

MEDIA STATEMENT

27 August 2019

Extremist protestor devices

This is a barrel-locking device with sleeping dragon attachments, used in recent months by extremist protestors to block roads and rail lines to disrupt businesses, workers and community members going about their daily lives.

Protestors locked themselves into this device near the entrance to our port near Bowen by placing the full length of their arms and their hand inside tubing. The tubing is encased in concrete and laced with materials intended to become shrapnel when protestors are cut free, like glass and pieces of steel.

The protestors are able to unlock themselves, however if they refuse, drilling equipment is required to release them.

Even with safety precautions taken, the fragment materials included in the device by extremist protestors make the removal process highly dangerous for police officers and the protestors.

Everyone has the right to voice their opinions, however this is not a safe, peaceful or legal way to do it.

