




Speech By
Hon. Scott Stewart

MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE

Record of Proceedings, 30 November 2021

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Curragh Mine, Death

 **Hon. SJ STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (Minister for Resources) (10.00 am): On Sunday, 21 November I was advised of a serious accident at Coronado's Curragh mine near Blackwater. Tragically, Mr Clark Peardon, a mineworker, passed away after being struck by a dragline propel shoe. I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences and those, I am sure, of everyone in this House to the family, friends and colleagues of Mr Peardon, as well as to his comrades at the Blackwater miners' union lodge where he was vice-president.

I would like to recognise the professionalism of the first responders from the Curragh mine, the Queensland Ambulance Service, the Queensland Police Service, industry safety and health representatives and the Queensland Mines Inspectorate who attended the site in the early hours of Sunday morning. The Queensland Mines Inspectorate has commenced its statutory investigation into the nature and cause of the incident. The impact tragedies have on our tight-knit regional communities cannot be understated. These communities must be and are at the forefront of our minds when it comes to mine safety. Any loss of life on a Queensland mine site is completely unacceptable.

I call upon the mining industry to take the lead in bringing change to ensure the safety of our workers and to invest real effort in protecting them from hazards, wherever they may arise at any time of day. Every worker must be confident of their safety on the job and of their ability to speak up about safety. The mining industry must continue to take positive steps to give workers that confidence. I will continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with all resource workers to stop tragic incidents like this from occurring as any loss of life on a Queensland mine site is unacceptable.