




Speech By
Hon. David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 5 March 2026

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Resources Industries

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.38 am): Our government wants the world to know that Queensland is open for business. Resources are the backbone of many regional communities, providing jobs and skills and vital resources for this state. We want to see the industry strengthened for the next generation with more investment and more opportunity. It is why we are committed to providing investment certainty. That means approvals being given in a timely fashion. If the answer is yes, it has to be clear and quick. If the answer is no, it has to be direct and you have to give reasons for it. It is already paying off. We secured major investment in Queensland coal from Fitzroy Australia that is delivering a thousand jobs, new investment from Eva Copper will open up more jobs for the mighty north-west of the state and we have worked with other levels of government to secure the future of the Mount Isa copper smelter.

Last year we opened a package of exploration areas for tender—a critical step in unlocking future energy supplies. This includes three new gas exploration areas near the Queensland-South Australia border, as well as a 750-kilometre exploration tenement in the Taroom Trough. It presents the potential to open up Australia's first new oil province since the 1970s. We are protecting regional employment, growing the economy and continuing to get projects to market.

In Queensland we are sitting on a treasure trove of critical minerals. During a speech at the National Press Club I was able to reveal to the country that Queensland is home to 51 of the world's most sought after critical minerals. In the coming weeks I will lead a trade delegation to the United States to ensure we capitalise on the next generation opportunity. We want to see the federal government come to help us expand critical mineral processing in Mackay and increase production in key locations following the historic deal that has been struck between Prime Minister Albanese and President Trump. Investment in the common user facility outside Townsville and funding support for the Mount Isa to Townsville rail line can open up untapped opportunities and get product to market faster. Mr Speaker, the member for Cairns, who is not engaged at the moment—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Premier, just stop for a moment. I asked for less chatter in the chamber. I can see three or four members outside their seat engaging in conversation. Take it outside; otherwise, I will start warning you.

Mr CRISAFULLI: One of the projects is north-west of Cairns.

Mr Healy interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Take it outside, member for Cairns, if you want to have a conversation.

Mr CRISAFULLI: It is about being the local member for Cairns; he will have more time for that soon.

Our government will push hard to secure critical minerals investment from the United States of America. Queensland is open for business and we are not going to wait for it to come to us. We are banging down doors across the globe, and if you are ready to invest in Queensland we are ready for you.