call of normal duty and have aided in applying pressure to the parties involved to ensure legislation was achieved that will see the development of a strong domestic Renewable Fuels Industry for rural Australia. The legislation not only ensures a good term of start up assistance but offers an Excise framework that will allow this industry to be viable in rural Australia for the long haul. We know this has been achieved in the face of adversity and I congratulate you in taking the leadership and strength necessary to achieve this outcome. An amazing result!

For Primary Energy from here, it is Upward and Onward! We look forward to continuing our association and discussing the progress of our project as your busy schedule permits.

Yours Sincerely

Matthew Kelley
Director
Primary Energy Pty. Ltd.

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Dalby Bio-Refinery Limited

31st March 2004

Mr Tony Windsor MP
Member for New England
PO Box 963
Tamworth NSW 2340

Dear Tony

We would like to express our sincere thanks for your efforts in assisting to bring a successful result for the ethanol industry in general and in particular for the ethanol plants in Dalby and Gunnedah.

As you are aware, we commenced the investment and planning phases of our projects in the light of the Coalition's total excise exemption policy released in 2001. The introduction of the 38 cents per litre excise in 2002 was devastating to our plans. As such, your efforts in pursuing the 8 year excise exemption, has made a significant contribution to our achievement of a suitable economic environment within which to proceed with our project.

We found your political advice and counsel on the debate invaluable and your efforts in working with other members in the Parliament on all sides of the political spectrum to pursue a united stand on ethanol, proved to be very effective.

Your suggestion of bringing together over 50 Mayors from throughout Australia to support the ethanol industry at a meeting in Parliament House in November last year, helped to highlight to the Government the widespread support for the development of the ethanol industry.

Thanks again for all your help.

Best wishes

Chris Harrison
Director

Bill Elliott
Ethanol Project Manager

