

What they are saying about the carbon tax

Queensland Resources Council chief executive Michael Roche:

“Based on independent projections, which take into account the pitifully inadequate compensation for coal mining, the carbon tax is going to cost 2700 Queensland coal workers their jobs, possibly as soon as 2018. Taking into account the flow-on to industries servicing the sector, total job losses of more than 13,000 have been forecast by consultants ACIL Tasman as increasing costs force the early closure of mines.” (Daily Mercury, online, 11 July 2011)

Master Builders Queensland executive director Graham Cuthbert described the tax as “a disaster” for the building industry and the public. “Our figures show the cost of building the \$300,000 family home will go up by around \$8000.” (Cairns Post, online, 11 July 2011)

Queensland Tourism Industry Council CEO Daniel Gschwind said the new tax meant the cost of doing business was going to go up and a big part of tourism’s market was going to be hit – the international visitor. “Government compensation for consumers only works in the domestic market,” he said. “An industry likes ours relies on the international market, and we are becoming even less competitive. Our products and services are going to become more expensive.” (Gold Coast Bulletin, 11 July 2011)

Sugarcane growers are looking down the barrel of an \$81 million slug for industry over the next five years – an impost that will not apply to any of Australia’s international competitors, says peak group Canegrowers. “The average sugarcane grower will face hikes of around \$20,000 or 4.7% of running costs over a five year period,” **CEO Steve Greenwood** said. (Canegrowers media release, 10 July 2011)