

COMMUNIQUE

A summary of the
Mining Industry Advisory Committee Meeting on 16 February 2017

1. The Kiel Centre presentation of research findings

Mr Ronny Lardner, registered psychologist from The Kiel Centre, gave a presentation on his research into how human and organisational factors impact on safety culture in the Western Australian mining industry. Research findings identified eleven priority factors affecting safety performance and there is a broad acceptance of their relevance by Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) inspectors and industry.

DMP is developing a five-year plan to raise awareness of human factors and drive improved safety outcomes.

2. Draft code of practice *Ventilation in western Australian Metalliferous Mining Operations*

Feedback from the second round of public comment which ended on 18 January 2017 and a stakeholder information session on 23 January 2017 is now being considered in amending the draft Code.

DMP agreed to provide a response to stakeholders' feedback and will consider other feedback about how the consultation process could be improved.

3. Deloitte Report: *2016 Mines safety Branch Resourcing and Funding Assessment*

An independent assessment of the resourcing and funding of Mines Safety Branch (MSB) was undertaken by Deloitte Consulting in March 2016 to determine if the Branch was appropriately resourced and structurally organised to regulate safety in the mining industry.

Members were supportive of recommendations made in the report, particularly those relating to governance and transparency as well as a review of the Mines Safety Levy regime.

The [Deloitte Report and the Department's response](#) are available on the DMP website.

4. Baseline results for psychosocial harm audits

Members noted the DMP report [Baseline results for psychosocial harm audits for mining operations, and petroleum and major hazard facilities](#). The report summarises audit information collected from mining operations and major hazard facilities over a ten month period to October 2016.

The [Psychosocial Harm Audit Tool](#) is available on the DMP website to assist companies take a proactive approach to managing mental health risks in the workplace. The tool will be reviewed by the Mental Health Strategies Working Group (MHSWG), to identify improvements.

Members noted an Inspector of Mines (Mental Health and Wellbeing) will commence with DMP on 20 February 2017.

5. Underground Elevated Work Platforms

On 1 February 2017, the Chamber of Minerals and Energy (CME) held an industry workshop on the safe use of Elevated Work Platforms (EWP) in underground mines. Preliminary feedback from participants indicates there may be gaps in the content and accessibility of guidance material about using EWPs underground.

CME will provide a summary of workshop outcomes for future consideration by the Mining Industry Advisory committee (MIAC).

6. Mental health Strategies Working Group update

- MIAC members endorsed membership changes in the revised Terms of Reference.
- Professor Brian Kelly gave a presentation on the findings of his research into the mental health of mine employees.
- Members will provide feedback on DMP's draft safety bulletin *Suicide Awareness for the Western Australian resources sector*.
- The Working Group is reviewing codes of practice relevant to mental health, to identify those to be prioritised for review.
- The Working Group has prepared training program assessment criteria to aid the resources industry to identify suitable mental health training programs.
- The Mental Health Commission is supportive of a central repository for mental health information in principle, but requested further detail before making a decision about whether to host that repository.
- DMP tabled a communications strategy and other members will identify communication tools and good practice case studies to promote to industry.

7. Nano Diesel Particulate Matter Working Group update

A research proposal was submitted to the Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia (MRIWA) on 16 December 2016 so that it could be considered at the MRIWA board meeting in February 2017.

CME has identified potential mine site participants. A detailed briefing by research and development members of the Nano Diesel Particulate Matter Working Group is being arranged for potential participants to identify an appropriate site.

8. Mines Safety Statistics

Members noted the mines safety statistics, including additional serious injury exploration data which members found useful. It was agreed that the data could be communicated to industry.

9. Project Register

Members noted the projects *Safety in design – Collision avoidance* and *Working in isolated areas* have been delayed, and requested progress reports at the next meeting.

10. Sharing Safety Lessons Learned

CME is planning its next forum and will be using DMP's Hazard Register to identify topics for discussion.

11. Next meeting: 20 April 2017

For further information on the Mining Industry Advisory Committee, please email RSDCommittees@dmp.wa.gov.au.

Simon Ridge

Chair