TOWARDS 2020
Regulatory strategy for Resources Safety

Our commitments
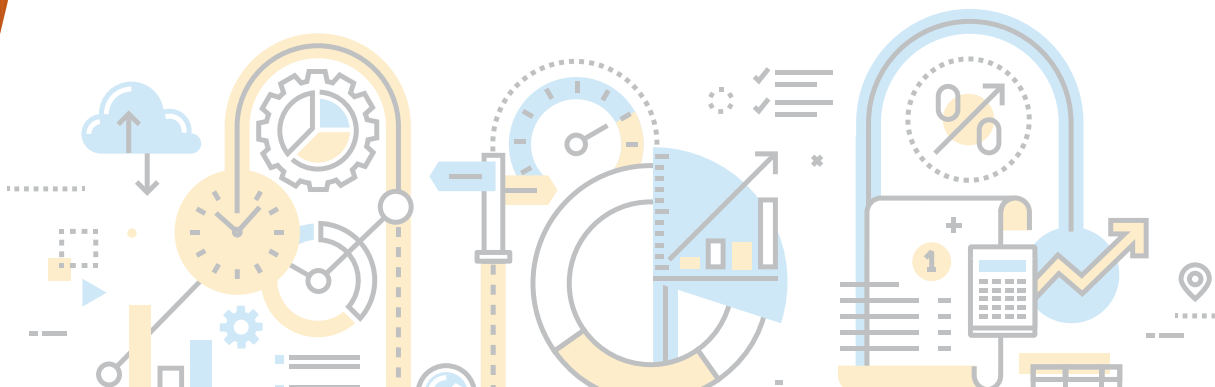
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Introduction

Overview

Towards 2020 is the Department of Mines and Petroleum's vision for a safe and healthy resources sector. It provides an evolving snapshot of the Resources Safety Division's high-level strategies and priorities.

This strategy builds on existing commitments made to work with industry to help reduce the number and severity of serious accidents and incidents, and provide tangible support in achieving a positive cultural change, under the 2009 Reform and Development at Resources Safety (RADARS) strategy.

Towards 2020 helps to ensure Resources Safety's focus is clear, consistent and transparent.

Our goals

The vision of *a safe and healthy resources sector* is supported by three key goals:

- world-leading regulation
- smarter systems
- well-informed industry

Each goal is built on core elements that work together to achieve the overarching goal, and ultimately the Department's *Towards 2020 vision*.

Our commitments

The purpose of this document is to give stakeholders a clear understanding of Resources Safety's regulatory focus, going beyond the day-to-day activities.

Towards 2020 commitments details the goals, focus areas and measures of success for safety and health initiatives undertaken by the regulator.

Progress on these commitments will be reported annually. Examples of progress reporting include online news items, *Resources Safety Matters* articles, publications, web pages or case studies.

Completed commitments will be archived and available to industry online.

The reports made on commitment progress can be used as a way to assess the Division's performance and effectiveness as a regulator.

This will help Resources Safety effectively engage with its stakeholders to collect and share safety information, and help identify emerging safety trends and how they can be addressed.

Understanding the commitments table

For ease of reading, each commitment has been displayed on a separate page. The relevant industry sectors that are addressed in the commitment are displayed at the top of the table.

- **Focus area** - Ultimate outcome/s sought by the regulator
- **Drivers** - Justification for the focus area, which may include accident and injury data, legislative or compliance requirement or an emerging industry area of interest
- **Activities** - Initiatives being undertaken by the regulator
- **Measures** - Outputs and outcomes expected by the regulator related to specific activities
- **Timing** - Anticipated completion date of measures
- **Goals** - Icons representing the goals being addressed

Working together

Consultation with industry will play an important role in the ongoing development of the strategy, and will help foster a shared safety vision and how it can be achieved. This will be done through organised forums, safety alerts, social media, web updates, information sessions, workshops and formal feedback channels.

Modernised legislation

Sector:	Mining, petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs), geothermal energy					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**		**Goals**
Modernised, consolidated legislation covering mining, petroleum, MHF and geothermal energy	• National reform processes • Desire for risk-based legislation that caters for industry diversity and innovation • Identified need to streamline safety legislation for mining, petroleum and MHFs, while recognising sector-specific requirements	Develop and implement *Work Health and Safety (Resources and Major Hazards) Bill* and regulations	Legislation implemented	TBA – awaiting government decision on legislation reforms		
		Develop supporting codes of practice, guidance and tools in consultation with stakeholders	Supporting guidance released	Dependent on legislation reform schedule		

Safety regulation system (SRS) enhancements

Sector: Mining, petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs), geothermal energy					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Fully integrated online systems that streamline administration and regulatory functions	• Legacy systems no longer met all business needs • Better information management required for data collection and analysis to drive evidence-based decision making, and track trends and progress • Need for improved regulatory processes and efficiencies	Develop SRS functionality to facilitate: • notifications • submissions • approvals • reporting • compliance assessment • data analysis information sharing	SRS modules released	Progressive releases to December 2020	
			Improved approval and transaction times	Six months after relevant module released	
			Industry compliance actions better managed	Six months after relevant module released	
			Business intelligence reporting drives decision making	Six months after relevant module released	

Human and organisational factors

Sector: Mining, petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs), geothermal energy					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Routine application of human and organisational factors principles to safety and health management	• Decreasing rates of improvement for some safety and health performance measures • Need to change focus to human and organisational factors to achieve next step-change	Develop and implement five year plan to embed human and organisational factors into safety and health management in the resources sector	Five year plan released	December 2017	
			Human and organisational factors principles embedded in safety and health management systems	December 2020	
		Human and organisational factors industry forum held in Perth and Karratha	Post-forum surveys indicate increased understanding of human and organisational factors	December 2017	
		Develop human and organisational factors expertise within Resources Safety inspectorates	Human and organisational factors expertise developed within inspectorate	December 2018	

Mental health and wellbeing

Sector: Mining, petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs), geothermal energy					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved workplace mental health and wellbeing in the resources sector	• Concerns about mental health and wellbeing in the resources sector • Parliamentary inquiry into mental health impacts of fly-in fly-out (FIFO) work	Mental Health Commission (MHC) FIFO Mental Health Research findings used to inform mental health strategies	Mental health strategies incorporate research findings	December 2020	
		Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guides and tools released and publicised	December 2018	
		Promote 'one-stop shop' for mental health and wellbeing resources and information	Data trends indicate improved management of workplace mental health and wellbeing over time	December 2020	
		Include legislative and industry reporting changes as part of the proposed Work Health and Safety reforms	Legislation and industry reporting	TBA – awaiting government decision on legislation reforms	
		Develop resources industry mental health training program assessment criteria	Training program assessment criteria released	July 2018	
		Raise awareness of workplace mental health and wellbeing through targeted promotional activities, including audit campaigns and involvement in industry exhibitions and forums.	Data trends indicate improved management of workplace mental health and wellbeing over time	December 2020	

Risk-based resourcing

Sector: Mining					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Appropriate targeting of compliance and enforcement efforts (right resource, right place, right time)	Need to assign resources effciently, using a risk-based approach	Develop and implement the Assigned Resources Based on Risk (ARBOR) initiative	All proactive inspections based on risk profiles	July 2018	
			Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in incidents and injuries over time	June 2020	

Nano diesel particulate matter

Sector: Mining					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Increased understanding and control of health impacts of diesel particulate matter (DPM), particularly nano diesel particulate matter (nDPM)	Concern about DPM and health implications, particularly nDPM in underground and enclosed workspaces	Raise awareness of the health impacts of DPM and monitor work being done across industry to mitigate the effects	Data trends indicate improved mitigation of DPM exposure over time	December 2020	
		Coordinate and fund research into nDPM behaviour, health impacts and control measures required	nDPM research completed for underground mine(s) and findings released and publicised	December 2018	
			Effective nDPM control measures identified and publicised	July 2019	

Ground control

Sector: Mining					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved ground control management	• Significant incidents • Findings in the *Fatal accidents in the Western Australian mining industry 2000-2012 report* and hazard register tool	Produce and promote ground control code of practice and associated guidelines for surface and underground operations	Ground control code of practice and associated guidelines for surface and underground operations released and publicised	December 2017	
			Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in ground control-related incidents over time	December 2020	

Ventilation management

Sector: Mining					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved ventilation practices and compliance	Concern about non-compliance and adequacy of measures to mitigate exposures to airborne contaminants and heat	Produce and promote ventilation code of practice and associated guideline(s)	Ventilation code of practice and associated guideline(s) released and publicised	March 2018	
			Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in ventilation-related incidents over time	March 2020	

Naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM)

Sector: Mining					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved radiation safety management of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM)	Existing guidelines require review and updating to maintain alignment with national and international safety standards and support risk-based approach to NORM management	Produce and promote NORM code of practice and associated guide	NORM code of practice and associated guide released and publicised	March 2018	
			Data trends indicate improved compliance	March 2020	

Emergency preparedness

Sector: Mining					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved emergency preparedness and safe systems for those working away from readily accessible infrastructure and support services	Existing guidelines require review and updating to support risk-based approach to emergency response and appropriate resourcing	Produce and promote emergency management code of practice and associated guide	Emergency management code of practice and associated guide released and publicised	December 2018	
		Produce and promote working in isolation and remote areas guideline	Working in isolation and remote areas guideline released and publicised	March 2020	
		Develop and promote 'one-stop shop' for emergency preparedness resources and information	Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in related incidents over time	December 2020	

Traffic management

Sector: Mining					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved traffic management practices	• Significant incidents • Findings in the *Fatal accidents in the Western Australian mining industry 2000-2012 report* and hazard register tool	Develop and promote traffic management as theme of 2017 Mine Safety Roadshow	Post-roadshow survey indicates increased awareness of compliance issues	November 2017	
		Produce and promote traffic management hazard awareness videos	Hazard awareness videos released and publicised	November 2017	
		Produce and promote collision management guideline	Collision management guideline released and publicised	June 2018	
		Develop and promote 'one-stop shop' for traffic management resources and information	Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in traffic management-related incidents over time	June 2020	

Storage and handling non-compliance

Sector: Dangerous goods					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved compliance with dangerous goods storage and handling requirements	Number of repeated non-compliances	Raise awareness of top 10 non-compliances through targeted promotional activities, including Consultants Forum	Post-forum survey indicates increased awareness of compliance issues	December 2017	
		Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guides and tools released and publicised	July 2018	
		Design and implement inspections program to assess compliance	Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in storage and handling incidents over time	March 2020	

Dangerous goods rail transport

Sector: Dangerous goods					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Effective regulation of the transportation of dangerous goods by rail as required by the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004*	Concern about compliance monitoring for rail transport of dangerous goods	Baseline analysis of data to determine compliance levels	Industry compliance levels established	July 2017	
		Hold inaugural Rail Safety Forum to communicate regulator's expectations	Post-forum survey indicates industry understand regulator's expectations	October 2017	
		Inspectorate training on the quantities and types of dangerous goods being transported by rail	Inspectorate trained in rail requirements	July 2018	
		Develop and promote guidance material	Guides and tools released and publicised	December 2018	
		Design and implement audit program to assess compliance levels of rail companies	Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in rail-related incidents over time	December 2020	

Approved emergency responders (AERs)

Sector: Dangerous goods					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved effectiveness of AER system for dangerous goods transport	Concern about standard of AER applications and service delivering	Conduct baseline analysis of data to determine compliance levels	Industry compliance levels established	December 2017	
		Hold inaugural AER Forum to communicate regulator's expectations	Post-forum survey indicates industry understand regulator's expectations	July 2018	
		Develop and promote guidance material	Guides and tools released and publicised	December 2018	
		Design and implement audit program to assess AERs	Data trends indicate improved AER compliance and reductions in related incidents over time	December 2020	

Transport and storage of dangerous goods in agricultural sector

Sector: Dangerous goods					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved transport and storage practices for dangerous goods used in agriculture	• Inspectorate concerns about dangerous goods storage and transport practices within the agricultural sector • Concerns expressed by transport industry groups and local communities	Raise awareness of non-compliances through targeted promotional activities, including involvement in regional agricultural field days and industry forums	Post-event surveys indicate increased awareness of compliance issues	July 2017	
		Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guidance and tools released and publicised	December 2018	
		Develop and promote 'one-stop shop' for dangerous goods users in agriculture	Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in related incidents over time	December 2020	
			Reduction in the number of complaints from industry and general public	December 2020	

Chain of responsibility in dangerous goods transport

Sector: Dangerous goods, major hazard facilities (MHFs), mining					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Improved understanding and acceptance of regulatory responsibilities by site operators and managers when contracting dangerous goods transport services	Concerns about operators and management accepting responsibility for dangerous goods and contractor staff when on site	Raise awareness of responsibilities through targeted promotional activities, including forums and involvement in industry events	Post-event surveys indicate increased awareness of responsibilities	December 2018	
		Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guidance and tools released and publicised	December 2018	
		Develop and promote 'one-stop shop' for users of dangerous goods transport services	Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in related incidents over time	December 2020	

Performance standards

Sector: Petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs)					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Increased awareness and application of requirements and expected performance standards for operators	Regulator's expectations not being met for operator performance standard review meetings	Hold Performance Standards Forum for operators to communicate purpose of biannual meeting agenda and regulator's expectations	Post-forum survey indicates increased understanding of regulator's expectations	July 2017	
			Biannual meetings with operators satisfy regulator's documented performance standards	December 2019	

Safety case assessments

Sector: Petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs)					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Raise awareness of requirements and expected standard of safety case submissions of operators	Regulator's expectations not being met for MHF operator for safety case assessments	Raise awareness of non-compliances and describe regulator's expectations through targeted promotional activities, including audit campaigns and involvement in industry exhibitions and forums	Post-activity surveys indicate increased understanding of regulator's expectations	July 2017	
		Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guidance and tools released	December 2019	
		Develop and promote 'one-stop shop' for safety case submission information	Safety case applications satisfy regulator's documented performance standards	December 2019	

Aging asset management

Sector: Petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs)					
Focus area	**Drivers**	**Activity**	**Measures**	**Timing**	**Goals**
Raise awareness of requirements and expected standard for managing aging assets	Operators not meeting regulator's expectations for management of aging assets	Raise awareness of non-compliances through targeted promotional activities, including involvement in regional agricultural field days and industry forums	Management of aging assets satisfy regulator's documented performance standards	December 2017	
		Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Post-activity surveys indicate increased understanding of regulator's expectations	December 2018	
			Guides and tools released	December 2020	

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