

Mining Industry Advisory Committee

COMMUNIQUE

A summary of the
Mining Industry Advisory Committee meeting on 7 December 2017

1. Ministerial visit and member discussion

The Hon Bill Johnston MLA; Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Commerce and Industrial Relations; Electoral Affairs; Asian Engagement and the Minister's Principal Policy Adviser met with members.

The Minister informed members of the progress of a number of matters within the Mining and Resources portfolio, including the harmonised legislation being developed as part of the McGowan Government's work health and safety legislative reform program.

Members and the Minister discussed the draft FIFO code of practice on mental health in the resources and construction sectors that MIAC is developing and issues relating to the timeframe for its implementation.

2. Presentation: Arc Flash Hazard Management

Members received a presentation on arc flash hazards in mining and the strategies that mining operations may implement to improve the safety of workers.

3. Mines Safety and Inspection Levy

Members noted material provided to inform MIAC about consultation being conducted to improve Mines Safety and Inspection Levy transparency, guidance material, governance and auditing.

4. Emergency Management Code of Practice

The Emergency Management Code of Practice was submitted to MIAC and it was considered by members.

MIAC endorsed the *Code of practice for emergency preparedness for mines in Western Australia*, noting the views of the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies that it includes elements which could be considered common sense and that is potentially duplicative of the existing legislation.

5. Work Health and Safety legislation reforms

The Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Panel (MAP) on Work Health and Safety (WHS) Reform was an apology for this meeting. MAP member Ms LaBombard provided an update on the progress of the proposed Work Health and Safety Bill and the proposed regulations.

6. Mental Health Strategies Working Group (MHSWG)

Members were advised the MHSWG had met during November and December where Working Group members reviewed updated versions of the draft FIFO code of practice.

Members discussed various internal stakeholder consultation issues raised involving the process of drafting the FIFO code of practice.

Members also considered the work required to finalise the draft FIFO code of practice in view of recent developments and the Minister's earlier comments regarding timeframes.

7. Nano Diesel Particulate Matter Working Group

Members were informed of the progress of the data analysis phase of the research project based on recent information provided to Safety Regulation Group.

Members noted information provided by the Chair of the MHSWG regarding the Minerals Council of Australia's national level working group aimed at addressing respiratory dust, nDPM, and similar workplace-related hazards.

Members also noted the recent release by the Safety Regulation Group of guidance material on Hygiene Management Plans and the advice of communication sent to mining operators regarding monitoring in gold rooms.

8. Significant incident report

Members discussed the information that was presented in relation to Significant Incident Report Numbers 255 and 256.

9. Mines Safety statistics

Members noted the mines safety statistics included in the agenda papers and discussed the layout and format reports that are being currently being presented to MIAC. Members requested the Safety Regulation Group investigate alternative options for presenting this information with a view to changes being made.

10. Next meeting: 15 February 2018

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

Simon Ridge – Chair