



MEDIA RELEASE

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Daylight Saving - more than one 'Earth Hour'

DS4SEQ wonders why the Queensland State Government is quick to support Earth Hour, and yet refuses to support the introduction of daylight saving in South East Queensland, which would allow a one hour light saving 182 more times each year.

Saturday March 28 is the World Wildlife Fund's Earth Hour 2009. This is when businesses and households will be encouraged to switch off their lights for one hour between 8.30pm and 9.30pm local time. It is part of an international effort to send a strong message on climate change to world leaders.

According to DS4SEQ, South East Queensland households could be enjoying an hour of light saving, like Earth Hour, for 6 months of every year with daylight saving. "With the sun setting an hour later, households would switch their lights on an hour later. And because there would still be adequate natural light in the morning to perform general household activities, there is no real downside," Party Leader Jason Furze said.

"It is difficult to understand why Queensland's major political parties support the Earth Hour initiative, and yet refuse to consider adopting daylight saving time in South East Queensland. Daylight Saving would allow households to benefit from greater natural light and, at the same time, save South East Queensland businesses \$14 billion each year," Mr Furze said.

DS4SEQ, which advocates a dual Queensland time zone and the introduction of daylight saving into the South East Queensland region, support the efforts of the World Wildlife Fund to highlight global warming. Mr Furze said that this year WWF are staging the 'world's first global election'.

"WWF have said that turning lights off during Earth Hour will register a vote for earth, and leaving lights on will be a vote for global warming. We would add that voting DS4SEQ number one on March 21 will allow people to effectively vote to have an 'Earth Hour' 182 times a year," Mr Furze said.

DS4SEQ are fielding 32 candidates in the 2009 Queensland state election and are asking South East Queenslanders to vote DS4SEQ number one on the ballot, and give their next preference to whichever party they wish to govern the state. "A strong vote for DS4SEQ would send a message to both the ALP and LNP, and make it that much harder for them to continue ignoring the issue of daylight saving and the majority of people in the state who support it," Mr Furze said.

ENDS

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