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EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE		

My vision is of say the development of twenty half acre lots upon a farming property, serviced to the same level as the existing farm homestead i.e. unsealed road, rainwater storage and or farm dam or underground supply, septic tank, reticulated electricity etc.

The lots to be rented on a bankable lease including some necessary conditions relating to respect for the farming enterprise.

This revenue would be a welcome and regular income for the farmer arising from a limited capital outlay.

The resident would not have the financial burden of purchasing an approximately \$200,000 to \$300,000 building block.

A study of rural media will also indicate the availability of steel kit homes starting at around \$20,000; transportables start at around \$80,000.

All up, a person whose choice is rural employment can then achieve a net disposable income not much different from the mining worker who buys a \$500,000 home.

The further benefit for the rural community is in the children will attend the local schools and utilise the school bus service, the increased revenue of the local doctor etc etc.

Criticism such as the development would become some sort of slum does not add up from my observations of country living.

By removing the reported \$150,000 to \$200,000 of Government charges associated with urban subdivisions, which in terms of headworks need only apply to the electricity supply to the property, which also could be avoided by installing subsidised solar panels. I propose there is a major incentive for local workers to take this option whilst working for wages comparable with the capacity of rural business to pay.

HON WILSON TUCKEY MP MEMBER FOR O'CONNOR

16 March 2010