




Speech By
Hon. Scott Stewart

MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE

Record of Proceedings, 21 February 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Dugald River Mine, Deaths

 **Hon. SJ STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (Minister for Resources) (10.13 am): Every Queenslanders deserves to come home safe from work. It is with a heavy heart that I rise today to speak of the devastating incident that occurred at MMG's Dugald River zinc mine last week. I am sure I speak for every member in this House when I extend my sincere condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of Mr Dylan Langridge and Mr Trevor Davis. This tragic loss has deeply impacted not only our resources community but also all of Queensland. I am advised that all mining operations at Dugald River remain suspended and that officers from the Queensland Mines Inspectorate have been onsite since Wednesday of last week. I expect a thorough investigation into the nature and cause of this incident.

I am sad to say that this is not the first time I have had to stand in this House to offer condolences for a tragic loss of life in our mining sector. The frustration I feel is compounded with sadness, knowing that everyone must do better to protect our resource sector workers. I urge every mining company to carefully consider the recommendations of the Transport and Resources Committee's recent report into coalmining safety. I expect all mine operators, whether coal or otherwise, to genuinely reflect on those findings and recommendations and to act. There must be continual commitment to ensure no worker is put in harm's way.

We will continue to work closely with the resources industry and workers' representatives to ensure we are doing everything we can to improve the safety of our workers. The loss of life in any workplace at any time is not acceptable. Families should be able to expect that when their loved ones go to work they will safely return. Once again, I extend my sincere condolences to all those who knew and loved Mr Dylan Langridge and Mr Trevor Davis.