Spin muddying Reef debate

THE Far North, and indeed Australia, is crying out for a political party to stand up to misguided militant environmentalism, and stop funding professional naysayers.

If you make billions of dollars available for scientists and activists to find evidence of man-made global warming, a dying Great Barrier Reef, and overfishing, they will definitely find it – or at least give a very compelling impression that they’ve found it.

Helped by some media that accepts the breathless claims made in slick press releases, the message that humans are bad and our Earth is imminently doomed grows legs.

Politicians, keen to ride the wave of hysteria and be seen to be concerned, hardworking Nature Warriors, then start writing cheques.

The Reef is subject to $460 million in federal funding, plus $1 billion in low-cost federal loans for initiatives to improve water quality.

Our State Government has pledged $275 million over five years for similar initiatives, nearly $100 million of which is for research and monitoring (that’s where the scientists come in).

The Reef off Far North Queensland has been in the spotlight this week with Sydney radio celebrity Jones this week, there appears to be growing community rejection of the shrill insistence by foreign-funded green groups that we’re all environmental vandals.

Unfortunately, these groups have infiltrated our schools and have resorted to indoctrinating kids.

You ask any kid what they think about the environment and they’ll dutifully recite what their textbooks and teachers are telling them about evil humans killing the planet.

It’s disgraceful and, worse still, it’s enabled by governments who blindly accept the loudest argument and chase warm and fuzzy votes.

Hats off to Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk for defying the greenies and prioritising approval of the Adani coal mine in Central Queensland.

She’ll need luck though because the project has been held up in court action after court action, much of which has been funded by American anti-mining groups.

These same groups are right now moving to pressure Palaszczuk and make her appear like a renegade who doesn’t care about the Reef.

Luckily, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull is looking at passing laws to make it much harder for such court actions to proceed in the future.