

Mining Industry Advisory Committee

COMMUNIQUE

A summary of the 9 October 2019
Mining Industry Advisory Committee (MIAC) meeting

1. Risk-based training for statutory appointees

Dr Marcus Cattani gave his presentation titled “Risk management for the resources sector: training and guidance for the next generation. The Mining Industry Advisory Committee is broadly supportive of the risk-based training advised by Dr Marcus Cattani in his presentation but questions remained to be answered during the formative stages of the course development.

2. Nano diesel particulate matter working group (nDPM WG)

MIAC members were provided with advice of the draft recommendations from the nDPM WG consultation. The recommendations were as follows:

- 1) That MIAC recommends to the Minister as provided for under Regulation 9.2 to use his authority to adopt $100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ as the effective *exposure standard* to be applied for an 8-hour working day in Western Australian mining operations. For exposure periods longer than 8 hours, the exposure standard is to be adjusted in accordance with the DMIRS Guidance ‘Adjustment of atmospheric contaminant exposure standards (March 2019)
- 2) Re-implement the health surveillance regulations previously found in Division 4 of Part 3 of the Mines Safety and Inspection regulations, and were repealed in January 2013.
- 3) Development of a Code of Practice on Underground Mine Ventilation, and in particular management of atmospheric contaminants (including nDPM) be expedited.
- 4) DMIRS and Industry should jointly fund research into the occurrence and behaviour of NO. Research is to include the evaluation of instrumentation for the instantaneous measurement of NO and NO₂ (as opposed to the widely used NO_x instruments in common use)
- 5) Industry should be encouraged to conduct (or continue) campaigns of real-time monitoring of Elemental Carbon (EC) and particle count in underground mining operations.
- 6) The Mines Safety Directorate to conduct targeted inspections of underground mining operations that have not submitted Health and Hygiene Management Plans, and have not submitted sufficient EC sampling results to be able to effectively identify the level of exposure of their workers.

MIAC members requested draft recommendation 1 be amended by including amended exposure standards where shift lengths of longer than 8 hours were being worked. Members are to consider the draft recommendations and provide feedback at December MIAC meeting.

3. Prioritising Codes of Practice (CoPs)

MIAC members were provided with information on prioritising CoPs for the WA mining industry. Members requested an order for the CoPs to be reviewed. It was noted that non-mining CoPs were being reviewed by the Commission's Legislative Advisory Committee.

4. Hearing test – Proposed Safety Bulletin

MIAC members were provided with a proposed draft Mines Safety Bulletin: Managing noise induced hearing loss (NIHL) and baseline audiometric testing in the Western Australian mining industry.

5. Significant incident reports

The Chair noted one Significant Incident Report (SIR) and one Mining Safety Bulletin (MSB), which had been issued by DMIRS since the previous meeting. These included:

- [SIR No. 277: Haul truck over open pit wall edge - fatal accident](#) - 540 Kb
- [MSB No. 166: Buried electrical cables and ground excavation permit procedures](#) - 94 Kb

6. Mines Safety statistics

MIAC members were provided with mines safety statistics, and examples of recent notifiable incidents.

7. Towards 2020 Commitments

The Chair spoke to a presentation that detailed the work that Mines Safety Directorate is doing to progress the *Towards 2020* commitments. The DMIRS activities for Safe Work Month October under the theme "Building safe and healthy workplaces" were promoted, including the inaugural Work Health and Safety Excellence Awards.

8. Next meeting: 11 December 2019

For further information on the Mining Industry Advisory Committee, please refer to the MIAC page on the DMIRS website: www.dmp.wa.gov.au/Safety/What-is-the-Mining-Industry-8578.aspx.

Andrew Chaplyn – Chair