



Bob Carr M.P.
Leader of the Opposition

February 22, 1989.

CARR RELEASES RECORD ON COASTAL DEVELOPMENT

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Bob Carr, today ridiculed allegations by the Government that he had approved controversial coastal developments when a Minister. He released a list of 14 coastal developments that demonstrated the open-slather approach that commenced with the election of the Greiner-Murray Government.

"These allegations have been made before. I have rebutted them in the Parliamentary debate on November 10, 1988 and in a 2BL debate with Matt Singleton on December 8, 1988.

"When I was Minister for Planning and Environment I was relentlessly attacked by the National Party for being too restrictive in my approach to coastal development.

"They accused me of driving investment to Queensland, destroying employment along the coastline and so on.

"The Government cannot name a single development along the coast approved by the previous Government that failed to meet environmental tests, that was pushed over local council opposition or approved against the advice of the then-Department of Planning and Environment.

"That is the difference between them and us.

"Current developments that are causing controversy are either:

- * developments that have been brought forward since the change of Government, for example, the major developments in the Tweed, the development at North Entrance and the urbanisation of 33 kilometres of coastline in Bega Valley Shire. Some were brought forward within days of Labor's loss of government;
- * developments that were around when I was Minister but only in discussion stage and which received no development approval. The Caves Beach development fits into this category."

"The Government's list of developments allegedly approved when I was Minister is a grab-bag of developments approved by local councils within established coastal towns, like Coffs Harbour or Port Macquarie.

"Unlike Mr. Murray I did not bully councils to approve developments. In fact I frequently criticised them for being too gung-ho for development."

Mr. Carr added that local conservationists and residents' groups were the final judge on who was the better environmentalist - him or Wal Murray.

Mr. Carr said his achievements as Minister for Planning and Environment included:

- * the expansion of national parks along the coast;
- * the introduction of the policy protecting coastal wetlands in 1985;
- * a policy restraining the growth of canal estates;
- * the amendment of shire-wide plans submitted by North Coast councils so that they provided greater environmental protection, for example, in Bellingen and Byron; and,
- * the rejection of numerous bad development proposals.

Mr. Carr said that among those developments he rejected were:

- * a plan for a major canal estate subdivision in Bellingen Shire;
- * the Matt Singleton-backed proposal for a residential tourist development at Nambucca Heads; and,
- * the 30 kilometre long subdivision in Bega Valley Shire.

The attached list shows the difference between the previous and the present government on coastal development.

* * *

CURRENT CONTROVERSIAL COASTAL DEVELOPMENTS

<u>DEVELOPMENT</u>	<u>CARR'S ATTITUDE</u>	<u>GREINER'S ATTITUDE</u>
<u>Bega Valley Shire</u>		
Proposals to urbanise 33 kms of natural coastal country, a threat of urban sprawl through forests and around coastal lakes. Regarded by planners and conservationists as disastrous.	The plan was developed by Council and consultants in 1985 and was twice rejected by the Department of Planning and Environment and Carr as Minister.	The plan re-emerged and was resubmitted on <u>Tuesday, March 22, 1988</u> , three days after election of the Greiner Government.
<u>Adco Pty Ltd., Tweed Shire</u>		
	Carr amended draft Tweed plan to rezone Letitia Spit land for open space, in January 1988.	A concept for big development plan announced in media, with support of Wal Murray.
<u>South Kingscliff</u>		
A government-owned site considered suitable for types of tourist development. Controversy over Tweed Council's insistence on set-back requirements.	No development application received while Carr was Minister.	Support for \$2 billion proposal. Deputy Premier vows to overturn local government restrictions. Visits council to criticise their restriction on development.
<u>Pottsville, Tweed Shire</u>		
A residential canal development.	In 1985 Carr placed an order under the Heritage Act on the site, stopping further destruction of the natural environment and bringing further development to a halt.	Development appears to be going ahead.

DEVELOPMENT

CARR'S ATTITUDE

GREINER'S ATTITUDE

Ocean Blue,
Fingal Head,
Tweed Shire.

Carr placed wetlands protection over part of area, protected rainforest area on another part of site and in January 1988 approved open space zoning. No development contemplated.

Lease given on part of site to open way for development approval for hotel and government support for marina proposal in wetlands area. Aboriginal land claim refused.

Atco,
North Kingscliff.

Major tourist development at Wommin Lake.

Wetland zoning approval by Carr. No development proposal advanced while he was Minister.

Proposal has emerged since change of government.

South Kingscliff

Lenen Developments of Queensland propose high-rise development - two huge tourist developments amounting to a \$700 million international resort.

No development proposed.

Concept advanced since change of government, with strong support of Wal Murray who describes it as "excellent". Bullying of Council over erosion line and

Mount Nullum,
Tweed Shire.

Resort proposal for mountaintop.
Crown land.

No proposal under previous government.

Little known about status of proposal at this stage.

DEVELOPMENT

CARR'S ATTITUDE

GREINER'S ATTITUDE

North Entrance
Peninsula

\$250 million
Tasman Sound
resort hotel in
Wyong Shire.

Development not submitted
to the Labor Government.

Essington Developments
made submission to Wyong
Shire Council on April 6,
1988. On September 16,
1988 calls for
expressions of interest
advertised. The Deputy
Premier requested that
the Shire Council rezone
the land.

Bellinger Keys
Estate

A proposal for a
canal subdivision.

The application was
rejected by Carr, against
the advice of his
Department, after
representations from
local residents.

As Minister, Matt
Singleton threatened to
have the Council
dismissed for not
supporting the Shire
President's proposals
for the development.

Caves Beach,
Central Coast

\$500 million
tourist resort.

Carr had been briefed
on proposal. It received
no further consideration
while he was Minister.

Proposal accelerated
rapidly after the
election and has
been approved
following the urging of
local MP/Mayor Ivan Welsh
and the willingness of
the Minister to abandon
coastal protection
zonings.

DEVELOPMENT

CARR'S ATTITUDE

GREINER'S ATTITUDE

Bonville
Development,
South of Coffs
Harbour

Major tourist resort development, with residential and educational components. \$500 million.

While the project had been supported by the Investment Corporation and announced by the then-Premier, Carr and Mr. Unsworth met a delegation of conservationists opposed to the development. On November 19, 1987 Carr said in Parliament:
"It will proceed if it meets the tests. If it does not meet the tests, it will fail."
He required Council to produce a detailed environment study.

Coffs Harbour Council is now preparing a rezoning to permit development, with support of State Government Ministers before environmental study completed. All Council reports recommend rejection of development. Tim Moore has rejected proposal for national park on site.

Pitt development

A tourist development in Ballina Shire.

In 1987 the development had been approved by Ballina Shire. Carr reviewed the consent and ordered a commission of inquiry. This recommended additional safeguards to preserve wetlands and these were adopted.

The Government has relaxed the conditions.

Broken Head,
Byron Shire

A caravan park site considered for resort development by the NSW Tourist Commission.

In 1987 Carr and Hallam added the area to Broken Head Nature Reserve, thus protecting it from development.

Conservationists concerned about its future.

Please Return to

S. Carhill.

Nature Can. Council of NSW

BOB CARR

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION'S ADDRESS TO THE

STATE ALP CONFERENCE

June 10, 1989

Mr Chairman, Dr. Refshauge and my other parliamentary colleagues, delegates and observers.

At our last State Conference I set guidelines for Labor's recovery, recovery from one of the most severe defeats in our Party's history, a recovery from an election which brought to an end 12 years in which a Labor Premier spoke from this stage about the plans and policies of Labor Governments.

Many diverse ingredients were required for that recovery.

For a start it took courage, plain courage, to pick ourselves up and face the future; to walk into a parliament where Labor was now outnumbered; to hold up our heads in electorates we had fought for and lost. It took commonsense to face up to the task of reconstruction, rebuilding, reviving our links with unions, reaching out again to our traditional supporters. It took a sense of history to understand that Labor, having led so often in the past, would be called upon to lead again.

Courage, commonsense, a feel for our own history: all these were required. But so was one more thing. A simple requirement, namely time.

Time for the impact of our defeat to pass.

Time for the real nature of the Greiner government to reveal itself, time for the broken promises to mount.

Time for people to understand the solid achievements of Labor Governments could not be taken for granted.

Time for our Party to master new skills and settle on essential messages to take to the electorate.

It is a full 15 months since the Greiner-Murray Government was elected to power.

A coalition government is a day-to-day reality.

A reality for a student dumped in a composite class that includes children from three different years, for a teacher with a class of 29 instead of 19; for thousands of workers in our hospital system who now face a frightening mix of privatisation and cutbacks; for commuters in our sprawling capital city who are seeing the start of a deliberate running down in our train and bus services. They now know what a Greiner-Murray government means; as do the country communities being stripped of basic services from courthouses to railways. As do the homeless and the poor whose welfare support is being withdrawn. As does the battling family, now \$850 a year poorer because of Mr. Greiner's increased charges and taxes.

- 2 -

Before our eyes New South Wales is becoming a degraded, a dirty and a divided society. Mr. Greiner is delivering what I brand the "Manhattan option" for New South Wales: rundown, unsafe public transport, inferior schools, hospitals run by contractors, homeless sleeping in doorways - these, the consequences of a government indifferent to the public interest and hostile to the public sector.

In Labor Cabinets we debated the fairness of policies; for us that was always the litmus test. The Greiner-Murray government never has, never will. Fairness has been dumped as an objective of government.

And at the same time the public interest is being undermined as sound government assets are put on the auction block - from the six storey, sandstone Education Department building in Bridge Street to schools and housing sites. Not to raise capital for other public needs, but in a blind ideological drive to abandon long-time functions of State Government.

The run down of public services, the abandonment of fairness, asset-stripping of the public sector ... these are major dividing lines between the conservatives and us.

But, delegates, of all the measures of this Government's failure, 15 months into its term, one stands out. Today, nowhere in Australia, will you find Liberals using the Greiner-Murray Government as a selling point or advertisement for the conservative cause.

Think about it. Here is the first coalition Government to win office on mainland Australia since 1980.

In the natural course of events, you would expect Liberals in Western Australia, Queensland or Canberra to refer to their new Government in New South Wales with admiration. Remember 1976. State branches of the ALP around Australia drew inspiration from the new Wran Government.

But no conservative in Australia is claiming the Greiner-Murray Government as inspiration, model or standard bearer. Nowhere do they point to it with pride.

When Mr Greiner has appeared in their campaigns it has been the most fleeting cameo appearance.

No Liberal interstate says he or she will copy Mr Greiner's policies on taxes and charges, education, environment, or anything else.

When the Liberal Leader in South Australia was asked last year if he would follow Mr Greiner's education policies, his reply was instructive. "NO, NO, NO," he said. Thrice denied. You could almost hear the cock crow.

- 3 -

Hard headed conservative politicians have looked at Mr Greiner's 15 month performance and reached the conclusion, there is no vision in it and no substance to it. Around this country, the conservative cause has decided it does not want to be judged on the Greiner - Murray experiment.

We can say, who've witnessed his failure first hand, little wonder.

THE MINISTERS

After more than a year in office it is now appropriate for us to look at the performance of some of the Ministers.

One, of course, has gone - Matt Singleton.

Gone because we, the Labor Party, did what an Opposition has to do. We exposed the corrupt deals, we uncovered the scandals and, within a year, drove a Minister from office for impropriety.

Let's look at the Deputy Premier.

In a magnificent flurry, Wal Murray told us he was the man to get development moving in New South Wales. "A big man for a big job," he told us. "Let developers knock at my door and I will help."

He launched the Department of State Development. A former Greiner staffer, Ian Kortlang, was paid \$107,000 a year to direct it. The Liberal Party threw in a Commodore car, they all got cellular phones.

They spent \$30,000 designing a logo; over a quarter of a million rewriting the Labor Government's State Development strategy. They gave themselves new offices that would have been appropriate on Wall Street. There was going to be, in their own words, a Sydney "business mafia" a white tie brigade to back the white shoe brigade.

What is the result?

When we lost office in March 1988, of 15 key economic indicators New South Wales performed better than the average of the other states in at least eight. Over a year later we lead in only four.

Greiner's higher charges of a year ago have pushed New South Wales into the worst annual inflation rate - adding around one percent. There is worse to come.

All those increases which will come into effect in three weeks - electricity, water rates, fares, car registration, the new petrol tax - will add another one and a half percent to the CPI in New South Wales.

Look at employment.

In our last year in office, of all new jobs created in Australia, nearly one in two were in New South Wales.

Now it's less than one in six.

The problem is our Deputy Premier, decked out in the gold braid of his Co-ordinator General's uniform, has defined state development as coastal development. He sees economic growth as a tourist resort on Aboriginal land. He defines enterprise as old-fashioned National Party pork-barrelling.

Meanwhile New South Wales loses hi-tech industry to Adelaide and the Olympics to Melbourne.

And our manufacturing sector gets no support. In fact, Wal Murray wouldn't recognise a manufacturing job if you winched him into the BHP Port Kembla steel works.

There is the Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party, Mr Collins. He made a career waving around hospital waiting lists and, delegates, hospital waiting lists will finish his career. He has closed 1400 hospital beds. The Minister for Health and the Arts, he divides his time between opening nights and closing beds.

At a time when the tragic problems of youth homelessness and child abuse have never been more evident the Government has embarked on the most savage attack on welfare services in the history of this State.

Mrs Chadwick has closed one quarter of the State's welfare offices, has slashed funding to 3,000 charities by \$13 million and she's abolished the positions of 400 welfare workers, including 77 specialist officers in child sexual assault.

So much for family protection, white picket fences and Future Directions.

The Minister for Transport. There is violence on the trains. What is Mr Baird's answer? To cancel 80 late night trains. It is so logical. Violence on the trains? Simple solution. Lateral thinking, delegates. Abolish the offending trains!

We have a Police Minister for whom the Police have lost respect. They believe they have been double-crossed. When it was revealed there was a 14 percent increase in assaults on police, he hailed this as "good" news. That shows police are doing their job, he said. "Crime," he tells us, "is part of life in any large city."

Greiner's Minister for Housing informs desperate young home buyers the answer to their problem is to move to the country.

The Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gerald Beresford Ponsonby Peacocke, tells consumers not to "snivel and whine" about deals they get themselves into. You know there has been a change of Government in New South Wales when you hear that the two industries destined for self-regulation are real estate agents and used car dealers.

In Labor Governments the Consumer Affairs Minister was the consumers' friend and advocate. Gerry Peacocke, you're no Syd Einfield.

There is a Minister for Minerals and Energy under whose relentless, hands-on management style the board of the Electricity Commission - the State's richest statutory authority - did not meet for a total of five months.

Delegates, years ago Liberals told us they were born to rule.

These days they tell us they have been bred to manage.

Well, what a joke their management style has become in New South Wales Incorporated.

Take one example.

Gerry Gleeson was Secretary of the Premier's Department under Labor. Under Greiner his job was divided into three, his old Department into three. But there had to be changes of name. For three months Mr Kortlang, Mr Sturges and the other new appointees could survive on the title of Secretary. A good title, an honourable title, one that satisfied Gerry Gleeson for 10 years. Then in June they were baptised with the title of Director. Only enough, however, to meet the needs of eye for another three months when - presto - in the Government Gazette they were re-christened Directors-General.

Mr Greiner allocated a million dollars to redesign their offices - this from the man who caused uproar when Barrie Unsworth spent a mere \$20,000 to refit part of his suite in the State Office Block.

Public administration is about more than new titles and new offices for former minders.

This Cabinet - this conga line of rustic clowns and nattering Yuppies - doesn't know how to implement policies. It doesn't know how to mobilise the best talents in the public sector. It spends fortunes on consultants' reports which rehash the obvious. These are Ministers who can't set objectives; can't plan strategies.

Delegates, the administration of New South Wales run by this team of self-styled management experts is in a shambles.

GREINER

It all comes back to the chairman of the board, the Premier.

He set the tone for his Ministers by breaking so many election promises. Greiner's 130 broken promises - it crops up on talk-back radio, in opinion polls, in letters to the editor and even school debates.

Greiner's 130 broken promises. They've become famous. They've become notorious. One hundred and thirty broken promises. They've just about entered the language ... like the seven deadly sins, the 36 faceless men or the 43 beans in every cup of Nescafe.

But he says he is serious about the Liberal commitment to help the family. But, there is your family and there are other families. The Fairfax family, for example.

Well, delegates, they're a family of battlers.

When young Warwick purchased \$2 billion worth of assets from half-brother James, he incurred \$98 million in stamp duty. Just as you incur stamp duty when you buy a home or a car.

Now, \$100 million is a lot of money: enough to restore the 2,500 teachers to our schools, restore all the hospital beds this Government's closed or provide stamp duty relief to 25,000 first home buyers.

Mr Greiner granted total exemption - the first time exemption has been granted to a private company and the first time stamp duty exemption had exceeded \$10 million; in absolute contravention of the intent of the legislation, he wiped the slate clean.

So much for the Fairfaxes of Fairwater; a different story for the families of Fairfield.

A family in western Sydney pays the same \$80 Water Board levy as a millionaire with a \$12 million property in Vaucluse.

Nowhere else in Australia and not since the depression have people been hurt so badly by increased charges - all in pursuit of a cynical, political strategy of increasing charges savagely now in the hope people will forget at election time.

As his number plates proclaim, New South Wales is truly the 'First State': the highest taxing State, the highest charging State, the highest cost of living State.

- 7 -

Now delegates, there is sometimes a case for selling an under-used government asset.

Our State Premier has sold schools, not because of falling enrolments, but because of the real estate value; closed a major teaching hospital, Prince Henry, simply to dispose of its land; sold off vital agricultural research facilities. And our heritage is to be flogged off: glorious harbourside land at Strickland House, Vaucluse, to be put on the auction block when it should be added to Sydney Harbour National Park; and part of Sydney's priceless architectural heritage, the sandstone Education Department building in Bridge Street. Scarce inner city property designated for public housing is sold to make way for million dollar units. The Government has not ruled out the sale of grain terminals to companies such as Elders.

These are the actions of a Government concerned only with the short-term. These are the actions of a Government with no sense of the public interest.

Against Mr Greiner's record, let me assert my priorities as your leader.

To start with, in the 1990's, New South Wales needs a Premier personally and strongly committed to education.

Delegates, I went to no posh school but to the type of local high school the vast majority of students in New South Wales attend. All my opportunities came from that; but Mr Greiner is deliberately and maliciously running that system down. Nothing will give me greater satisfaction as Premier than to commit our government, as its highest priority, to equity and excellence in public education.

We need a Premier who is prepared to say fairness is an objective of Government, that drive for a fair go that motivated my grandfather, a train driver from Tamworth, to cast his first vote for what was then a new political force, the Australian Labor Party, that concern for fairness which is held by all of us in the ALP.

We need a Premier who's not afraid to speak out in defence of public services - the sort of public services in transport, housing, welfare, health - that so many in my electorate of Maroubra, depend on for their quality of life, as do millions of people throughout our State.

It's about time we had a Premier who was a friend to the environment, who knows the ecology of New South Wales just as he knows the industrial and economic infrastructure of the State.

- 8 -

And uniting all these concerns, it's about time we had a Premier who saw New South Wales as a community, not as a corporation. As Premier, I'll consign to the dustbin the expression "NSW Incorporated" and talk instead of Our Community.

Delegates, these are matters of principle. They confirm my argument that the gap between the two sides of New South Wales politics is wider than ever. Labor is offering firm alternatives, not differences at the margin.

Hence every parent in New South Wales knows that Labor will restore the 2,500 teachers that Greiner withdrew. We will reduce class sizes again, and reduce the number of composite classes. There'll be expanded subject choice, a return of morale under a Labor Government.

In health policy the Greiner Government has commenced a rundown of the public system. They're privatising hospital services - catering, laundry, cleaning. In New Zealand and the UK this simply led to the deterioration of health standards. Patients had to clean baths and do their own laundry. Hospitals run by contractors is a step backwards.

So on health, as on education, we have a clear alternative: we will reverse the running-down of the public system and reverse privatisation of the services.

The worst feature of the Askin Government is being replayed in public transport. Rail maintenance has been halved, bus maintenance has been savaged, country passenger and freight services eliminated.

This is the start of a degradation that means in 1992 we will be faced with a public transport system even worse than that which we took over in 1976.

Let us assert it is the duty of the Government of New South Wales to provide a comprehensive, flexible and efficient public transport system. Our Government will rebuild the rail and bus system the coalition is dismantling.

Despite all their rhetoric in Opposition, law and order under this Government is now revealed as catch-cry not policy objective. Prostitution has simply been shifted from the city to the suburbs. Car theft remains the worst in Australia. Railway violence is a bigger issue than ever, police morale is being driven into the ground. There is no consistent thinking in the Greiner-Murray Government, just media grabs in response to weekly crises.

Peter Anderson is working on a law and order package which will include major initiatives for all victims of crime. We will press on with the work of the last Labor Government in building a mobile, visible, well-equipped police force with improved response times. Its objective will be to lift the level of personal safety we all expect.

A Labor Government will restore the legal aid system and make justice available once again to all people.

And we will restore welfare services - not resorting to large bureaucracy but by getting support, effective help, to the families and people in need.

Delegates, since our last conference, we have put these responses to the voters in three by-elections. In Port Stephens - that unfinished business from the last general election - we scored a 13.6 percent swing that put an end to talk of Liberal inroads into Labor's heartland. We drove the Liberals from the Hunter with their tail between their legs.

A month later, in the Wallsend by-election, following the untimely death of our friend Ken Booth, there was no Liberal, but three independents.

They were decisively rejected. They're now seen in the Hunter as de facto Liberals.

As they are elsewhere.

In Liverpool we stood outside the hospital and told the health workers we'd reverse Greiner's privatisation; we went to the teachers and parents and told them we'd restore education quality; we wrote to all voters and said a Labor Government would protect them from increased charges.

Delegates, we romped home on the issues that are the very guts of State politics.

We regained our lost votes in the Hunter and in Western Sydney by talking bread and butter.

But delegates, in the 1990's our bread and butter is threatened in ways never foreseen.

Events remind us that humankind shares a single planet. Within hours of the fire at Chernobyl, radioactive isotopes were detected over the Arctic; within a day, over Canada. While we meet, the great forests of the Amazon are being incinerated and the air above Brazil is full of smoke. David Suzuki says this environmental vandalism contributes one fifth of all the carbon dioxide accumulating in the upper atmosphere.

- 10 -

Delegates, for the first time ever, ordinary people are beginning to understand that the very habitability of our planet is threatened.

Even if the moderate projections of global warming take place there would not be a union or a community represented in this hall left unaffected.

For example, a two to three degrees increase in the temperature will damage the Hunter Valley vineyards; a different pattern of rainfall will profoundly effect the wheat industry in the North West; a two degree warming would contract snow cover on the alps by 270 square kilometres and destroy a thriving tourist industry. Cyclonic weather patterns will be felt in the north of our State.

Remember that forests in 1950 covered 35 percent of the earth's surface, today only 15 percent. In 200 years we reduced our tree cover in Australia by two thirds. And some scientists say that when you destroy 70 percent of the natural world, as we have done, the remaining 30 percent is at risk the climate could spin out of control.

Within the lifetime of most delegates in this hall.

Delegates, what I want to put to you today is a bold commitment - the boldest made by a political party in Australia - to do two things: everything in our power to counter the Greenhouse Effect and everything in our power to prepare for its implications.

Our greatest gift to the next generation of Australians will be a better balanced and stable environment.

A Labor Government will establish a Greenhouse Impact Commission, a small, tightly organised body with a short but intense brief and overriding powers to set the standards we need - standards in energy conservation, planning, and recycling - for government and the private sector.

It will be required to report to Parliament every six months.

It will have one parliamentary term to get its standards developed. It will work as a watchdog.

With its advice a Labor Government will implement the following program.

- * Adopt comprehensive energy conservation.
The conservation initiatives put in place by Peter Cox have been dumped by the Greiner Government. We'll revive and extend them.

- 11 -

- * Apply new standards to achieve energy efficient buildings. Remember a compact fluorescent light bulb consumes only 18 watts but produces as much light as a standard 75 watt incandescent bulb. Thus over its 10 year life a single bulb prevents the burning of 400 pounds of coal.
- * Provide research funds to develop new energy efficient technologies. The University of New South Wales is a leader in solar technology. Let's get behind them.
- * Introduce a program to change energy use in the private sector.
- * Forge ahead of all other governments in recycling products with high energy content, such as aluminium.
- * Plan the labelling of goods on supermarket shelves according to their greenhouse impact such as their capacity for recycling or their dependence on packaging. New products, like aerosols which avoid CFCs, would attract a green label.
- * Amend the Local Government Act and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act to require governments and councils to take into account the new standards developed by our Greenhouse Impact Commission. Councils would have to implement building codes to ensure the development of energy efficient buildings, both commercial and residential.

There are some who argue the Greenhouse represents a case for nuclear power.

Delegates, the facts are against it, and this propaganda doesn't convince me for a moment.

Nuclear power cannot replace coal. To do that we would need to build a large nuclear power plant every one to three days for the next 37 years at a staggering cost. The answer is not nuclear power with its deadly risks but proper planning for energy efficiency.

Mr Greiner has done less on Greenhouse than any other State Premier. Therefore we will take the initiative.

As an Opposition we will introduce legislation to establish a Greenhouse Commission with the powers I have described.

I have asked Shadow Ministers to convene working parties involving unions and community groups to begin writing the agenda for the Greenhouse programs within their portfolios.

Beyond this we will continue to be what we were, long before the Tasmanian elections, long before it became fashionable: the most explicitly conservationist state branch of the ALP, the pacesetter for environmental achievement in Australian politics.

Our credibility is unimpeachable.

We are the Party that saved the rainforests, that increased national parks by 100 percent, that forced the other states to join us in taking the lead out of petrol, that reduced air pollution in Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong by 60 percent. We introduced - I introduced - Australia's first and only Wilderness Act. We built a creative working relationship between Labor Government and conservation movement.

What I propose is that we set standards so impressive that around the world, wherever people discuss the environmental crisis, they talk of how the State of New South Wales in Australia has done more than anywhere else.

New South Wales will be where the future comes to rehearse.

And, delegates, not just in environment.

We should show the rest of Australia - and East Asia, the USA and Europe for that matter - that New South Wales can attain equity and excellence in education.

That we can lead in high-tech, attracting the clean growth industries of the 1990's.

And that we can plan the best metropolitan public transport.

Reflecting our keen commitment to decentralisation, we can build in our provincial centres the finest quality of life available.

So in all our undertakings, we aspire in the 1990's to standards of fairness and excellence. This is the heart of Labor's vision of New South Wales. And the ultimate purpose for our vision is that we should be an example for a troubled world.

A troubled world, but with astounding openings and opportunities. These very weeks have seen the emergence of political pluralism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. There is the breakthrough in arms control in Europe, something long sought by the ALP through our peace and disarmament policies.

Even conservative western leaders like President Bush and Prime Minister Thatcher are forced to enter international negotiations to save the environment.

- 13 -

Who in this hall wasn't moved by the heroism of the demonstrators in Tiananmen Square, giving their lives for precisely that democracy the ALP in its 100 year history has helped shaped in Australia?

In this world of opportunity and surprise is it really appropriate that New South Wales - once the engine-room of the Australian nation - has its vision set by a Deputy Premier who says 'there is no such thing as the Greenhouse Effect' and a Premier who says politics is just a game.

The fiscal restraints of the 1990's are a spur for us to do better; the great shifts in politics a challenge for us to grasp leadership.

Delegates, after the last election our enemies wanted to say that Labor was knocked out of the ring for a generation.

But, delegates, to the intense annoyance of our enemies it is clear New South Wales has in the Labor Party a visionary Opposition and alternative government.

I began my speech by saying many ingredients were required for our recovery and the simple passage of time was one.

Time for voters to see the failure of Greiner, time for voters to see Labor fight back.

Shakespeare said:

"Time's glory is to calm contending kings,
To expose falsehood and bring truth to light,
To spoil antiquities of hammered steel,
And turn the giddy round of fortune's wheel."

Delegates, no political party in Australia better understands the meaning of time, in that profound Shakespearean sense.

In exactly two years time - June 17, 1991 - we will celebrate the centenary of the election of that first band of Labor members to the New South Wales Parliament.

Amid all the ups and downs of that century - the triumphs, the betrayals, the victories, the defeats, the self-inflicted wounds - two grand themes resound:

The resilience, and the continuing relevance of the Australian Labor Party in New South Wales, and never more than in the past 15 months.

And once again we have together demonstrated the old truth:

That the Labor Party remains the great instrument for injecting a sense of fairness into the public affairs of this State; the best organ through which the genuine public interest can be promoted; the best vehicle for crystallising emerging concerns of the community - over the environment, for example - into priorities for action in government.

Delegates, we started out nearly a century ago with clear tasks and clear goals.

Essential to the idea of Labor, and the ideals of Labor, from the beginning, was always the concept that our party and our movement could bring out the finest in Australians, that Australia would always reach its best potential under Labor and that we could develop Australia as a model for other countries. That is still our idea; still our ideal; still our task, the true Labor tradition.

It has fallen to this generation of party members - our generation - to make this tradition once again relevant and dominant in our State in the 1990's.

Our generation - you, me, the men and women in this hall and all those who comprise the Party beyond this hall.

Just us ...

And the hard slog ahead.

But, behind us, sustaining us, guaranteeing our success, is the great tradition that motivated each of us to join this Party and that has brought us here today, our sense of dedication to this grand, sometimes battered party of ours, and our determination to fulfil the finest hopes of all who support us, and the millions who depend upon us.

extract from
Speech made at NSW ALP Conference '93 8

Bob Carr Ldr Opp

A Carr Labor Government will issue this challenge.

We will say to the public sector... Wherever it can demonstrate that it can provide a commercial service, on equal terms with the private sector, we will encourage it to develop business units.

Let me come to three specific economic sectors: forestry, tourism and urban renewal.

FORESTRY REFORM AND PLANTATIONS:

In New South Wales, the timber industry directly sustains almost 10,000 jobs and the estimated contribution of forest products alone to the State's economy is almost \$1 billion.

Yet it is an industry which is working with one hand tied behind its back, stifled by the Fahey Government's lack of leadership.

With renewed investment we can make timber resources a dynamic growth industry - supporting even more jobs, better and safer working conditions and better timber products.

As you know, at the last State Conference I said Labor would corporatise pine and hardwood forestry operations. We would improve environmental assessment procedures to help resolve conflict in the forests.

Our approach has been supported by the Industry Commission.

Today let me build on that package of reform by announcing:

- First, an overhaul of the contract system governing access to timber supplies.

All new contracts for access to forest resources will be conditional on a commitment from industry to add value through new investment in machinery.

- Second, as part of contractual agreements, industry will be required to make a commitment to large scale hardwood plantations through a "plantation levy."

- Third, we will guarantee ecologically sustainable forestry operations through our new State Forests Board which will supersede the Forestry Commission.

Our new State Forests Board - representing industry, union and conservationist interests - will guarantee public participation to ensure full accountability of public forest management.

These reforms have the potential to create up to 5,000 direct and indirect jobs over five years.