



**THE HON JOSH FRYDENBERG MP**  
Minister for the Environment and Energy

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **LABOR’S “ALTERNATIVE FACTS” DON’T STACK UP ACCORDING TO ITSELF**

Labor’s Mark Butler has been caught fudging the facts to suit his own political needs on the most recent blackout in South Australia.

Despite the South Australian Government being the only one with the power to direct the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) during a “power system emergency” Mark Butler tried to lay the blame at the feet of the Federal Government.

*“Why did the federal regulator, who report to this minister, force blackouts on South Australian household and businesses...”* Mark Butler, Question Time, 9 February 2017.

Even Labor’s own Shadow Assistant Minister for Manufacturing and Science Nick Champion knows it is not the Federal Government with the power.

*“... at the moment as I understand it, the Federal Government has no powers to direct the Australian Energy Market to do anything.”* Nick Champion, Sky News, 9 February 2017.

So despite South Australian Premier Jay Weatherill stating at a press conference today that they were in “constant contact with the generators yesterday about capacity and what was going on” it was the Labor State Government that failed to act to ensure the lights stayed on.

And why did the lights go out? Because of Jay Weatherill’s failed experiment of a 50 per cent renewable energy target which saw wind supplying only 2.5 per cent of demand as the wind wasn’t blowing.

It’s time the Labor Party stopped pointing finger and looked at the damage they are causing to energy security and affordability with its 50 per cent renewable energy target.

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