



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:  
<http://hdl.handle.net/2328/27231>

This is a scan of a document number DUN/Speeches/0441  
in the Dunstan Collection, Special Collections, Flinders University Library.  
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/library/info/collections/special/dunstan/>

**Title:**  
Statement - Chowilla

Please acknowledge the source as:  
Dunstan Collection, Flinders University Library.  
Identifier: DUN/Speeches/0441

© Copyright Estate Donald Allan Dunstan

1 file 441

STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, HON. DON DUNSTAN,  
Q.C., M.P., ~~22nd~~ 23rd APRIL, 1968.

---

The Leader of the State Opposition, Mr. Dunstan, said today that the people of South Australia would have to watch the present Government closely.

Mr. Dunstan was commenting on proceedings in the House of Assembly last week when the Minister for Works, Mr. Coumbe, assured the House that whatever decision was arrived at eventually on Chowilla, it would be in the best interests of South Australia.

"This statement is ambiguous and contrary to statements made at the time of the election," said Mr. Dunstan.

Mr. Dunstan said :- "The L.C.L. made an unequivocal undertaking at the time of the election that they would build Chowilla. They now find it necessary to qualify their ability to achieve Chowilla which they did not mention at the election."

At a public meeting in the Renmark Institute in February, the Premier, Mr. Hall, said the Chowilla Dam stood as No. '1' in L.C.L. priority. Mr. Hall said the L.C.L. initiated the proposal and intended to see it through.

"Now they are balking at the proposal," said Mr. Dunstan.

On another occasion Mr. Hall assured the Renmark Irrigation Trust that the L.C.L. would complete the Chowilla Dam as soon as possible.

"The Premier has refused even to give an assurance that the Labor Government's instructions to our Commissioner would be maintained," said the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Dunstan said: "Mr. Beaney was instructed to vote against any deferment or indefinite postponement of work on the Chowilla Dam, or postponing the Dam 'till after other major works and undertakings on the River Murray.

"The discussions which Mr. Hall had with the Minister of National Development last month produced a very different attitude from the unequivocal assurance that come what may, he would build Chowilla Dam", said Mr. Dunstan.

---