

Adani mine a disaster that is best avoided

Voters in Jackie Trad's electorate are a diverse bunch and most of us, including myself, are a long way from being hipsters, as your editorial "Palaszczuk hedges her Adani bet" (November 7) described us.

In most other places around the world, regardless of whether one is a hipster, mortgage belter, greenie, union member or conservative, people would agree that the most stupid thing any government could do would be to financially support a coal mega-mine that will without doubt go bust in a few years due to both India's lack of demand for coal and future action on climate change. Regardless of the motives, the decision to drop support for Adani's coal mine is the right one.

Joe Hallenstein AFR 9 Nov 17
Highgate Hill, Qld p 41

* Let them eat statistics

Jacob Greber and other economists ("Inflation to stay lower for longer", November 7) are concerned that the recent changes introduced by statisticians to the composition of the CPI, intended to overcome the distressing tendency of the public to buy cheaper stuff, will discombobulate the Reserve Bank of Australia as it strives to raise the CPI to its target band.

They should instead, spare a thought

for the great unwashed as they, the unwashed, attempt to overcome the effects of their declining purchasing power by buying porridge instead of designer muesli for breakfast. In particular, pushing the CPI numbers ever lower forces those on fixed incomes to buy even less of what they can no longer afford. Where does it end?

No wonder Brexit-style disaffection is rampant and One Nation supporters are multiplying – another whirlwind for our political masters to reap!

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Turnbull much talk, precious little result

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull never quite seems to grasp the nettle. He talks the walk, which got him the job, but he does not appear to walk the talk.

His rhetoric on tax reform was promising but led to nothing, structural reform is on the back burner, and there is his puzzling reluctance over the New Zealand refugee offer.

Then there is the drawn-out saga of the citizenship issue, which needed a politically effective and practical approach some time ago.

If he were to curb his tendency to be