




Speech By
Hon. Scott Stewart

MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE

Record of Proceedings, 24 June 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Resources Industry Development Plan

 **Hon. SJ STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (Minister for Resources) (9.54 am): As the Minister for Resources, nothing is more satisfying than seeing our resources sector and our workers thrive. At the last election we promised to deliver a Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan, and that is what we have delivered. This is our 30-year vision for the Queensland resources industry as a resilient, responsible and sustainable sector that grows as it transforms. I would like to thank the former director-general of resources, Mr Mike Kaiser, and his team for their outstanding work. They worked exceptionally hard to put this together, let me tell you.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order, members! Are you going to table that document?

Mr STEWART: Absolutely. You bet I will, Mr Speaker.

Tabled paper: Queensland Government report titled 'Queensland resources industry development plan, June 2022' [944](#).

As we examine these trends, our 30-year plan will ensure that government, industry and communities continue to build on our traditional strengths and act with agility to seize opportunities well into the future. Our Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan—or QRIDP—sets out 43 initiatives to diversify the industry, strengthen our ESG credentials, foster coexistence, ensure strong and genuine First Nations partnerships, build a safe and resilient workforce and improve our regulatory efficiency.

We know that global trends are shifting, particularly towards electrification, and low-carbon technologies will create a high demand for the new economy minerals that we have right here in Queensland. We will capitalise on this demand by ramping up our exploration for, and production of, these resources. The Palaszczuk government's 2022-23 budget invests more than \$68 million across government agencies to implement our 30-year vision for Queensland's resources. This budget will transform our new economy minerals sector into a long-term mine-to-manufacturer mega industry that will create good, solid jobs for Queenslanders.

Specifically, we are injecting \$40 million into the discovery, development and manufacturing of the minerals needed for renewable and advanced technologies. This includes an additional \$17.5 million over four years for exploration, particularly for those new economy minerals. That is a total investment of \$22.6 million over five years to find future mines to produce the minerals and metals the world is desperately searching for.

Coexistence is an essential part of that resource plan and it is a key part of where we are heading. I know there has been significant community interest in two proposals for gas exploration in the Scenic Rim. I can inform the House that Arrow Energy has formally withdrawn their application to renew exploration permits ATP 641 and 644 in the Scenic Rim. My department has accepted these withdrawal applications, which means these exploration permits no longer exist. I would like to place on record my

thanks to all those who engaged with me in a respectful manner in relation to this matter, including: Arrow Energy, the mayor of Scenic Rim Regional Council, Greg Christensen, and the state member for Scenic Rim.

The resource sector, although it is incredibly important to this state through the royalties it generates, is helping to fund our hospitals, our health workers, our schools and our police. It is the Palaszczuk government's budget that is investing in a diversified and resilient resource industry, creating good, secure Queensland jobs now and into the future.