

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Celebrates New Year's**

The Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party's 2010 New Year Resolution – to continue working hard in its battle to have the issue of Daylight Saving appropriately addressed in Queensland, by State Parliament.

"We look forward to South East Queenslanders one day being able to enjoy New Year's Celebrations at the exact same time as the Eastern states", Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party Leader, Jason Furze said.

At 11:59pm AEST on Thursday 31 December 2009, many South East Queensland residents will be looking forward to watching the televised national celebration of the midnight fireworks, from Sydney Harbour. Mr Furze said that a number of these viewers will have already received phone calls and text messages from friends and relatives interstate, wishing them a happy new year; some of whom would have been fortunate enough to enjoy the fireworks live – an hour earlier.

Also at this time, a number of revellers will have already enjoyed New Year's celebrations in Tweed Heads, only to have casually crossed the street in anticipation of a second celebration – in Coolangatta.

"The anomaly of a 'time border' along the Queensland / New South Wales State boundary, allows people to enjoy a dual New Year's celebration, however the fun only lasts for one evening. For the remainder of summer, the absence of Daylight Saving will continue to cause business inefficiencies and frustrate South East Queensland residents, who would like to enjoy the social benefits and increased lifestyle opportunities, that Daylight Saving would provide them", Mr Furze said.

Mr Furze said that Queensland has only ever had one Referendum on Daylight Saving, which was held in February 1992, and was defeated. This vote gauged support within the community for State-wide Daylight Saving, following a three year trial.

"A result from 18 years ago, is now outdated and does not reflect current demographics. Times have changed and attitudes have changed, to a more favourable position toward Daylight Saving. Therefore the issue of Daylight Saving within Queensland needs to be revisited and addressed appropriately, in order to reflect current community sentiment", Mr Furze said.

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The Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party are advocating a dual time zone be implemented in Queensland.

"A dual time zone would assist businesses in the South East region, and satisfy the majority of all Queenslanders, not just the minority, as is currently the case", Mr Furze said.

**ENDS**

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