



MEDIA RELEASE

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION ON DAYLIGHT SAVING WELCOMED

The Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party welcomes today's announcement by Premier Anna Bligh to instigate community consultation on the issue of Daylight Saving in South East Queensland.

"Today is a good start for the people of Queensland, who after 18 years will begin to be consulted about Daylight Saving, albeit on a small scale at this stage. We see this as just the beginning, and it is certainly our hope that ultimately the Premier supports a Daylight Saving trial and referendum," Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party Leader, Jason Furze, said.

Mr Furze said that MPs had been given just four weeks to canvass opinion on Daylight Saving in their electorates. "Unfortunately, four weeks is not long enough to fully explore the issue or obtain substantial community feedback, but it is better than nothing and we appreciate that the Premier has taken some action and is starting to show leadership on the issue of Daylight Saving", Mr Furze said.

The Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party supports consideration of a dual time zone for Queensland. "In considering a dual time zone for Queensland, it is community consultation and education that is the key", Mr Furze said.

Mr Furze said that it had been over 18 years since the 1992 Queensland Referendum on Daylight Saving, which means the referendum result is outdated and no longer reflective of current population demographics.

Analysis of the 1992 Referendum result highlights a geographic divide, with Daylight Saving mainly favoured in South East Queensland, but generally not supported outside that region. The Queensland Government-commissioned research in 2007 provided a renewed outlook on Daylight Saving that again confirmed this trend, indicating around 70% of constituents in the state's South East support the concept.

Mr Furze said that Daylight Saving is favoured in South East Queensland, not only for the social benefits and lifestyle opportunities it would offer the community, but it is also widely supported by businesses in the region.

"A dual time zone has never been trialled in Queensland, nor voted upon, and it is a compromise that would meet the needs of North, West and South East Queensland", Mr Furze said.

ENDS

**For further information, please contact:
Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party**

**Party Leader/Spokesperson: Jason Furze 0405 357 931
Media Relations: Simon Dell 0407 995 341**

**Email: media@ds4seq.org.au
Website: www.ds4seq.org.au**