

The Real Palmer United Party

*Exposing the lies, mis-truths and personal
self-interest of the Palmer United Party at the
2014 Tasmanian State election.*



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Introduction:

It is said that politics makes for strange bedfellows.

And perhaps there are none stranger than the Palmer United Party.

It is a party founded on the conceit of one man, Clive Palmer. After all what other political party is named after its founder?

Not even Silvio Berlusconi, the rather flamboyant former Italian Prime Minister, was that conceited – although he did throw bunga bunga parties!

Over the past several weeks the Liberal Party has thoroughly scrutinised the Palmer United Party and our investigations, documented in 50 media statements, and has found the party wanting.

It is not a political party, but rather a political business established to benefit the whims of one man.

The acolytes who stand as PUP candidates are a tatterdemalion bunch of neophyte political fringe dwellers happy to hang their shingle under any banner.

The policies espoused by Mr Palmer and his PUPpets are risible.

This compendium, the Complete and Unabridged Guide to PUP Candidates, exposes all that is wrong with the PUP.

It is also said that if you lie down with dogs you get fleas.

After reading the Guide you won't countenance sleeping walking into the future with PUP.

The Hon. Dr Vanessa Goodwin, MLC.
Parliament House.
Tasmania.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Clive Palmer owns the PUP and its assets lock, stock and barrel

31 January 2014

Tasmanians should be left in no doubt that Clive Palmer controls the Palmer United Party lock, stock and barrel and that his candidates, should they be successful, will answer to him.

The PUP constitution effectively invests all authority in Mr Palmer.

Clause W.1 states that until 31 December 2016 “the Interim Executive Committee shall exercise all the powers of the Executive and all bodies set out in this Constitution”. The 2016 deadline can be extended indefinitely at Mr Palmer’s whim.

Clause W.3 provides that the Chairman of the Interim Executive Committee (Mr Palmer) “is fully authorised to exercise all powers of the Interim Executive Committee and a declaration signed by the Chairman shall be conclusive proof of the subject matter of anything to which it relates.”

So, the Interim Executive Committee has all the power and its chairman, Mr Palmer, is fully authorised to exercise it unilaterally.

As a result, Mr Palmer has absolute control at every level of the Party, including all local branches, all policy committees and all the committees that select PUP’s candidates.

Extraordinarily, Mr Palmer even has power to unilaterally change the Party’s Constitution: “Clive F. Palmer is fully authorised to amend this Constitution up until 31 December 2016 and a declaration signed by him or the Chairman of the Interim Committee shall be conclusive proof that such an amendment has happened.” (Clause V.33)

The structure is fundamentally undemocratic.

One of the most worrying features of Mr Palmer’s personal control is the capacity it gives him to influence PUP candidates or members of Parliament.

Not only does the Constitution give him the ability to choose the Party’s candidates, it also personally gives him the effective ability to sack them, including the power to sack sitting MPs. The types of misconduct are so broad that given Mr Palmer’s ability to act unilaterally that no candidate or member would be safe from censure or expulsion.

Further, it is widely believed that the Party and its candidates are effectively financed from Mr Palmer’s personal wealth. If this is so he has even greater influence over sitting members.

There is nothing democratic about a political party in which all power ultimately resides in one man, Mr Palmer, who has the ultimate power to select candidates, set policy and alter its Constitution as and when he chooses.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #1

4 February 2014

The Palmer United Party - far from being united – is a home for those on the fringes of the political world.

Dr Kevin Bonham has exposed the Palmer United Party's Lyons candidate Mark Grewar referring to people from Afghanistan as “dune coons” in one of his rants.

Dr Bonham's in depth research “The unusual world of Mark Grewar” can be found here: <http://kevin-bonham.blogspot.com.au/>

Mr Grewar certainly proves the adage that PUP is “Yellow on the outside and Green on the inside”.

In 2011 he tweeted “Greens getting on with the job” with a link to the Greens boasting of their alliance with Julia Gillard and the listing their “achievements” including a video of Bob Brown boasting about the alliance.

In another tweet he said he wanted to “raise awareness of forest destruction.”

Another tweet has him writing “Liberals are money hungry c—ts like labor – had enuff I AM GREEN.”

His position would also seem to be at odds with the Palmer United Party candidate advertisements that rail against the Greens and Labor “locking up 51% of the state...creating uncertainty and turning away investment”.

Dr Bonham also points out that Mr Grewar also seems to be a supporter of the Democratic Labour Party with Mr Grewar writing that “All pollies except democratic labour party are money hungry gluttons. Should not be paid more than the dole to be a member. So wickedly wrong”.

It would seem that Mr Grewar now wants to be a money hungry glutton.

Mr Grewar is not alone in the PUP, it's a haven for fringe dwellers and the disaffected.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #2 - Grewar should be dis-endorsed, Morgan disciplined

5 February 2014

Clive Palmer should immediately dis-endorse Mark Grewar as his candidate for Lyons, following revelations that Mr Grewar has tweeted foul-mouthed and racist comments.

Under his Party's constitution Mr Palmer clearly has the power to dis-endorse any candidate, and if he fails to act on Mr Grewar disgraceful remarks he is effectively saying that he, himself, endorses them. At the same time, Mr Palmer needs to call into line Kevin Morgan for declaring that Mr Grewar's foul-mouthed tweets reflect the views of the community.

By asserting this, Kevin Morgan tars every Tasmanian as a bigot and racist.

"We have no problem with any of the history behind our candidates," Mr Morgan is reported on the ABC as saying.

"We believe that our candidates do represent their communities, that they do represent real people," he continued.

What Mr Morgan suggests is that every Tasmanian is a foul mouth racist. He goes even further to suggest that "...you should respect people for their views and work with them, not against them." Instead of endorsing these views Mr Morgan should seek the dis-endorsement of Mr Grewar, who has extraordinarily defended his rants by saying the social media posts were written in jest.

The simple fact is that Mr Grewar should be dis-endorsed and Mr Morgan disciplined by Mr Palmer for tarring Tasmanians in such a manner.

There is a precedent for this action with the Palmer United Party dis-endorsing a candidate in the 2013 federal election for the electorate of Corangamite in Victoria.

Buddy Rojek released a flyer seeking volunteers and in return he would throw a "huge party" with "hot models." He said he had arranged for 15 models (male and female) to mingle on the night. The pamphlet came complete with pictures of scantily clad models showing off their buxom breasts. "If you are lucky and behave yourself they might invite you back to party longer," Mr Rojek wrote suggestively.

The PUP constitution specifically states that a member may be expelled for (a) gross disloyalty to the Party (b) breach of confidentiality (c) conduct bringing the Party into disrepute (d) engaging in conduct severely harmful to the best interests of the Party.



In 2013 the PUP national director, Mr Peter Burke, dis-endorsed Buddy Rojek for being disruptive toward the Party. News.com reported Mr Burke as saying “Due to Mr Rojek’s disruptive actions, the Palmer United Party executive could no longer consider him a viable candidate.” “We have acted today to dis-endorse Mr Rojek in the best interests of the party and voters.”

According to the PUP constitution Mr Peter James Burke is the deputy registered officer of the PUP in Tasmania. If it was good enough to dis-endorse Mr Rojek then there is no question that Mr Grewar should be dis-endorsed and Mr Morgan disciplined by the Party.

Mr Burke said he acted in the best interest of voters in dis-endorsing Mr Rojek and by that very same standard Mr Grewar should be dis-endorsed for his contempt toward Tasmanians and in particular the voters of Braddon.

His comments are offensive and racist and Mr Morgan’s defence of them is unacceptable by any standard.

If the PUP has any moral compass it must act against Mr Grewar and Mr Morgan. Failure to do so will prove that not just these two people are contemptuous of Tasmanians, but Clive Palmer himself.

Simply put, the ball is in Mr Palmer’s court – act or be held in contempt for supporting such vile statements.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #3 - Steve Green links anti terror laws to Nazism

6 February 2014

Following the exposure of the Palmer United Party's Mark Grewar with his racist and offensive rants, the PUP has endorsed another candidate with extreme views.

Steve Green, a PUP candidate for Braddon, signed a petition for the extremist Citizens Electoral Council attacking the Howard Government's anti-terrorist laws.

The petition's preamble links the laws that protect Australians from the forces of global terrorism (and have been used effectively since being introduced in 2002) with Nazi Germany. It states that:

“On Feb. 28, 1933, using the excuse of the Nazi-rigged Reichstag Fire the previous evening, the Nazis rammed through the Cabinet an Emergency Decree which served as the basis for Hitler's dictatorship, and for the construction of the concentration camps within weeks. The key paragraph of the Decree, which overturned the existing Weimar Constitution, said:

“Restrictions on personal liberty, on the right of free expression of opinion, including freedom of the press; on the rights of assembly and association; and violations of the privacy of postal, telegraphic and telephonic communications and warrants for house searches, orders for confiscations as well as restrictions on property, are also permissible beyond the legal limits otherwise prescribed.”

The following statement was initiated on May 7, and has been signed by many thousands of Australians, some of whose names are included below.

An Emergency Call To All Australians

A point-by-point comparison of the Howard government's proposed new “anti -terrorist” legislation, with the February 28, 1933 Notverordnung (Emergency Decree) by which Hitler consolidated his dictatorship, shows the two to be virtually identical. Therefore, the ripping-up of civil liberties proposed by the Howard government is, in the most literal sense of the term, fascist, and must be thrown out. No democratic society should even consider the draconian, fascist measures which the Howard government is proposing.”

By comparing the Howard Government, which introduced the anti-terrorism laws with Nazi Germany and by rejecting the laws that protect everyday Australians from terrorist attacks Mr Green has disqualified himself from contention.

The CEC is an extreme organisation that believes in worldwide conspiracies. Headlines scream from the front page of its “news” paper the “Citizen” such as “British Crown's End-Game: Financial Crash and Nuclear War” or another “Bail-In – The British Crown's Plot for Global Genocide.”



The Real Palmer United Party.

It is extraordinary that a candidate would associate himself with such views, yet Mr Green has.

Yesterday, in defending the pre-selection of Mr Grewar, PUP lead candidate Kevin Morgan risibly said the process was “rigorous.”

The questions are:

Does Mr Palmer support Mr Green’s view on Australia’s anti-terrorism laws?

Does Mr Palmer believe they should be repealed?

Does Mr Palmer equate these laws to Nazi Germany?

Does Mr Palmer support the world conspiracy theories of the CEC?

Does Mr Palmer believe the pre-selection process that allows the likes of Mr Green and Mr Grewar to become candidates is “rigorous”?

These laws have been used to prevent terrorist attacks on Australians yet Mr Green seems to think they are akin to Nazism.

The link to the petition can be found here:

<http://www.cecaust.com.au/main.asp?sub=info/mobes/atl&id=The+Australian+Advertisement.htm>



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #4 - Clive Palmer sacks more employees

9 February 2014

When Clive Palmer's hand-picked lead candidate for the election, Kevin Morgan, writes on the The Examiner's website today supporting entrepreneurial tourism projects you better hope he is not talking about Mr Palmer's disastrous foray into the tourism industry.

Mr Morgan wrote about "...wanting investment and wanting JOBS and SECURITY for families in our regions" and "To bring Tourism we need an attraction and this entrepreneur should be encouraged to be able to help the area."

This morning in The Australian it was revealed that Mr Palmer has sacked another 90 people from his Coolum resort and dinosaur park – leaving just 90 employees.

When Mr Palmer took over the resort in July 2011 he had 650 people on his pay roll and since then it has gone rapidly downhill.

At the time Mr Palmer said "We have plans to increase the occupancy of the Hyatt Regency and make it one of the best resorts in the world." The resort, according to media reports, now has just a three percent occupancy rate.

The reports today suggest the resort is losing \$500,000 a month and that even basic items such as toilet paper have been unavailable.

Mr Palmer's version of entrepreneurial tourism has proven to be a disaster for his employees who have lost jobs and security under his management.

This type of business model, supported by Mr Morgan as Mr Palmer's lead candidate would prove to be a disaster for Tasmania.

The last thing Tasmania needs is another failed venture of the type that seems to be unravelling Mr Palmer's Coolum resort and dinosaur park – the very model espoused by Mr Morgan.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #5 - Etter's integrity, ethics and pup. run as an independent.

10 February 2014

Palmer United Party candidate, Barbara Etter, should resign from the PUP and run as an independent if she is to live up to her own standards.

Ms Etter, is undoubtedly a person that believes in personal and corporate ethics and integrity.

As she herself said while announcing her candidacy:

“I believe that I have built a strong reputation for integrity and moral courage.”

During an address to the Australian Education and Leadership Centre Innovation Club in January, 2010 Ms Etter expanded on the issues of integrity and ethics.*

In that address Ms Etter spoke of ethics:

“Okay, the nature of ethics. It is about right and wrong, good and bad, how we ought to behave.

Ms Etter also touched on politics:

“I've mentioned values, values are core beliefs or desires that guide and motivate us.

And further on ethics:

“Ethics is the standards of conduct that indicate how people ought to behave, based on those values and principals.”

Considering Ms Etter's comments it is worthwhile reviewing the standard of ethics, values and integrity that are exhibited by the PUP and some of their candidates.

Over the past week PUP candidate, Mark Grewar, has been exposed as someone who has made offensive and inappropriate comments describing people from Afghanistan as “dune coons” while also writing homophobic and foul mouthed comments.

PUP state leader, Kevin Morgan, bizarrely tarred Tasmanians by defending Mr Grewar saying PUP candidates “do represent their communities” and that “...you should respect people for their views and work with them, not against them.”

Fellow PUP candidate, Steve Green, attacked the then Howard government's anti-terrorism laws and linked them to Nazi Germany in a petition created by the extremist Citizen Electoral Council.



Mr Palmer himself has shown xenophobic tendencies toward Chinese investment saying “I have stood firm against these Chinese-owned companies. I will not stand by and see Australian interests raped and disrespected by foreign-owned companies.”

Further the PUP has refused to dis-endorse or take any disciplinary action against any of the Tasmanian candidates.

This is the type of organisation and people whose lack of ethics and integrity that Ms Etter rails about, yet who she has aligned herself to by standing for the PUP.

I respect the right of Ms Etter to run as a candidate in the Tasmanian election but to be true to her own integrity and ethics Ms Etter should have the moral courage to resign from the PUP and run as an independent candidate.

Ms Etter should not allow herself to be tarred by the lack of integrity and ethics that invest the PUP.

Ms Etter has every right to run for parliament, but she should do so as an independent.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #6 - Entrepreneurial tourism Palmer style

11 February 2014

Tasmania could not afford the style of "entrepreneurial" tourism as advocated by PUP candidate Kevin Morgan and as practised by Clive Palmer.

Over the weekend it was revealed that Mr Palmer had sacked 90 people from his Coolum Resort and Dinosaur Park leaving a staff of just 90 people. In total over the past three years Mr Palmer has sacked 560 of the 650 people who were employed at the resort when he took it over.

It was also revealed that the resort was losing \$500,000 a month and only had an occupancy rate of just three percent.

Noel Mooney, the President of the Coolum Business and Tourism Committee, is today reported in the Sunshine Coast Daily as saying many in the surrounding community now regret Mr Palmer buying the resort.

"When Clive first bought it, everyone thought, 'There you go, it's going to pump', but it's probably the worst thing now that ever happened, now everyone's going, 'My God, I wish he never bought it,'" Mr Mooney said.

Mr Mooney said reported redundancies at the now Palmer Coolum Resort would impact the employees, who would struggle to find new jobs in hospitality during a traditionally quiet time of the year.

It would also impact Coolum itself, with a reduction in local consumer spending.

"There is a flow-on effect," Mr Mooney said.

"I mean, a lot of those people rent properties, they shop in Coolum, so it does have a flow-on effect."

Mr Morgan last year lauded Mr Palmer "I have the utmost respect for Clive and the things he's put forward" while on the weekend calling for more "entrepreneurial" tourism for Tasmania.

The question for Mr Morgan is does he still support Mr Palmer's economic policies and his business acumen that has led to job losses and financial insecurity? Is this the sort of "entrepreneurial" tourism he wants Mr Palmer to bring to Tasmania?



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidate's #7 - Morgan contradicts Palmer on poll

12 February 2014

Palmer United Party candidate, Kevin Morgan, has cast doubt on the veracity and accuracy of Clive Palmer's poll that claimed PUP would win the Tasmanian election.

Speaking on Heart FM this morning Mr Morgan said that "You pay for a poll, you get a result."

Well, Mr Palmer paid his own piper with his internal polling and got the result he wanted.

Mr Morgan then went on to say "If you look at history the polling didn't do very well in the federal election and they didn't see the PUP coming."

He is spot on with his analysis.

Mr Palmer's polls were wildly inaccurate. Mr Palmer claimed to be polling 30% in Queensland and 25% nationwide in the final week of the campaign while earlier in the year he claimed 40% and 30% respectively.

He also claimed he would be prime minister.

At the last year's federal election PUP polled just 5.5% nationwide, 11% in Queensland and 6.0% in Tasmania while its primary Senate vote was just 0.45%.

Mr Morgan knows Mr Palmer's poll is fluky. He knows that they have been wildly inaccurate.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #8 - Morgan bells the cat on PUPs forestry commitments

12 February 2014

The Palmer United Party has today proved it really is “Yellow on the outside and Green on the inside” with leader, Kevin Morgan, saying he doesn't believe the TFA should be ripped up.

Mr Morgan told Heart FM that now the process of the TFA had happened “we need to allow that process to occur and move forward.” Mr Morgan stated this position three times.

And he again confirmed that the PUP didn't support the pulp mill and all its associated jobs.

Almost mirroring the Greens he said “Everyone is focussed on a pulp mill where we should really be looking at a wood fibre industry..”

Mr Morgan's views contradict his own and other PUP candidate TV ads where they rail against the locking up of 51% of the state and the damage that it does to investment, opportunities and the uncertainty it has created.

The ads should be immediately taken off air as they are misleading voters.

Either that or the PUP stands totally discredited by Mr Morgan's comments today.

In an effort to win votes they have stooped to deliberately misleading voters with their TV ads hoping they could slide into parliament on falsehoods.

The PUP must come clean on what their real policy is: To support the forest industry by ripping up the TFA to create even more jobs, opportunity and to end the uncertainty or join the Greens and Labor in its support.

Otherwise they are caught straddling a political barbed wire fence.

TV ad (transcript):

“I'm Kevin Morgan, Palmer United, standing for Premier. Greens and Labor locked up 51% of the state, destroying opportunity, creating uncertainty, turning away investment. We need common-sense solutions. Vote one, Kevin Morgan, Braddon.”



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #9 - Palmer condones racist and extremist views

13 February 2014

Clive Palmer has sided with the Tasmanian PUP candidates who have made foul mouthed racists and extremist comments by refusing to dis-endorse them or dissociate himself from their remarks.

PUP candidate for Lyons, Mark Grewar, on his social media accounts has referred to people from Afghanistan as "dune coons" while foully labelling his opponents: "Liberals are money hungry c..ts – like labor – had enuff I AM Green"

Mr Grewar's remarks and others can be found in an article "The unusual world of Mark Grewar" by Dr Kevin Bonham here: <http://kevinbonham.blogspot.com.au/>

Steve Green, a PUP candidate for Braddon, signed a petition for the extremist Citizens Electoral Council attacking the Howard Government's anti-terrorist laws.

The petition's preamble links the laws that protect Australians from the forces of global terrorism (and have been used effectively since being introduced in 2002) with Nazi Germany. (see attached preamble below and the link)

By comparing the Howard Government, which introduced the anti-terrorism laws with Nazi Germany and by rejecting the laws that protect everyday Australians from terrorist attacks Mr Green has disqualified himself from contention.

Today Mr Palmer sided with the views of these two extremists by simply brushing off any criticism and sided with his lead candidate, Kevin Morgan, who has also supported them saying "you should respect people for their views and work with them not against them."

He told the National Press Club that "The task for all Australians is that we've got people who have different views to us some of them might be different to the mainstream, and the challenge is to change those views and change their minds."

By siding with these extremist comments Mr Palmer and his lead candidate Mr Morgan are tarring Tasmanians as bigots and racists.

It is not up to Australians to "respect their views" as Mr Morgan would have us do or for Mr Palmer to simply say "the challenge is to change those views."

It is not up to Tasmanians to change these views or work with them, it is up to Mr Palmer to show the leadership and discipline to dis-endorse these two candidates or at the very least dissociate himself from the remarks.



The Real Palmer United Party.

In the 2013 campaign Mr Palmer dis-endorsed the PUP candidate in Corangamite, Buddy Rojek, for running advertising a party with scantily clad and buxom models.

If it was good enough to dis-endorse Mr Rojek for sexism it should be good enough to dis-endorse candidates for racism and extremism.

Until he does he is tarring every Tasmanian with the same bigoted and racist remarks that he has countenanced by his failure to act.

Tasmanians deserve better than this.

“On Feb. 28, 1933, using the excuse of the Nazi-rigged Reichstag Fire the previous evening, the Nazis rammed through the Cabinet an Emergency Decree which served as the basis for Hitler’s dictatorship, and for the construction of the concentration camps within weeks. The key paragraph of the Decree, which overturned the existing Weimar Constitution, said:

“Restrictions on personal liberty, on the right of free expression of opinion, including freedom of the press; on the rights of assembly and association; and violations of the privacy of postal, telegraphic and telephonic communications and warrants for house searches, orders for confiscations as well as restrictions on property, are also permissible beyond the legal limits otherwise prescribed.”

The following statement was initiated on May 7, and has been signed by many thousands of Australians, some of whose names are included below.

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A point-by-point comparison of the Howard government’s proposed new “anti-terrorist” legislation, with the February 28, 1933 Notverordnung (Emergency Decree) by which Hitler consolidated his dictatorship, shows the two to be virtually identical. Therefore, the ripping-up of civil liberties proposed by the Howard government is, in the most literal sense of the term, fascist, and must be thrown out. No democratic society should even consider the draconian, fascist measures which the Howard government is proposing.”

<http://www.cecaust.com.au/main.asp?sub=info/mobes/at1&id=The+Australian+Advertisement.htm>



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #10 - Palmer polling repudiated – by Clive

13 February 2014

In a shock revelation Clive Palmer today revealed a massive collapse in voter support at the Tasmanian poll.

He told the National Press Club that Palmer United Party support had in just one week collapsed and they would fall shy of winning government by at least eight seats or more.

A week ago Mr Palmer released “internal polling” that he claimed would see the PUP form government with 13 seats at the March 15 election.

Today he said that he expected the Liberals to win maybe 12 seats and the ALP possibly up to ten leaving the PUP with the balance of power.

He made no mention of the Greens.

On his own admission Mr Palmer now believes the PUP could only “win” between three and five seats.

This must come as a gigantic shock to Kevin Morgan who Mr Palmer was touting as his candidate for Premier.

Mr Morgan may now have to drop his television ads where he proclaims proudly that he is running for the top job.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #11 - Scratch PUP, and they bleed green

15 February 2014

Today's Mercury ReachTEL poll shows that minor parties like PUP are a threat to majority government.

Tasmania can't afford another four years of divided, unstable Labor-Green Government.

But because of the way the Hare Clark voting system works that's what will happen if Tasmanians vote for minor parties like PUP, or the Tasmanian Nationals.

That's what it's important that Tasmanian voters know exactly what PUP stand for.

And the truth is, the Palmer United Party are yellow on the outside, but Green on the inside.

Palmer United Party candidates are misleading voters in their TV ads by attacking Labor and Greens for locking up the state while actually supporting the job-destroying forest deal

In candidate ads, including those of PUP leader, Kevin Morgan, they state "Labor and the Greens have locked away 51% of the state, destroying opportunity, creating uncertainty and turning away investment."

But PUP's leader, Kevin Morgan actually supports the Forest Deal, as he confirmed to HEART FM last week: "We believe we need to go down that path (of supporting the TFA)"*

What is more the Palmer United Party is opposed to the Bell Bay pulp mill, with both Clive Palmer and Kevin Morgan wanting the whole process to start again - "If Bell Bay is going to be the pulp mill, we need to follow process, and it needs to go back and start again."**

Further, Mr Morgan is actively working to undermine the sale by saying "I don't think it is saleable."***

Their position on the pulp mill and the Forest Deal squarely aligns them with the Greens.

The Green/PUP policy position would do irreparable damage to the Tasmanian economy, costing jobs and growth.

The reality is that if you scratch PUP, they bleed Green.

They may be yellow on the outside, but they are Green on the inside.

If you want the strong, stable majority government Tasmania needs, then this time you must vote Liberal.

* HEART FM, 11 February 2014

** ABC TV news, 22 January 2014

*** Advocate 22 November 2013



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #12 – PUP's ruinous economic plan for Tasmania

16 February 2014

The Palmer United Party's economic plan is not only loopy, but if ever affected would create further hardship and debt for Tasmanians.

Mr Palmer wants to strip \$650 million from the state's GST payments plunging the budget even deeper in the red.

For every man, woman and child in Tasmania that would equal \$1300 in debt that the state would have to pay off, or cuts to front line services such as health, education or police.

Not content with that, Mr Palmer aims to crank up the national debt by annually borrowing \$72 billion for a plan eerily reminiscent of the Rudd/Gillard stimulus plan that brought the nation the Pink Batts fiasco.

That equates to an annual debt burden of \$3,130 for every man, woman, and child in Tasmania that would have to be paid off.

This pie in the sky idea would leave a generation of debt that our grandchildren would be paying off.

Debt levels this high squeeze credit markets making private sector borrowings more difficult while government intervention in the private sector constricts the ability of the private sector to expand.

It smacks of big government which Mr Palmer specifically rejects in his National Policy where he says he believes "In government keeping to its core business and not competing with the private sector" which is a view endorsed by his lead candidate, Kevin Morgan.

Mr Palmer also supports senator-elect Jacqui Lambie's bizarre proposal to redirect \$5 billion in foreign aid to Tasmania!

This is not an economic policy it is Palmernomics – a blend of irrationalism and fantasy that can only damage the State.

Palmernomics as practiced on a small scale at Mr Palmer's Coolum Resort and Dinosaur Park has been a disaster for local jobs.

Since taking over the resort Mr Palmer has sacked more than 550 employees, occupancy is down to three percent and essential supplies such as toilet paper run out, according to media reports.

The fact is that Tasmania and Tasmanians cannot afford a dose of Palmernomics.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #13 - Morgan doesn't support pulp mill or forestry

17 February 2014

The Palmer United Party is conspicuously quiet about its support of the Greens and their position on the pulp mill and the TFA.

Kevin Morgan has been actively undermining the pulp mill saying in the Advocate on November 8 last year that "I don't think it is saleable."

He mirrored the Greens when he told ABC TV on January 22 "If Bell Bay is going to be the pulp mill, we need to follow process, and it needs to go back and start again".

This ludicrous view consigns the pulp mill to the never never.

Further, both Mr Morgan and Clive Palmer rejected the recall of Parliament to support the mill.

And Mr Morgan and PUP support the disastrous forestry deal.

When quizzed on Heart FM on February 11 about support for the forestry deal and IGA he said "We believe we need to go down that path..."

These views mirror the Greens and since their exposure there has not been one denial of their truth.

The Palmer United Party would put a wrecking ball through the State.

Tasmania can't afford another four years of divided, unstable Labor-Green Government.

But because of the way the Hare Clark voting system works that's what will happen if Tasmanians vote for minor parties like PUP, or the Tasmanian Nationals.

That's why it's important that Tasmanian voters know exactly what PUP stand for.

And the truth is, the Palmer United Party are yellow on the outside, but Green on the inside.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #14 - Palmernomics = more debt for Tasmania

17 February 2014

PUP senator-elect Jacqui Lambie has added another plank to the crazy Palmernomics plan for Tasmania.

In an extraordinary video* Ms Lambie wants to abolish payroll tax in its entirety from the state budget at a cost of \$300 million annually.

Combined with Clive Palmer's plan to rip \$650 million from the state's GST payments the PUP would deliver a \$950 million Budget deficit.

Palmernomics would deliver a revenue shortfall of approximately 20 per cent of the State's revenue.

The choice would be further cuts to frontline services or river of red ink.

The choice is increasingly stark for Tasmanians.

Voting for PUP and Palmernomics could deny the state stable majority government while putting a wrecking ball through the economy.

Only a stable Liberal majority government can deliver the jobs and growth Tasmania desperately needs after four years of Labor/Green minority government.

http://vimeo.com/user20640217/review/85051412/36bbf40cb2?utm_content=buffer702d0&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #15 - Jobs go offshore as Palmer pulls the strings

18 February 2014

The Palmer United Party appears to be offshoring its advertising campaign to the mainland at a cost to creative jobs and production in Tasmania.

Two weeks ago PUP candidates John Peers and Con Spiliopoulos boasted of visiting Clive Palmer at his failing Coolum Resort and Dinosaur Park.

Now the Party has videos of them that Mr Palmer claims are to be part of his advertising campaign.

The ads join a suite of similar ads produced for several of Mr Palmer's candidates, including lead candidate, Kevin Morgan.

Mr Morgan's ad features the same script as that of Mr Dobson whose script mirrors that of Ms Etter while hers is the same as that of Ms Thurley.

Mr Spiliopoulos has four videos which have the same script as those four videos featuring Mr Peers.

Many of the ads also have similar backgrounds and production values.

The similarities between the ads, their scripts, their backgrounds raise questions about the independence of the candidates.

None of the candidates seem to have an independent voice with all of them parroting the same lines that Mr Palmer has fed them.

Mr Palmer and his candidates seem to believe that Tasmanians aren't creative enough to write, direct and produce their television campaign.

It is an insult to the creative talents of Tasmanians.

A further development in the centralised control of the PUP campaign is that their so-called state director, James McDonald, doesn't actually live in Tasmania.

In fact he appears to simply be a "fly in fly out" employee of Mr Palmer's who is also a failed South Australian senate candidate for PUP at the 2013 federal election.

He tweeted on January 16, the night before the Supreme Court ruled on Marti Zucco's challenge to



PUP's registration "That will learn me for not packing an overnight bag. In Hobart for the night."

Mr McDonald works for Blue Star Inc, Mr Palmer's company that is building Titanic II.

Mr Palmer appears to be running the PUP campaign remotely using employees as FIFO state directors, centralising the administration of the campaign; writing, directing and producing television ads on the mainland at the cost of Tasmanian jobs.

The reality seems to be that Mr Palmer is pulling the strings of his marionette PUPpets.

Mr Palmer must come clean on just where his ads are being made.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #16 - TV advert highlights danger of voting PUP

20 February 2014

The latest tranche of the Liberal Party television campaign* reveals the PUP support for the job destroying TFA and its opposition to the pulp mill.

It highlights the fact that the PUP's position mirrors that adopted by the Greens on the pulp mill and forestry and in doing so proves the hypocrisy of PUP candidate ads that complain about the Greens and Labor locking up 51 percent of the state.

The ad warns voters that by supporting minor parties such as the PUP, Tasmania risks ending up with another Green minority government.

It will run in conjunction with the Liberal Party's "wrecking ball" TV ad warning about the risk of minority government which has been updated to include the PUP logo.

The Palmer United Party with the Green policies would put a wrecking ball through the state.

Tasmania can't afford another four years of divided, unstable Labor-Green Government.

But because of the way the Hare Clark voting system works that's what will happen if Tasmanians vote for minor parties like PUP, or the Tasmanian Nationals.

That's what it's important that Tasmanian voters know exactly what PUP stand for.

And the truth is, the Palmer United Party are yellow on the outside, but Green on the inside.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #17 - An analysis of the confused Palmernomic* policies for Tasmania

21 February 2014

The unique brand of economics known as Palmernomics as practiced by PUP lead candidate Kevin Morgan is contradictory, confused and illusory.

First the PUP wants to strip \$950 million from the budget bottom line by abolishing all payroll tax at a cost of \$300 million per annum coupled with ripping \$650 million out in GST payments from the commonwealth.

These cuts equate to 20 percent of the state budget and would see cuts to the public service and front line services such as police, education and health.

But Mr Morgan told the ABC's Louise Saunders on 17/2/14 that one of the key issues in the election is that:

“People want job security Louise, whether they are a government employee, a doctor or nurse or a person in the education system. They all want a secure job.”

Yet these are the very people that would lose their job security under Mr Morgan and the PUPpet's cuts to the budget.

Alternatively Mr Morgan and his fellow PUPpets would have to borrow extra funds adding to the budget deficit if he was not going to sack people.

Confused? Well Mr Morgan has a solution to his self-created Palmernomic conundrum.

But it is a bizarre and contradictory solution.

He told ABC's Leon Compton on 12/2/14 that: “What we need to look at Leon, is boosting revenue rather than totally slaughtering the public service.”

And how is he going to do that?

“We need to get our economy working positive. The best thing we can have coming into this state Leon, is GST, to do that we need to get expenditure from the public...”

So there you have one part of Mr Morgan's Palmernomic plan – either take cuts in commonwealth GST receipts or get more in commonwealth GST receipts! Simple!

But Mr Morgan also rails against the government's tax grab for services.



He later told Louise Saunders that the “Government is taking too much out of it [the economy]. They are taking money out for power, water and sewerage.” he said.

So what is Mr Morgan proposing here? That the government cease charging for essential services such as water and sewerage and power? That they cut back on the provision of these services?

Or is he proposing something more radical: that the government privatise these services?

Overall Mr Morgan has repeatedly said that he wants more private investment, as does every other political party and every Tasmanian and he has a novel approach as he told Leon Compton.

Leon Compton – “Specifically then, Kevin Morgan, how will you get more private investment, name one policy that will bring more private investment to Tasmania?”

Kevin Morgan – “.... Bass Strait is the biggest chocking effect on Tasmania. I cannot stress it enough, if there was one thing in this world today that I could change it would be the scenario of Bass Strait. Could you imagine how many people would come to Tasmania if we had free travel on Bass Strait.”

That is Mr Morgan and the PUPpet’s magic bullet policy prescription to generate investment.

But one breath later Mr Morgan says “I’m not advocating free travel but if we had free travel, if we could build, if we had a road across Bass Strait what would it do for our businesses, what would it do for tourism in Tasmania.”

So there you have it, his one policy is free travel across Bass Strait, except he doesn’t advocate it!

That is Palmernomics as advocated by Clive Palmer, who pulls the party’s strings, and espoused by Kevin Morgan and his PUPpets.

To have GST or not have GST receipts; to give people job security or sack doctors, nurses and people in the education sector or to increase the already overblown budget deficit; to make cuts to essential services such as water, power and sewerage or to privatise these services; to have free travel across Bass Strait or not?

Palmernomics is economic flim flam. It is voodoo economics. It is nonsense.

Practiced on a small scale at the Coolum Resort and Dinosaur Park it has seen 560 people sacked and has seen Mr Palmer’s wealth cut by a massive 40 percent.

When people come to cast their vote on March 15 they can vote for Palmernomics and get another Labor minority government.

Or they can vote Liberal for a stable majority government that will deliver jobs and economic growth.

* Palmernomics is the brain child of the PUP’s marionette master, Clive Palmer.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #18 - Some questions for Clive on Q and A

24 February 2014

Palmer United Party boss and owner, Clive Palmer, will appear on the ABC's Q&A tonight and there are some serious questions that he needs to answer before the Tasmanian poll on March 15.

1. Why did you name a political party after yourself? Isn't that the height of arrogance?
2. Isn't it true that you can wind the PUP at any time and keep any cash it may have received in public funding, donations, or membership subscriptions?
3. Why haven't you paid your \$6 million carbon tax bill?
4. Your National Policy document specifically states that "The Palmer United Party will scrap the carbon tax, not from when we are elected but from when the tax was introduced." Are you hoping to use your numbers in the senate to overthrow the carbon tax so that you think you will not have to pay it?
5. Isn't this corrupting the political process just so you don't have to pay the carbon tax?
6. If you are such a good businessman why have you sacked 560 people at your Coolum resort since you took it over in 2011?
7. Is it true that your wealth has fallen by 40% as reported by Forbes?
8. In February you released "internal polling" that showed PUP could win government in Tasmania, then at the National Press Club you said you could only win maybe two or three seats. Why should people believe any polling you publish?
9. Would you allow your Tasmanian branch to cut a deal with the Greens to allow Mr McKim to become opposition leader or even premier as Mr McKim is suggesting?
10. Is it true that you are spending \$10,000 each your candidates in the Tasmanian election compared with up to \$100,000 for candidates in the federal election?
11. Are you paying for all the TV advertising by PUP candidates in Tasmania?
12. Do you think it is appropriate for an individual such as yourself that owns his own political party that you have named after yourself, to try and buy an election?
13. Mr Palmer why do you want to cut \$650 million in GST payments to Tasmania and redirect that money to Western Australia?



14. Is it because you want to win WA senate seats at the expense of the Tasmanian budget?
15. Combined with the \$300 million abolition of payroll tax and the \$650 million in GST cuts how will you prevent cuts to public sector jobs, nurses, teachers, police and other frontline workers in Tasmania?
16. Do you support redirecting Australia's \$5 billion foreign aid budget to Tasmania?
17. Mr Palmer, why do you support the racist and misogynist comments of your Tasmanian candidate for Lyons, Mark Grewar? And similarly the links between your Braddon candidate, Steve Green, and the extremist Citizen Electoral Council?
18. Why are you running misleading TV ads complaining about Labor and the Greens locking up 51% of the state when you and your candidates support the TFA?
19. And why don't you and your candidates support the Bell Bay Pulp mill and all the jobs it would create?
20. Mr Palmer, why should Tasmanian's vote for any of your PUP candidates or have faith in your party when you are using it to try and avoid paying your carbon tax bill; when your policies would cut \$950 million out of the budget putting it deeper into the red; when you try and mislead people about your support of the TFA and the pulp mill; when you endorse racist and misogynistic comments by your candidates; when you support job destroying policies?

Clive Palmer and his Tasmanian PUPpet candidates are trying to slide into office below the radar without answering any questions; with nonsense policies and some reprehensible candidates endorsed by Mr Palmer himself.

Tasmanians deserve better than the contempt they are being treated with by Mr Palmer and his candidates.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #19 - Thurley contradicts Palmer on tax evasion

25 February 2014

Clive Palmer's personally selected lead candidate for Franklin, Debra Thurley, has effectively delivered a backhander to her boss who is refusing to pay his \$8.4 million carbon tax bill.

Ms Thurley tweeted a link to an article on February 20 in The Guardian headlined "Not enough money for welfare? Then why the tax amnesty for the richest tax avoiders, Australia?"

She tweeted "Not enough money 4 welfare? Then why amnesty for the richest tax avoiders, Australia?" <http://gu.com/p/3m37b/tw> via #qanda

Clive Palmer is one of Australia's wealthiest men, although his wealth has fallen by 40% according to Forbes to just \$640 million, and he is avoiding paying his tax obligations.

If Ms Thurley wants more money for welfare then perhaps she should start by demanding that Mr Palmer pay his tax bill?

Mr Palmer faces court action if he refuses to pay his carbon tax bill.

Ms Thurley has a choice to live up to her beliefs and demand that Mr Palmer pay his tax bill or be branded as a supporter of tax avoidance.

Or does Ms Thurley support the PUPs own national policy that specifically states "The Palmer United Party will scrap the carbon tax, not from when we are elected but from when the tax was introduced."

Ms Thurley appears to be in a bind. She doesn't support tax avoiders because she believes it cuts the amount of money for welfare while her boss is actively avoiding pay his tax bill yet her party's own national policy calls for the tax to be abolished retrospectively.

Ms Thurley should state whether:

- She supports her party using its numbers in the senate to protect her boss's business interests.
- She supports Mr Palmer in his refusal to pay his carbon tax bill.
- She still supports her party's national policy.
- She will publicly confront Mr Palmer over his tax avoidance.

Mr Palmer's party – arrogantly named by himself after him – appears to be more of a private vehicle to further Mr Palmer's own interests rather than a bona fide political organisation.

The final question for Ms Thurley is whether she is comfortable being used to further the interests of one man at the expense of the community?



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates # 20 - Golf only to be played in Coolum – not Clarence

25 February 2014

John Peers, a PUP candidate for Franklin, apparently likes the golf links at his boss's Coolum Resort and Dinosaur Park, but when it comes to golf developments at Clarence he has proved himself a hypocrite.

Mr Peers, an Alderman with the Clarence City Council, just back from a trip to visit Clive Palmer at Coolum, has apparently failed to support a major golf development that would have created jobs and investment opportunity within his region.

How does this sit with his advertisements where he says:

“I want to turbo charge the economy to help me help you”

And:

“Labor and the Greens are as bad as each other. I can't think of one thing they have done to make the community better.”

Or:

“Tasmania's problems are made by Tasmanians and only Tasmanians can fix them”

Finally, and most damning:

“It's time for change. Labor has taken our children's future, created uncertainty and turning away investment.”

Mr Peers has failed to turbo charge the economy; failed to make the community better; rejected the opportunity for Tasmanians to fix their own problems and taken away children's future by turning away investment.

So if you ever hear Mr Peers say as he does in a media release “I want to get Tasmania moving and start creating jobs for people here” don't believe him.

Mr Peers may like the relaxed resort life style of the Coolum Resort with its golf courses and tourism potential, but that potential is being denied to Tasmanians.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #21 - Disorganisation and confusion

26 February 2014

The constant characteristic that is the mark of the Palmer United Party is its chaotic and quixotic nature from policy to its organisation.

The latest demonstration is its inability to even organise its own launch.

First it put out a flyer earlier in the week saying its "Campaign Launch" was going to be held on Saturday March 1 at 6.30pm at the Hobart Grand Chancellor with an RSVP of 26 February.

Then today at 6.00am Denison PUPpet, Barbara Etter, unilaterally tweeted:

"PUP campaign launch with Clive Palmer Sunday 2 March at midday at Hotel Grand Chancellor. Lunch and drinks \$50 pp. RSVP tas@palmerunited.com"

To clear the confusion four hours later the PUP announced that in fact they would not be launching on Saturday March 1 at midday. But rather be holding a "Major Policy Dinner" at 6.30pm on March 1 at the Grand Chancellor in Launceston with an RSVP of tomorrow!

Confused?

Then at midday another flyer appears on the PUP twitter stream announcing that the "Campaign Launch" would now be held at 12 noon – not 6.30pm - in Hobart at the Grand Chancellor on March 2.

This shambles is the hallmark of party bereft of organisation or management skills which is not surprising as their state director is a FIFO Coolum based employee of Mr Palmer's whose main job is working on the Titanic.

And his interests are more aligned with the benefits of being a member of Qantas Frequent Flyers as his tweets of February 20 demonstrate " @QantasAirways loving the new toasted sandwich maker at Sydney airport. Also the epicure wine dispenser..."

The Tasmanian PUPpets are controlled centrally by Clive Palmer from his Coolum lair with his employees doing his bidding.

It is Mr Palmer's interest that are at the forefront of his political ambitions – to the extent that he is refusing to pay his \$8.2 million carbon tax bill while waiting for the carbon tax to be voted out by his senators, including Jacqui Lambie.

Make no mistake the Tasmanian PUPpets are controlled lock stock and barrel by Mr Palmer.

They can't even organise their own launch without interference by Mr Palmer's personal FIFO "fixit" man.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #22 - The PUP catch 22

28 February 2014

Clive Palmer confirmed on the ABC's Lateline programme last night that he would strip GST payments from Tasmania in favour of Western Australia.

He told host Tony Jones that:

“And of course, if they (his WA senate candidates) are in the balance of power, we can get some of that GST back that's been ripped off the state for many years.”

Mr Palmer is on the record as saying he opposes horizontal fiscal equalization. This would strip \$650 million out of Tasmania.

The only way Western Australia can get back more GST is by ripping it out of Tasmania.

Yet PUP lead candidate, Kevin Morgan, wants more in GST payments from the commonwealth for Tasmania.

Mr Morgan told the ABC's Leon Compton in February that “The best thing we can have coming into this state Leon, is GST...” to fix the State's ailing economy.

That is some Catch 22. To fix the economy by taking GST payments from it on one hand while demanding more GST payments on the other.

And in a telling slip last night Mr Palmer also confirmed that his party's carbon tax policy was in fact the policy of his privately owned company.

When quizzed about the carbon tax he said: “Well, I've got my concerns. Our company – our party policy on carbon tax was that it should be abolished from the day that it was introduced...”

Mr Palmer has refused to pay his \$8 million carbon tax bill including penalties and now he is aiming to win the balance of power in the Senate so that his senators will vote to backdate the abolition of the tax so Mr Palmer doesn't have to pay it.

And he is working to get those senators in WA elected by stripping GST payments from Tasmania.

Mr Palmer is treating Tasmanians with contempt by putting his own interests ahead of the state.

Mr Palmer's PUP is not a political party it is a political business whose aim is to prop up Mr Palmer's own interests.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #23 - Clive not putting his money where his mouth is

1 March 2014

On Thursday night Clive Palmer made an adjournment speech to an almost empty chamber in Parliament where he talked of the need for jobs in Tasmania.

In his speech he said "Tasmania needs jobs, jobs and more jobs.....not in Victoria, New South Wales or Queensland, but in Tasmania."

Unfortunately Mr Palmer doesn't put his money where his mouth is when it comes to jobs for Tasmania.

For example, Jacqui Lambie has her campaign posters printed in South Australia, not Tasmania, so no jobs for the State there.

But perhaps even more damning is the latest piece of propaganda being circulated by Mr Palmer's lead PUP candidate, Kevin Morgan.

It is a glossy, yellow CD cover with a CD that features a long, turgid speech by Mr Palmer and repeats of some candidate ads.

But the clincher is where the CD cover is printed and no doubt also where the CD itself was produced:

"Printed by Rose Duke Trade (Beijing) Co Ltd, 902 Tower B, 39 East Fourth Rong, Chaoyong District, Beijing."

That's right, Mr Palmer is exporting jobs to China while talking about the need for jobs in Tasmania.

Interestingly there is also a promotional clip on the CD of Mr Palmer's plan to build Titanic II, also being built in China.

The question this raises is, is this really political propaganda or a promotional vehicle for the Titanic and if so is the whole package tax deductible for Mr Palmer?

Mr Palmer's faux concern for Tasmanian jobs is demonstrated by his export of jobs to the mainland and to China.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #24 - Straight talking on Bass Strait and jobs

2 March 2014

Clive Palmer's commitment to Tasmania and a Bass Strait ferry service is spelled out in his own campaign posters and it bodes ill for the state and jobs.

Launching his risible idea to an empty room for a ferry service Mr Palmer and his lead candidate, Kevin Morgan, spruiked their thought bubble with a sign "Bass Straight."

It is a demonstration of their lack of attention to detail and substance which is reflected in their idea for another Bass Strait ferry service.

Their "idea" was not a serious proposal.

If it was real it would have a cost associated with it.

If it was real they could have said who was going to build this ferry.

If it was real they could have said when the service would start.

If it was real they could have said what ports it would service and its destination points.

Bass Strait freight and passenger services are critical to Tasmania and Tasmanians want solutions that can be delivered, not thought bubbles.

Bass Strait is not the English Channel. These ideas have been tried before, and failed, who can forget the Devil Cat?

It is one thing to fly across Bass Strait in your private jet and announce a thought bubble as a policy, but it is quite another to actually deliver a plan.

The reality is that Mr Palmer and Mr Morgan are trying to con Tasmanians with soothing, empty nostrums about the ferry service and also jobs.

Today Mr Palmer again talked about "job, jobs and more jobs" for Tasmanians while his own campaign propaganda is produced in China.

Mr Palmer's jobs for Tasmania plan is to offshore them in China.

A lot of empty words, but no straight talking.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #25 - Launch day highlights lack of depth 3 March 2014

The Palmer United Party launch yesterday revealed the hollow shell of a political party that it is.

Its centrepiece idea was ferry service, but it was not a real proposal. It was a thought bubble – more like a filler for a Christmas stocking – an IOU on your vote that will never be collected.

And you can see this by the bluster of Mr Palmer as he explained his Palmernomics – he was still going to strip the state of its \$650 million in GST – but then said the commonwealth should put in twice as much money!

The launch also displayed the calibre of its candidates and Mr Palmer himself.

Lead candidate, Kevin Morgan, said of Lara Giddings that she “Pays more attention to her hair than the interests of Tasmanians.”

While Mr Palmer himself, who when it was pointed out that his PUP signs in Launceston misspelled Bass Strait as “straight” angrily lashed out saying “what pettiness is all this bullshit about.”

The “bullshit” is about attention to detail, about the speed in which the PUPs “idea” was pulled together. Attention to detail is critical in the analysis of legislation.

It is also worth looking at the line-up of some of the candidates that the PUP is fielding.

- An octogenarian.
- A septuagenarian.
- A foul mouth racist.
- A person who links anti-terror laws with Nazi Germany.
- A person whose case in the Supreme Court was called vexatious, frivolous, and which would waste court time.
- A self-described “retired gentleman”

And then there are the political gypsies who, those candidates looking for any political home, not least among them Kevin Morgan himself, who has been an ALP member, stood as an independent and has now found a niche as a PUP.

Or Debra Thurley, who is amongst a number of former Liberal members, some of who investigated standing for the party, who are now a PUPs.



The calibre of these candidates and their commitment to any cause except that which furthers their own interest would raises serious questions about their ability to act in Parliament.

Mr Palmer today said that PUPs would interact with Labor and the Greens and this raises the spectre of the state again being held to ransom by minority self-interest.

Because the PUP supports the TFA any legislation that was introduced to dismantle it would opposed threatening jobs and opportunity and investment.

Tasmania cannot afford to again be at loggerheads over the state's future; it cannot be held to ransom by gypsy politicians pursuing their own narrow self-interest.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #26 - An exposition of Palmernomics

3 March 2014

Yesterday's launch of the PUP campaign displayed another masterful exposition of Palmernomics by the master of the theory himself, Professor Clive Palmer.

Over the weekend Clive Palmer and his acolyte, Kevin Morgan, threw pixie dust in the eyes of Tasmanians and promised a suite of thought bubbles from ferries, a network of ports around the state, abolition of payroll tax, and abolition of stamp duty for first home owners.

But how was this largesse to be funded? The payroll tax abolition would cost the state \$300 million annually, stamp duty a minimum of \$13 million and then of course there is \$650 million Professor Palmer wants stripped from the budget in GST payments - all up that is about \$1 billion cut from the budget annually.

Well apparently Professor Palmer now says his plan to cut GST payments to the state was "bullshit."

But how does that square with his own remarks to Lateline on the 27/2/2014 that "we can get some of that GST back that's been ripped off the state for many years." That can only be done by taking GST receipts from Tasmania.

Or when he told journalists in Canberra on the 14/12/13 that he doesn't support Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation which can be seen here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOtUiIa4O5c>

Or his own media release of the previous day where he said:

"The state (Western Australia) provides vast amounts of GST revenue for the Australian economy and get so little back in return – this is intolerable for the people of Western Australia.

"The system as it stands provides no reward for effort. All states should be encouraged to strive by receiving the benefits of their enterprise."

By Professor Palmer's reasoning Tasmania would be stripped of its GST receipts to the tune of \$650 million – no bones about it.

But yesterday the good Professor was bizarrely saying that after stripping \$650 million out of the state's budget that "The commonwealth has got to inject twice as much money into the state whether it's GST, or whatever you call it."

It is hard to see where the "bullshit" is here.

Is the Professor "bullshitting" the people of WA or the people of Tasmania over GST payments?

But it seems Palmernomics is bullshit by any name.

The simple fact is that Professor Palmer or Kevin Morgan can pay for their thought bubbles, but they are very liberal with the pixie dust they will throw around to con people into believing they can.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #27 - Clive's PUP clones

4 March 2014

Clive Palmer is definitely the PUPpet master: a deft ventriloquist and the man pulling the strings of his marionettes across the country.

In Tasmania, virtually all of the candidate ads are identical to one and other as has been previously pointed out.*

Now it seems Mr Palmer is scripting identical ads with his South Australian candidates for their March 15 poll.

In Tasmania Mr Palmer has his candidate, John Peers, lauding Mr Palmer as the saviour of Tasmania:

“Clive Palmer can save Tasmania. We need changes now. Labor and Liberals, all the same.”**

In South Australia Mr Palmer has his candidate, Kristian Rees, also mouthing his praise:

“Clive Palmer can save South Australia. We need changes now. Liberal and Labor, more of the same.”***

Not only has Mr Palmer named a Party after himself, but now he is scripting candidate ads where he has his candidates singing his praises.

It is a monstrous conceit.

Mr Palmer is not running in either the South Australian election or the Tasmanian election, if people vote for his PUPpets they won't get Mr Palmer. He won't be living in either SA or Tasmania, but in Queensland.

But what they could get are inexperienced people who don't do a thing until it's cleared by Clive in Queensland.

The choice is clear. A vote for minority government made up of Greens, Labor and PUP with all the instability that would bring or a vote for a stable, Liberal majority government.

*<http://realpalmerunitedparty.tumblr.com/post/77025797154/vanessa-goodwins-guide-to-pup-candidates-15-jobs-go>

**<http://vimeopro.com/user20640217/2014-02-08-tasmania/video/85891117>

***<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DFAf7saH6Pc>



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidate's # 28 - The guide hits the airwaves

5 March 2014

In three punchy radio advertisements* the reality of the Palmer United Party is stripped bare for all Tasmanians to hear.

In spare language they spell out the reality of voting for the PUP and their team of inexperienced neophyte political gypsies.

“Just remember, if you vote for the Palmer Party you won't be getting Clive Palmer.

He lives in Queensland.

You'll be getting inexperienced candidates and who knows what they'll do if they hold the balance of power.”

“If you don't want Green policies, don't vote for the Palmer Party.

Because if you do, you'll be voting for Green policies like the forest lock up and stopping the pulp mill.

Palmer and the Greens – don't risk it.”

“Imagine the chaos if the Palmer Party holds the balance of power.

Inexperienced candidates having the final say on your health, your hospitals and your schools.

The Palmer Party – If you don't know them, don't risk them.”

A vote for Clive Palmer's PUPpets is a recipe for another minority government with all the instability, backbiting and fighting that comes with it.

Only a vote for the Liberal Party can guarantee a stable majority government that can deliver growth and jobs for Tasmanians.

*Listen to the ads here: <https://soundcloud.com/tasmanian-liberals>



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #29 - Ferries – or just a fairy tale

5 March 2014

Anybody waiting for the Palmer United Party's "thought bubble" of an idea for a fast ferry and freight service across Bass Strait to be delivered by PUP will be severely disappointed.

On Friday, February 27, Kevin Morgan told the ABC's 7.30 said their so-called policy was for a "low cost, fast, efficient operation on similar lines to the English Channel." He has also said the trip would take in the vicinity of six hours.

Their plan is to have a network of ferries crisscrossing the Strait (or Straight) with services from Stanley and Bell Bay stopping at King Island and Flinders Island and a direct service from Bell Bay.

The problem is that the English Channel is only 38 kilometres across while Devonport to Melbourne is 392 kilometres – a ten-fold increase in distance, while Devonport to Hastings, another port mooted is 334 kilometres.

And there is a small thing called economy of scale that has to be taken into account.

Dover in the UK, situated on the Channel, remains the largest passenger port in Europe, with close to 13 million seaborne passengers passing through the port facilities in 2011.

Tasmania has a population of 500,000 and we have a tourist trade approaching one million per annum.

This is just idle pie in the sky thinking. The trip times don't add up and the economies of scale don't stack up. There is not a real business case that can stack up.

This is not a ferry service – it is a fairy tale.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #30 - Local PUP candidate supports punishing carbon tax

6 March 2014

Small businesses in Braddon, already reeling under cost pressures and a slow economy, should be slugged with higher power costs, according to PUP candidate, Scott Alexander.

Mr Alexander wrote on The Advocate's Facebook page on September 10, 2013 that "I for one wouldn't have minded if the carbon tax was only 3% or 4%."

Any tax impost on small business should be rejected, yet Mr Alexander is firmly aligned with the Greens and Labor in supporting this tax slug.

With reports in The Advocate today revealing that the 940 small businesses debtors owed Aurora an average of \$1918 anyone advocating the higher costs was no friend of small business.

Small business is a jobs generator and the carbon tax is crimping the ability of small businesses to grow and employ people.

As Burnie Chamber of Commerce and Industry president, Peter Holmes, noted, one of the factors behind the increase in electricity debtors from 487 in 2011/12 to 940 in 2012/13 had been higher energy costs for small business.

But it is not just small business hurting under the impost, it is also consumers.

As The Advocate pointed out in its report the number of consumer debts after being relatively stable after the previous four years had skyrocketed from 5,438 in 2011/12 to 7,076 in 2012/13.

The fact is that Mr Alexander's support for the carbon tax is hurting families; it is hurting small business and it is hurting those searching for a job.

Supporting PUP means damaging families and small businesses by putting them under even greater pressure.

* Scott Alexander supports a carbon tax. He has written a post on a story in The Advocate that "I for one wouldn't mind if the carbon tax was only 3% or 4%." He has also questioned whether or not Gina Rinehart is dredging the Barrier Reef.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #31 - PUP's fiscal con 6 March 2014

The Palmer United Party is treating Tasmanians as gullible mugs by trying to pull a fiscal con on them.

Under the Charter of Budget Responsibility Act 2007 political parties had to lodge a Fiscal Statement with the Treasury outlining their strategy to manage the Budget by close of business yesterday.

The Act prescribes that a Party must outline its long term objectives within which budgets will be framed; fiscal measures against which fiscal policy will be set; fiscal targets for the budget year and following three years; and, how the fiscal objectives and strategic priorities relate to sound fiscal management.

The PUP failed to lodge any statement, nor has it explained publicly how it would manage to pay for its "thought bubbles."

Even the Greens submitted a strategy to explain how they would mismanage the budget: but no, not for the PUPs this fiscal straight jacket.

If the PUP wanted to be treated as a serious Parliamentary player it would have submitted its Fiscal Strategy – if it has one.

To date the PUP has committed to:

Cutting \$650 million in GST payments from the budget.

Abolishing payroll tax at a cost of \$300 million.

Cutting stamp duty for first home owners at a cost of \$13 million.

Removing land tax at a cost of \$90 million.

Restoring police numbers at a cost of \$33 million.

Spending \$400 million on their fairy tale ferry service including massive unfunded fare subsidies so seats and cars cost just \$50 each!

As well the PUP have uncosted commitments to better resource teachers and have more teacher aides, more financial support for PCYC and to reduce power costs.

But these commitments are being made on the sly via leaflets and the odd call to radio.

On their website their only so-called "policy" announcement is a one page press release saying the party was "committed" to a Bass Strait ferry service.



The PUP is trying to fly under the radar with their unfunded commitments.

They are acting more like side show hucksters selling a cure all potion that will fix the state's economic problems.

It is either a demonstration of Palmernomics with its flim flam and voodoo economics or it's a con.

Only one conclusion can be drawn about the PUP and neither bodes well for Tasmania if they were to gain any Parliamentary representation.

The PUP candidates are either so inexperienced that they don't know how to manage a budget or they are trying to pull a fiscal con on Tasmanians with their "thought bubbles."



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #32 - Clive confirms "Coolum Central" controls campaign 7 March 2014

Clive Palmer has confirmed that "Coolum Central" is running the Tasmanian PUP election campaign with the admission that its television ads are being produced at his Brisbane based advertising agency.

Mr Palmer has told AAP that TV advertisements for his Tasmanian and Western Australian election campaign had been stolen from the agency he uses, Coroneo and Co, on Thursday morning.

The revelation confirms that Mr Palmer has no faith in the creative and production skills of Tasmanians.

Mr Palmer, despite repeatedly saying that "Tasmania needs jobs, jobs and more jobs.....not in Victoria, New South Wales or Queensland, but in Tasmania" is actually exporting those jobs to Queensland.

Not only is Mr Palmer exporting jobs to Queensland he is also exporting them to China with the production of his candidate's campaign DVDs and its cover being printed by "Rose Duke Trade (Beijing) Co Ltd, 902 Tower B, 39 East Fourth Rong, Chaoyang District, Beijing."

Mr Palmer doesn't care about Tasmanian jobs as is evidenced by his own actions in exporting them to the mainland and China.

It reflects contempt for the creative talents of Tasmanians and a lack of faith in small businesses to produce his campaign propaganda whether it is in the printing trade, graphic design, and television, production, scripting and editing skills of Tasmanians.

It also demonstrates the absolute central control that Mr Palmer exercises of his candidates in what they say and do as shown by the almost identical candidate ads and scripts where Tasmanian candidates mirror each other in their ads while his South Australian candidates also parrot the same words.

Further evidence of "Coolum Central" running the PUPpet campaign is that their so-called state director is actually a FIFO employee of Mr Palmer's who lives in Queensland.

Mr Palmer has made himself a central element of the PUPpet campaign in Tasmania, featuring in TV ads and radio ads reflecting a lack of faith in his inexperienced, neophyte politicians.

The difficulty is that Tasmanians might think that they will get Clive by voting for his PUPpets, but he will live in Queensland while his inexperienced PUPpets cause havoc in the Assembly if they were to be successful.

Tasmania cannot afford another fractured minority government made up of Labor, Greens and PUPpets.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #33 - Thurley yellow on the outside, green inside

7 March 2014

Clive Palmer's handpicked candidate for Franklin, Debra Thurley, has confirmed that she is really yellow on the outside and green on the inside with her endorsement of an article which supports locking up the forests.

In her final column in The Examiner today Call Wahlquist wrote that an opinion piece suggesting the forests should not be reopened to industry.

She concluded: "But I won't miss the forestry debate, because it is stupid. Tasmania can't keep having do-overs until it gets the industry it wants. Sometimes it's time to move on."

Ms Thurley then tweeted: "an excellent sign off from @callapilla, mandatory reading. There's no way u could vote 4 Libs."

Yet in her TV candidate ads Ms Thurley specifically states:

"Labor and the Greens have locked away 51% of the state, destroying opportunity, creating uncertainty and turning away investment."

Ms Thurley has clearly contradicted her own campaign ads and sided with the Greens.

She really is yellow on the outside and Green inside.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #34 - Palmer a part time politician

7 March 2014

Clive Palmer, the CEO of the Palmer United Party, is a part time politician who can barely bring himself to attend Parliament.

Since being elected Mr Palmer has missed ten sessions of Parliament or 40 percent of the 24 sessions making him the worst for attendance except for two government Ministers.

Those two ministers are the Foreign Affairs Minister and the Trade and Investment Minister whose jobs require them to do extensive overseas travel.

Mr Palmer only has to travel to and from his Coolum Resort home to Canberra in his private jet, yet he still can't seem to manage that commitment to the voters of Fairfax who put their faith in him.

It is the job of a politician to represent the views of the people who elect them and Mr Palmer is failing to do this.

The relevance of this to Tasmania is the contempt that Mr Palmer holds for the voters of Fairfax by failing to represent them.

It casts real doubts about his commitment to Tasmania and throws into question promises he and his inexperienced neophyte candidates make.

For example Mr Palmer, despite promising jobs for Tasmania, actually exports them to the mainland and China.

He has promised fast ferries and all he and his candidates led by Kevin Morgan have delivered is a poster. (See attached).

From delivering an unfunded thought bubble on ferries a week ago Mr Morgan and Mr Palmer are now reduced to delivering a poster. It is pathetic.

Mr Palmer is treating his own voters with contempt and is trying to con Tasmanians that he has their interests at heart.

When people cast their vote on March 15 they should recall the way Mr Palmer and his candidates have tried to pull a swift con on them.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #35 - PUP candidates: prophets of false hope 10 March 2014

The PUP candidates are the most duplicitous of any standing for the Tasmanian election by making promises that can never be kept.

PUP would have you believe they can deliver fast ferry services crisscrossing Bass Strait with cheap fare for passengers and vehicles. But they can't say how it would be paid for, who would build the ferries or who would run them.

- They promise to cut payroll tax at a cost of \$300 million, but have no budget offsets and won't say what services would otherwise be cut.
 - They promise to abolish stamp duty for first home owners, but again offer no budget offsets.
 - They promise more police but don't say how they will pay for it.
 - They say they want more doctors, nurses and teachers, but don't say how they will pay for it.
 - They want to reduce the cost of electricity, sewerage and rates, but don't say how they will pay for it.
 - They want more funds for PCYCs, but don't say how they will pay for it.
 - They want to strip GST payments from the budget at a cost of \$650 million, but don't how they can pay for the services it funds.
 - They want to cut land tax at a cost of \$90 million, but again can't say what budget offsets they would make or what services they would cut.
 - They say they object to the TFA, but won't support tearing up the agreement.
- And the list goes on.

Recent polling shows the PUPs cannot form a government or barely even win a seat with state wide support of just 6.9%.

They are prophets of false hope – making promises knowing full well that they will never be accountable for them.

But they can be spoilers by trying to con Tasmanians with their empty promises.

Tasmanians should consider carefully how they vote: for a stable Liberal majority government that can deliver on its commitments or a vote for a minority party that will never be able to deliver on one of its empty promises.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #36 – Has PUP broken the law with press ad?

10 March 2014

The Palmer United Party appears to have breached section 196 of the Electoral Act with an ad on page 9 of The Mercury this morning.

Effectively the section prevents the use of a photo of a candidate or a candidate's name in an ad without that person's approval.

The person authorising the ad, Jacqui Lambie, could face 12 months gaol, or up to \$39,000 in fines or both, under the Act.

Sam McQuestin, the Liberal Party State Director, has written to the Tasmanian Electoral Commissioner, raising the issue. (See attached)

The apparent breach of the Act demonstrates just how inexperienced PUP candidates are.

It shows their lack of attention to detail which is crucial if you want to be a Parliamentarian.

It represents their same lack of attention to their campaign signs when they spelled Bass Strait incorrectly.

If they can't get the basics of the Electoral Act right it raises real concerns about their ability to scrutinise legislation.

Mr Palmer may throw money at an election and try and buy it, but that doesn't mean you can buy the right candidates.

The PUP candidates just haven't got the experience necessary to represent people in Parliament.

Could you imagine the chaos they would bring: erratic, inexperienced and unskilled they would create a log jam that would set back the state's return to growth, damaging jobs and opportunity along the way.

Only the Liberals can provide a stable, majority government.

Labor, the Greens and the PUPs will just cause chaos.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #37 - Did Clive Palmer lie to Tasmanians?

10 March 2014

Last week when Clive Palmer launched his PUPpets campaign for Tasmanian he told journalists that it was “bullshit” that he was going to take GST payments from Tasmania and repatriate them to Western Australia.

In a just released video* to promote his WA senate campaign Mr Palmer is now saying he wants the GST earned by Western Australians to be kept by Western Australians.

That would strip \$650 million from Tasmania's depleted Treasury coffers.

In the video Mr Palmer specifically states:

“Why should all the GST collected in Western Australia be sent back to the eastern states? Why shouldn't Western Australians receive the benefit of their hard work?”

The question is who is Mr Palmer actually “bullshitting” now?

Is it Tasmanian voters or Western Australian voters?

Either way you slice or dice it Mr Palmer is lying to someone.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates # 38 - Bluster and umbrage no substitute for policy 11 March 2014

After 30 minutes of bluster, umbrage, histrionics and personal abuse at his press conference, Tasmanians are still no wiser on how Clive Palmer and Kevin Morgan would deliver on any of their thought bubbles.

Mr Palmer says Tasmania needs twice as much money delivered to it from the federal government, but still says he wants to strip \$650 million in GST payments from the state.

Kevin Morgan says there needs to be more competition on Bass "Straight" but delivers absolutely no concrete detail on how or when this would actually happen.

Mr Palmer says he is not green, but the policies his lead candidate puts forward on forestry and the pulp mill that are supported by Mr Palmer prove he is.

Mr Palmer and his PUPpets find it easy to identify problems, but far more difficult to come up with costed and funded plans to address them.

Nostrums and clichés are no substitute for the hard yards of policy development and implementation.

However Mr Palmer made one absolute and uncontroverted statement when he said "I am an interloper" in Tasmania.

On that he is correct and it shows with his lack of understanding about the issues facing the state.

On March 15 people should be aware that they will not be voting for Showman Clive with his theatrics, but rather for a group of inexperienced candidates without any cohesive plans for the state.

A vote for any PUP candidate is a vote for instability and minority government.

Only a vote for the Liberal Party can deliver stable majority government that can implement a plan for growth and jobs.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #39 - Palmer again confirms gst cut to Tasmania 12 March 2014

"Western Australia is entitled to what they are earning. All Australian states should be as far as the GST goes."

Clive Palmer. Sky Agenda. 11/3/14

In a rare moment of frankness Clive Palmer told the truth to Tasmanians about the \$650 million dollars he plans to rip from the state's depleted treasury to send to WA.

Western Australia's \$28 billion budget dwarfs Tasmania's \$4.7 billion budget yet Mr Palmer wants to repatriate Tasmania's share to one of the biggest mainland economies.

Not only does WA's budget dwarf Tasmania's its Gross State Product at more than \$252 billion it is greater than Tasmania's \$25 billion by a factor of ten.

Then there is the comparative GSP per capita. WA's at about \$102,000 is more than double Tasmania's \$47,000.

Not only does Mr Palmer and his PUPpet candidates want to rip out the GST from the budget he also wants to abolish payroll tax at a cost of \$300 million annually creating a massive billion dollar hole in state revenues.

Mr Palmer is fond of pointing out that there are more than 20,000 people living off less than \$23,000.

He and his PUPpet candidates have to explain to these people and the rest of Tasmania how they will fund schools, hospitals, police and emergency services after creating a billion dollar budget black hole.

Mr Palmer will no doubt claim that he just wants to make the economic pie bigger, but it doesn't matter how big Mr Palmer's pie is Tasmanian's will still be commensurately worse off under his plan to rip GST payments from the state.

This is Palmernomics writ large. It is a con, a political rort that can only damage Tasmania's economy and peoples' standard of living.

On March 15 people are going to have a choice – between a Labor/Green/PUP minority government or a stable, Liberal majority government that can deliver a real economic plan to provide jobs and growth.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #40 - Palmer proves that pup is a political business owns party trade-marks

12 March 2014

Clive Palmer attempted to intimidate the Liberal Party in its campaign to expose the folly of voting for his PUPpet candidates in the state election and in doing so proved that he owns the party lock, stock and barrel.

On February 27, Mr Palmer had a minion write to the Liberal Party demanding that it cease using the terms "Palmer United" and "Palmer United Party" in any of its advertising as they were trade-marked and registered to Clive Palmer. (letter attached)

This is an extraordinary attack on freedom of speech and democracy. No other party threatens legal action over the use of their names in advertising.

As part of the free exchange of ideas that are part and parcel of any election campaign parties must be named in advertising. How could that debate be conducted if you are unable to mention a political party in an advertisement?

Mr Palmer is simply trying to close down debate about his party, his candidates and their impossible to deliver ideas. Confirming the fact that the names are registered to Clive Palmer himself proves beyond doubt that PUP is not a political party, but rather a political business.

Earlier in the campaign it was pointed out that the constitutional structure of the PUP vested all authority in Mr Palmer.*

It was also pointed out that Mr Palmer would be a direct beneficiary of positions taken by his hand selected candidates.**

When quizzed on the ABC's Lateline on 27/2/14 about the carbon tax Clive Palmer said: "Well, I've got my concerns. Our company – our party policy on carbon tax was that it should be abolished from the day that it was introduced..."

Mr Palmer has refused to pay his \$8 million carbon tax bill including penalties and now he is aiming to win the balance of power in the Senate so that his senators will vote to backdate the abolition of the tax so Mr Palmer doesn't have to pay it.

There is no doubt that Mr Palmer owns the PUP lock, stock and barrel to benefit his own interests.

It is fundamentally undemocratic. Mr Palmer owns it, controls it and funds it. He owns the trade marks to it.

Despite his claims that he supports freedom of speech and democratic processes the evidence is to the contrary.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #41 - "Interloper" Clive proves that's just what he is

12 March 2014

It may be forgivable that Clive Palmer can't spell Bass "Straight." After all he only flies across it in his private jet.

But when Mr Palmer incorrectly spells the name of his candidate for Premier as "Keven" in his letters to voters you have to wonder just how much attention Mr Palmer pays to his candidates and what is going on in his own party.

And you have to wonder how much attention he pays to Tasmanian politics when he calls the Premier "Laura" not Lara as he does repeatedly.

And now he can't even spell the name of his candidate for Deputy Premier.

In a press ad today he called her Barbara "Etta" not Etter.

These errors show just how inexperienced Mr Palmer and his PUPpet candidates are.

Maybe one mistake is acceptable, but a litany of them indicates a lack of attention to detail that is essential to be a Parliamentarian whose job it is to scrutinise legislation.

Mr Palmer is the embodiment of truth when he says "I am an interloper" in Tasmania, his actions and his candidate selection proves it.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #42 - Palmer and Morgan desert the forest industry

12 March 2014

Clive Palmer and Kevin Morgan today confirmed they had abandoned the forestry industry and the jobs associated with it.

At a media conference in Launceston Mr Palmer told the throng that he didn't support the pulp mill which is in accord with Kevin Morgan's position.

Mr Morgan himself confirmed in a tweet that he supports the Tasmanian Forests Agreement.

The effect of both decisions would be to strand thousands of forest industry jobs, destroy investment and cripple essential economic growth in the north.

Further, both Mr Morgan and Mr Palmer have repudiated their own TV advertisements which rail about Labor and the Greens locking up 51 percent of the state from development.

Rather than supporting jobs Mr Palmer and Mr Morgan and their PUPpets would destroy them and leave those already jobless by the closure of the forest industry stranded among the ranks of the unemployed.

The PUP, if ever to be elected, would guarantee further Parliamentary chaos.

Their stance on the forest industry would see them voting against legislation to reopen a once vibrant sector of the Tasmanian economy.

If you are concerned about, jobs, growth and investment in the forest industries then only a stable, Liberal Party majority government can deliver it after March 15.

A vote for Labor, the Greens and now the PUP would be a vote for instability and chaos and a vote against jobs in the forest industry.

Today Mr Palmer, Mr Morgan and their fellow PUPpets proved that they really are yellow on the outside and Green on the inside.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #43 - Morgan's Sirolli connection

13 March 2014

Confirmation that neither the Liberal Party or Labor Party would continue to pour good money after bad into the Sirolli project is a slap in the face for PUP candidate, Kevin Morgan.

Kevin Morgan claims he was largely responsible for implementing the failed million dollar project when he was an adviser to Brenton Best.

The project spruiked by Mr Morgan, which saw his mentor Dr Enersto Sirolli pocketing \$350,000 of the \$1 million outlaid, has not created any substantive number of jobs.

Mr Morgan has boasted that "I believe I have as an adviser delivered within this government."

The fact is that Mr Morgan did not deliver one sustainable job.

Mr Morgan has staked his reputation on the Sirolli program and it has failed.

The choice is clear either the Sirolli program doesn't work or Mr Morgan failed in its implementation.

Now Mr Morgan is promoting the same tired clichés of his mentor that "entrepreneurship is not an individual game, it is a team sport" which haven't delivered one job.

The people of Braddon should not be gulled by clichés – they don't deliver the jobs as the failed Sirolli project, promoted by Mr Morgan, proves.

These fanciful plans of Mr Morgan and PUP have the same empty value of those Sirolli ideas pushed by Mr Morgan.

Clichés and nostrums don't create jobs and empty words don't count when you don't have a job.

Tasmanians need more than a cliché driven recovery, but that is all Mr Morgan is proposing.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #44 - Palmer spending millions to buy campaign

13 March 2014

Media reports that Clive Palmer is spending \$1 million of his own money to buy the Tasmanian election should ring alarm bells across the state.

Mr Palmer owns the PUP lock, stock and barrel and he is using his own money to finance the campaign of his PUPpets.

If any of his candidates were to be successful on March 15 they would not be representing the people who voted for them, but rather they would be representing Clive Palmer's interests.

Their first allegiance would be to the person who bankrolled them – in effect they have signed an IOU to Clive Palmer.

Unlike other political parties and candidates who rely on donations from supporters to finance their campaigns the PUP is a fully funded private political business.

If a PUPpet was successful on March 15 they would not be judging legislation on its merits, but rather whether or not it met Mr Palmer's needs.

This is already apparent in the control Mr Palmer exercises over his Senate candidates who will only repeal the carbon tax legislation if it is backdated to when the carbon tax was introduced.

Mr Palmer wants this so he doesn't have to pay his \$8 million carbon tax bill and associated penalties that have accumulated due to him ignoring the law.

Mr Palmer, the master puppeteer, is already pulling the strings of his senators-elect to suit his own business interests and he will do the same with his Tasmanian PUPpets.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #45 - Palmer should apologise for robocalls

13 March 2014

Clive Palmer should immediately apologise for his robocalls to 000 emergency services which Jacqui Lambie has called 'disgusting and inappropriate.'

Dialling '000' for a reason other than an emergency situation can result in up to three years imprisonment.

Mr Palmer should immediately order the calls to cease. Tying up emergency services with robocalls is not acceptable by any standard.

The robocalls made by Mr Palmer's PUP are not only tying up the emergency services they are also being made repeatedly – up to six times in one case – to individuals.

This amounts to harassment and should not be tolerated.

The calls, in some cases reported to the Liberal Party, are of Mr Palmer running a negative commentary on Mr Hodgman.

Ms Lambie said she will "check all of this out right away" but it is in the hands of Mr Palmer to halt the calls immediately.

Mr Palmer is running the state PUP campaign from "Coolum Central" where all of his party's advertising is booked and in some cases now being authorised.

Ultimately there is only one person responsible for this and that is Mr Palmer himself.

He should apologise and order the calls to cease.

Mr Palmer cannot evade responsibility. He cannot pass off the blame to any outside organisation as he has done by blaming news organisations for running his ads which breached Tasmanian electoral laws.

The first order for a political party and its leader is to accept responsibility for their actions, something Mr Palmer seems chronically incapable of doing.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #46 - No curves policy 13 March 2014

Elections often throw up some peculiar policy prescriptions from candidates, but PUP candidate Tim Parish as come up with a very interesting roads policy.

His prescription – all roads should be straight.

And not only should the roads be straight but removing corners would be his big priority.

When interviewed on for the series BassVotes Mr Parish said when asked whether roads were a major infrastructure issue replied:

“In our topography in Tasmania, it's full of hills and whatever, roads, straight roads, removing corners is a big priority.”

Now that would be a costly policy, but it is no worse than the uncosted and unfunded “thought bubble” of an idea to have ferries crisscrossing Bass “Straight” as though it was the English Channel as proposed by Kevin Morgan.

But as Clive Palmer himself said in a release “What is important (in an election) is the promotion of the right ideas and policies” even if those ideas are crackpot and unachievable.

The latest thought bubble for straight roads demonstrates the naivety and inexperience of PUP candidates.

They will say and do anything to win a bit of coverage.

Hang the cost, hang the viability and practicality and hang any responsibility for promoting such nonsense.

The PUP policy approach is “if it sounds good say it.”

It is the mark of neophyte politicians.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #47 - PUP candidate concedes before poll

14 March 2014

Braddon PUP candidate, Kevin Deakin, has virtually conceded the poll with his declaration that he would be prepared to take Jacqui Lambie's Senate position if she loses it after she allegedly authorised PUP ads which appear to be in clear breach of the Electoral Act.

Mr Deakin has thrown in the towel in the electorate where the PUP has its best prospect.

The concession shows that Mr Deakin has little confidence in PUP lead candidate Kevin Morgan's ability to lead his candidates to a victory.

The admission follows a campaign of chaos.

From the outset when Clive Palmer had his risible policy forum and had signage boasting of his plan for Bass "Straight" the PUP has lurched from error to folly to resignation as Mr Deakin's comments reveal.

At the PUP launch Mr Morgan was making sexist comments about Lara Giddings saying she was more interested in her hair than Tasmania.

Mr Palmer at the launch couldn't recall the Premier's name correctly, an error repeated throughout the campaign.

Then followed the advertising fiasco with alleged breaches of electoral law with Jacqui Lambie not even knowing she authorised advertisements.

This was followed by a letter from Clive Palmer where he didn't know the correct spelling of his lead candidate's name – for the record Mr Palmer it is "Kevin" not "Keven."

And to top that the following day in a press ad Mr Palmer couldn't correctly spell the surname of his candidate for Deputy Premier – for the record Mr Palmer it is Barbara "Etter" not "Etta."

Not a wonder Mr Deakin has given up the ghost and is now campaigning to unseat Jacqui Lambie.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #48 - Palmer skirts the law with Coolum ads

13 March 2014

Clive Palmer appears to be skirting electoral laws with TV ads featuring his Coolum Resort that have PUP colours as overlays and mention his name.

With the electronic advertising blackout cutting in at midnight on March 12, Mr Palmer is attempting to send a subliminal message to vote PUP.

The Coolum ads feature bright yellow overlays – PUP colours – and Clive Palmer's name, which given the prominence Mr Palmer has given himself in the campaign with his shouty yellow ads, only reinforces his campaign message.

That this is a deliberate ploy is obvious as the advertisements have only gone to air since the blackout commenced.

Mr Palmer is again showing contempt, if not for the letter of the law certainly for its application.

It is similar to the contempt Mr Palmer has shown the electoral commissioner after being embroiled in alleged breaches of the Tasmanian Electoral Act.

Instead of displaying leadership and accepting responsibility for the actions of his party Mr Palmer's reaction has been to try and ridicule the law and mock the Tasmanian Electoral Commissioner, Julian Type, saying to him "Give yourself an uppercut, mate, because I'm sending another letter."

Mr Palmer has spent more than one million dollars of his own money trying to buy the Tasmanian election with an advertising campaign that features him prominently, despite the fact that he is not standing a candidate.

That perhaps is understandable from a man conceited enough to name a political party after himself.



Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #49 - Allies fighting themselves

14 March 2014

On the final day of the campaign an advertising war has broken out between the Yellow and Green coalition allies.

In the Advocate the Greens have a half page advertisement with a headline:

PUP VOTERS BEWARE

And in a complimentary nod to the Guide to PUP, which has explained the folly of voting for the PUP, it then lists reasons why people shouldn't vote for the Palmer United Party.

It highlights that PUP is owned and controlled by Queensland billionaire Clive Palmer; that he doesn't care about Tasmanian jobs and that he has the final say on Tasmanian policies.

This is ironic because the Yellow PUPs have policies that mirror the Greens.

The PUPs, despite saying Labor and The Greens have locked up 51 percent of the state and have driven away investment and opportunity and destroyed jobs, actually agree with the Greens on two major issues in the election.

Both the Yellow PUPs and the Greens oppose the pulp mill.

Both the Yellow PUPs and the Greens support the job destroying TFA.

A vote for either Party is a vote against investment, jobs and opportunity. Both parties would vote against any legislation to open up the forest industry or that supports the pulp mill.

PUP – they really are yellow on the outside and Green inside.

Only a stable, Liberal majority government can deliver a plan for growth and jobs.



The Real Palmer United Party.

Vanessa Goodwin's guide to PUP candidates #50 - PUP – Fifty shades of yellow

14 March 2014

Over the past several weeks the Palmer United Party has been put under intense scrutiny and has come up wanting.

It is a party consisting of inexperienced neophyte political gypsies under a yellow banner with no cohesive platform or policies.

Under that banner there are fifty shades of yellow. They will promise anybody anything.

Want a fast ferry? Sure. No problems don't worry about how it will be costed or how it will work.

Want straight roads with no curves? Sure. We'll just build tunnels through mountains and don't worry about the cost.

Want a cut to abolish payroll tax? Sure. We can do that. Can't explain how, but we will. Don't worry about that.

Want more doctors, nurses, police and teachers? Sure. Don't know how to pay for them because we have cut state revenue by \$1 billion. But don't worry about that.

Wants some billions of dollars more from the commonwealth? Sure. We'll just redirect all of Australia's \$5 billion in foreign aid to Tasmania. No problems.

And on it goes.

Because the PUP is owned lock, stock and barrel by Clive Palmer and there is no platform the policies of the party are just whims.

The Party has been exposed as wanting on every count – it has a shade of yellow even through to Green for everyone.

Attached is a compendium of releases demonstrating just how unfit the party is to elect even one candidate.



The Real Palmer United Party.

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