

RAGGED HILLS MINE SITE — SAFETY

1257. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Agriculture and Food representing the Minister for Mines and Petroleum:

I refer to photographs ‘Ragged Hills_1830, 1838 and 1840’ of the Ragged Hills mine, Longitude 21.294383 and Latitude 121.145778, at <http://www.robinchapple.com/qdata>, and ask:

- (a) is the Minister concerned at the state of this abandoned mine site;
- (b) if no to (a), why not;
- (c) is the Minister concerned that the site is in dangerous condition with many unbunded and unfenced accesses to the shafts, pit and stopes;
- (d) if yes to , what does the Minister intend to do about the site; and
- (e) what role does Maverick Exploration Pty Ltd have in managing the safety and environment of the Ragged Hills mine site on their tenement E45/2032?

Hon Ken Baston replied:

The Department of Mines and Petroleum advises:

- (a) Yes
- (b) Not applicable
- (c) Yes
- (d) With the establishment of the Mining Rehabilitation Fund Up on 1 July 2013 abandoned sites such as this can begin to be addressed by the State Government. This site will be considered, amongst many others, for rehabilitation using interest raised from the Mining Rehabilitation Fund. Advice on rehabilitation of abandoned mine sites will be provided by the Mining Rehabilitation Fund Advisory Panel (a panel of five experts established under the *Mining Rehabilitation Fund Act 2012*), which will assist the Department of Mines and Petroleum to focus initially on abandoned sites that pose the highest risk.
- (e) Maverick Exploration Pty Ltd has no role. Maverick has applied for an exploration licence (E45/2032), which is still pending.