

## Mining Industry Advisory Committee

### COMMUNIQUE

A summary of the  
Mining Industry Advisory Committee meeting on 15 June 2017

#### 1. Naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) code of practice and guide – update

Members noted the Department is drafting the *Managing naturally occurring radioactive material in mining and mineral processing* code of practice and guide. Following consultation, the code and guide should be released in March 2018.

#### 2. Coal Workers Pneumoconiosis (CWP) / ‘Black Lung Disease’

In view of recent CWP cases detected in Queensland and a confirmed case of mixed dust pneumoconiosis (MDP) in NSW, as well as the findings of a CWP inquiry in Queensland, the Department is currently reviewing its historical data on worker exposure to atmospheric contaminants, using the CONTAM database.

The Department presented a preliminary analysis of the data and a final report will be published once the data analysis is complete.

#### 3. Prioritisation of codes of practice and guidelines for review

Members noted the Chamber of Minerals and Energy (CME) guidance material mapping document, which will assist MIAC and the Department in prioritising guidance material for review or to produce new guidance. The tool links current or in-development guidance material with hazards relevant to the WA mining industry, considering the Department’s fatalities and serious injuries data.

#### 4. Guideline on Recommended Practices for Battery Electric Vehicles in Underground Mining

Members noted the guideline released by Global Mining Standards and Guidelines (GMSG) Group Canada on [Recommended Practices for Battery Electric Vehicles in Underground Mining](#).

#### 5. Cancer incidence in the WA mining industry

Members noted the article [Cancer incidence in the Western Australian mining industry \(1996-2013\)](#) published by Cancer Epidemiology.

#### 6. Work Health and Safety legislation reforms

With the creation of the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety from 1 July 2017, Minister Johnston has asked WorkSafe and Resources Safety to work together on options for progressing the health and safety legislation applicable to the general industry and the resources industry.

#### 7. Mental Health Strategies Working Group

Members noted the report from the Chair of the Mental Health Strategies Working Group (MHSWG). Minister Johnston has provided further clarification on the proposed FIFO

Code of Practice. The Working Group will prepare a paper on the proposed code at its next meeting, for subsequent endorsement by MIAC, COSH and the Minister.

## **8. Nano Diesel Particulate Matter Working Group**

Members noted the report from the Chair of the Nano Diesel Particulate Matter Working Group. Further meetings have occurred between the research team and interested mining companies.

## **9. Significant incident report**

Members noted Significant Incident Report No. *252 Fitter struck in chest by packing plate released under pressure.*

## **10. Mines Safety statistics**

Members noted the mines safety statistics included in the agenda papers.

## **11. Project register**

Members noted the updated Mine Safety Projects Register.

*Working in isolated areas:* Guidance will be developed as a webpage, rather than a guideline, to be published on the Department's website by 30 September 2017.

*Ventilation management:* The Department is incorporating feedback into the proposed code of practice. Industry members requested the Department consider including references to legislation and standards as footnotes on each page.

*Safety and health representatives (SHREPs):* The Department trialled a Safety and health representatives (SHREPs) audit and feedback is being considered. An SRS SHREPs module, including notification of elections, will be implemented by the end of 2017.

## **12. Correspondence**

No correspondence for the Mining Industry Advisory Committee during this period.

## **13. Other business**

### **Formation of Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety**

The Department of Mines and Petroleum and parts of the Department of Commerce will be amalgamating to form the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety from 1 July 2017. This will regulate the resources and general industries, including safety.

### **Mines Safety and Inspection Levy**

Members discussed the Mines Safety and Inspection Levy. At the next meeting, the Department will provide an update on implementing recommendations from the Deloitte Consulting report *2016 Mines Safety Branch resourcing and funding independent assessment report.*

## **14. Next MIAC meeting: 17 August 2017**

For further information on the Mining Industry Advisory Committee, please email [RSDCommittees@dmp.wa.gov.au](mailto:RSDCommittees@dmp.wa.gov.au)

Simon Ridge

Chair