



MEDIA RELEASE

7th March 2009

DS4SEQ ANNOUNCES CAMPAIGN LAUNCH EVENT – WITH A DIFFERENCE!

DS4SEQ, the Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party, is calling for all Gold Coast residents to rally as they prepare to launch a "Chaser-style" stunt this Sunday.

DS4SEQ, who are fielding 32 candidates in the 2009 Queensland State election, will seek to visually demonstrate how the absence of daylight saving impacts Gold Coast residents. At 7am (Queensland time) on Sunday 8th March, the DS4SEQ team will front up to a split time-zone street in Coolangatta - Tweed Heads. The aptly-named Boundary Street, has the dubious honour of straddling both Queensland and New South Wales.

The DS4SEQ Party will mow grass on the New South Wales side of Boundary Street, where it will be 8:00am. Less than a metre away on Queensland soil, the time will be 7:00am and a DS4SEQ member will attempt to sleep, acknowledging the fact that council laws do not permit lawn mowing or other relatively noisy activities before 8:00am on a Sunday.

DS4SEQ Party Leader, Jason Furze, has said that in a lot of ways the Gold Coast is seen as the DS4SEQ heartland. "We are very attuned to the daily economic and social disruptions caused particularly at the southern-end of the city, where residents negotiate two different time zones on a daily basis. Unfortunately, it does not appear that either of the major political parties in Queensland are willing to acknowledge this", said Mr Furze.

The DS4SEQ Party formed last year in response to the Queensland Premier's rejection of state government-funded research showing the majority (69%) of South East Queenslanders wanted daylight saving. In recognition that daylight saving support is weaker outside of South East Queensland, the political party are proposing a dual time zone in Queensland.

Under this arrangement, Queensland would operate on two time zones, allowing the majority of all Queensland residents to be satisfied, not just the minority, as is currently the case. As the proposed dual time zone border runs mainly through sparsely populated areas, fewer people would be impacted than the current system, which particularly affects Gold Coast families who juggle parent work hours in Tweed Heads and children's school hours in Coolangatta, or vice versa. "Our goal is to see a dual time zone introduced in Queensland, that allows South East residents to enjoy the business and lifestyle benefits of daylight saving, but accommodates the desire for rural and regional Queenslanders to remain without it", Mr Furze said.

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