

Mining Industry Advisory Committee

COMMUNIQUE

A summary of the 14 August 2019
Mining Industry Advisory Committee meeting

1. Ground control for Western Australian mining operations: code of practice and guideline

The UnionsWA representative congratulated DMIRS on producing the code of practice and guideline. The AMEC representative and CME representative conveyed their members support of the code of practice and guideline.

MIAC members endorsed the code of practice and guideline without amendment.

2. Red Hill fatality update

Investigation into the Red Hill fatality is ongoing. UnionsWA representative stated his understanding of the sensitivities around releasing information, and thanked the Mine Safety Directorate for their thoughtful handling of the situation.

3. Nano DPM WG – Presentation – Research findings and future actions

An overview on the nDPM research and future activities to be undertaken was presented. The scene was set by recapping the fundamentals of nDPM, and presenting the key findings and results of a literature review on research into diesel exhaust emissions and DPM.

A timeline of developments and discussed sampling results submitted by industry and obtained during mine safety inspector visits was provided. Results from the physio-chemical and health studies were also presented and discussed.

4. Commission Strategic Plan

The Commission for Occupational Safety and Health (Commission) has yet to finalise and approve their Strategic Plan. Once this is concluded documents will be circulated to MIAC members.

5. Prioritising Codes of Practice

MIAC members discussed reviewing mining-related Codes of Practice and guidance material in preparation for implementation of the proposed Work Health and Safety (WHS) legislation. Considering the work involved in reviewing material, members concluded that between 2 and 4 documents can be reviewed per year.

More detail on the content of required codes will be compiled, circulated to members and discussed at the next MIAC meeting.

6. Mental Health Strategies Working Group (MHSWG)

The MHSWG Chair provided fellow MIAC members with a progress update of the Group's activities. The final instalment of webpages supporting mentally healthy workplaces will be presented, along with webpage analytics at next meeting.

The next working group meeting will focus on strategy and direction of the working group.

7. Significant incident reports

The Chair noted one Mining Safety Bulletin, No. 165 Safe access to high voltage powerline corridors, which had been issued by DMIRS since the previous meeting.

8. Mines Safety statistics

The Chair presented statistical graphs prepared by DMIRS. These graphs indicate trends in the number of notifiable incidents reported, lost time injury frequency rate, fatal incidence rate since 2008-09, number of site visits by inspectors and improvement/prohibition notices issued.

Members requested that additional information on worker numbers and commodities are included in future statistics.

9. Towards 2020 Commitments

SRS enhancements were discussed. An exemptions module will be included shortly.

10. Next meeting: 9 October 2019

For further information on the Mining Industry Advisory Committee, please refer to the MIAC page on the DMIRS website:

<http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/Safety/What-is-the-Mining-Industry-8578.aspx>.

Andrew Chaplyn – Chair