



Angie Bell MP
Shadow Minister for the Environment
Shadow Minister for Youth
Federal Member for Moncrieff

MEDIA STATEMENT

23 October 2025

LABOR'S GREEN LAWS A RED LIGHT FOR JOBS

Labor's new environmental laws are a gift to our overseas competitors and a blow to Australian workers. These laws risk being a handbrake on investment, a red light to jobs, and a green light for investment to flow offshore.

The Coalition entered good faith negotiations with the Government ahead of Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act reform and while we are yet to see the full draft legislation, it's clear that Labor's new laws do not strike the right balance.

All this from a Government and Prime Minister that claimed to have a new-look productivity and transparency agenda - instead, this Environment Minister appears to be delivering the opposite.

Where's the productivity in driving business out of the country?

Labor's laws come with an unworkable definitions, unclear "net gain" rules, bigger penalties, a new bureaucracy and more red tape, punishing investment instead of protecting the environment.

This is essentially Tanya Plibersek's nature positive 2.0 rebrand. Minister Watt is saying one thing but delivering quite the opposite.

This Government is again rushing through complex, untested legislation that will put billions of dollars in investment and thousands of Australian jobs at risk.

We will continue to work through the detail of this legislation, but we will not compromise on delivering an approvals system that works.

The Coalition will fight for an approvals system that is clear, consistent, and fast. One that protects the environment without killing investment. We can protect nature and build prosperity, but Labor's laws will do neither.

[ENDS]

Media Contact:

Madi Spedding - 0431 689 103