




Speech By
Hon. Scott Stewart

MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Queensland Floods, Resources Industries Support

 **Hon. SJ STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (Minister for Resources) (10.25 am): Top o' the mornin' to you, Mr Speaker! Like all of us, workers from across Queensland's resources sector have felt the pain of the recent floods. The sector has responded to calls for help and is pitching in to help Queenslanders recover from this disaster.

Glencore will be donating \$2 million to the Salvation Army Flood Appeal, assisting recovery efforts in Queensland and in New South Wales alike. That donation alone already makes up one-fifth of the Salvos' target of \$10 million to help Aussies who have been hit hard by flooding to get back on their feet.

The BHP Foundation is also donating \$2 million to support emergency relief efforts, as announced by the Premier last week. Rio Tinto is putting forward \$1.5 million—\$750,000 of this will go to the Red Cross floods appeal, \$500,000 will support disaster-affected small and local businesses and \$250,000 will buy essential items for flood victims. It does not stop there. Rio Tinto will also match employee donations dollar for dollar.

Anglo American has donated \$1 million, split evenly between the Queensland SES and the Red Cross appeal. Meanwhile, Shell will be donating \$750,000 to the Red Cross. But wait—there's more!

South32 is putting forward \$500,000—split evenly between the Red Cross and Salvation Army appeals. Santos has committed \$250,000 to flood recovery efforts. Newcrest Mining is donating \$150,000 to the Red Cross appeal and will match a further \$100,000 in employee donations. Origin Energy has put \$100,000 towards supporting flood-affected small businesses, while Senex has committed \$30,000—including \$10,000 from its own generous employees—and Denison Gas has contributed \$20,000.

There have been more than just cash donations too. There have also been resources sector workers donating their time. Employees from Theiss rolled up their sleeves, creating their own mud army to clean up homes in Ipswich and to cook hot meals for residents. There are more and more resources companies donating each and every day—so many in fact that I have to apologise if I have missed any.

The measures taken by these companies show their commitment to helping out those in need. It embodies the Queensland spirit, and I thank them for it. It is times like these when everyone comes together to help each other. It happened during the devastating floods in Townsville. The members for Thuringowa and Mundingburra will know that for sure.

Three years later, it is amazing to see support coming from the entire Queensland community once again, including our resources sector—a sector that is creating jobs and contributing royalties that help build and, in light of the floods, rebuild Queensland's infrastructure. As we emerge from COVID-19 and the floods, the resources industry will be a vital pillar of the Palaszczuk government's plan for economic recovery. I am always proud of the resources industry, but today my chest is a little more pumped up.