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SENATOR THE HON. ERIC ABETZ

*Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
Shadow Minister for Employment & Workplace Relations
Liberal Senator for Tasmania*

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Brown Should Apologise

“The Australian Greens Leader Senator Bob Brown needs to apologise for his insensitive foray into the Queensland flood disaster,” Coalition Senate Leader Eric Abetz said today.

“While silly and insensitive comments by Senator Brown have become his hallmark, his timing in this period of National mourning and uncertainty as to the death toll, shows a public figure at his very lowest.”

“Senator Brown’s comments expose the Greens and his leadership as shallow and cynical – willing to peddle political propaganda in the face of a natural disaster,” Senator Abetz said.

“Australia is a country of hugely varying climate extremes, from drought to flood in no time. It has always been thus.”

“To imply climate change is responsible for flooding is to deny the World’s history from Noah and beyond.”

“To suggest Australia’s coal mining sector is to blame whilst ignoring the rest of the World’s coal mining sector exposes the utter stupidity of Senator Brown’s comments,” Senator Abetz said.

“Climate scientists have warned politicians time and time again that individual extreme weather occurrences cannot be blamed on climate change.”

“Senator Brown has neither science nor common decency on his side and he should apologise rather than compound his complete lack of sensitivity.”

“Now is the time for grieving and compassion and rebuilding, not for scoring cheap political points,” Senator Abetz said.