

MEDIA RELEASE FROM ROBIN GRAY

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QUIN CUTS AND RUNS TO AVOID POLL HIDING

Former Tasmanian Liberal Premier Robin Gray says ex-Liberal Lyons candidate Ben Quin had pulled out of the forthcoming federal election to avoid a hiding at the polls.

Mr Gray, the Liberal's biggest ever vote-winner in Lyons, said Mr Quin was so out of step with the mood of the electorate that he faced a massive defeat at the election.

"His claimed opposition to the Bell Bay pulp mill is a convenient excuse as he was on a hiding to nothing at the election," Mr Gray said.

"In a flash of realisation, he saw what was coming and has cut and run before the electorate gave him his marching orders.

"Mr Quin was a poor Liberal candidate. The party now has the opportunity to select someone who can effectively represent the broad views of the electorate as opposed to Mr Quin who only sought to cater to sectional interests bent on destroying Tasmania's forest industry."

Mr Gray said Mr Quin was not a team player and his withdrawal as the party's candidate demonstrated that he did not have the courage or fortitude required to represent the electorate of Lyons.

"He was a candidate with no hope and a person who would have been soundly rejected by the voters of Lyons.

"Now that he has pulled out, I wish him well in his future endeavours, grateful that this will not be in politics."

Mr Gray, who is a director of Gunns Limited, said now that both the State Parliament and the Federal Government and Opposition had supported the Tasmanian pulp mill, it was time for the disaffected obstructionists to also cut and run and allow the pulp mill project to proceed unhindered.

"Bob Brown, Geoffrey Cousins, Graeme Wood and their ilk have done nothing positive for Tasmania and our state would be well-served if they followed Ben Quin into oblivion."

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