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MEDIA RELEASE

NQCC rings alarms over shale oil

The State government's affair with fossil fuels, if it weren't so desperately serious, would be amusing.

As the world rushes to environmental ruin linked to fossil fuel-driven climate change, the sun-rich state of Queensland turns its back on solar energy and, instead, promotes and supports coal, coal seam gas, uranium and now shale oil – one of the dirtiest forms of fuel around.

The pretence is money and jobs – but research has shown that the mining boom has had a negative impact on other sectors in the economy and on the community.

Even ignoring the empirical evidence, just what price will we pay to be even richer? What will future generations think of a generation that was so desperate to become ever more wealthy that it ruined the environment for them.

And it won't of course be just the environment. As everyone basically knows, the other so-called pillars of our economy do not float; they need to be supported by a healthy environment. Because you can have a healthy environment without an economy – but you can't have an economy without a healthy environment.

It is now obvious why the state no longer refers to itself on vehicle rego plates as the smart state. But maybe now is the time to stop calling ourselves the sunshine state.

Queensland – the fossil fuel state; doesn't have a great ring to it does it?

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