



Speech By  
**Hon. Scott Stewart**


**MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE**

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Record of Proceedings, 29 March 2022

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Moranbah North Coalmine, Death**

 **Hon. SJ STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (Minister for Resources) (10.08 am): I rise today with the sad duty of informing the House that on Friday night Mr Gavin Feltwell, a worker at Anglo American's Moranbah North underground coalmine, was fatally injured while at work. On behalf of the Palaszczuk government, I would like to extend my sincere condolences to the family, the friends and the colleagues of Mr Feltwell.

Every worker—every worker—should expect to come home safe to their families after every shift. It is devastating for Mr Feltwell that this was not the case on Friday evening. All mining operations at Moranbah North have been suspended and officers from the Queensland Mines Inspectorate have been on site since Saturday morning investigating the nature and cause of the accident. Resources Safety & Health Queensland has published a safety alert regarding this incident and I am advised that further detail and recommendations to industry will follow.

This is the third time I have stood in this House to offer my sympathy to those who have lost loved ones on a mine site. That is three times too many. I must say that my sadness is compounded with frustration—frustration that not all resource sector workers are going home safe to their families at the end of their shift. Let me be clear: this is unacceptable. In 2021 a statewide safety reset took place across the resources sector with a theme of chronic unease—in other words, not using a set and forget mentality, not becoming complacent.

Today I urge every company in the sector to go back to that work and reconsider their position. How uneasy are they about their safety culture? What more can they do to stop these occurrences from happening? We are committed to protecting our workers and as minister I am determined to do everything that can be done to eliminate serious harms in resources workplaces. This work will not stop. Once again, I am sure that I can speak for every member in this House in passing on our condolences to the family, friends and co-workers of Mr Feltwell.

**Honourable members:** Hear, hear.