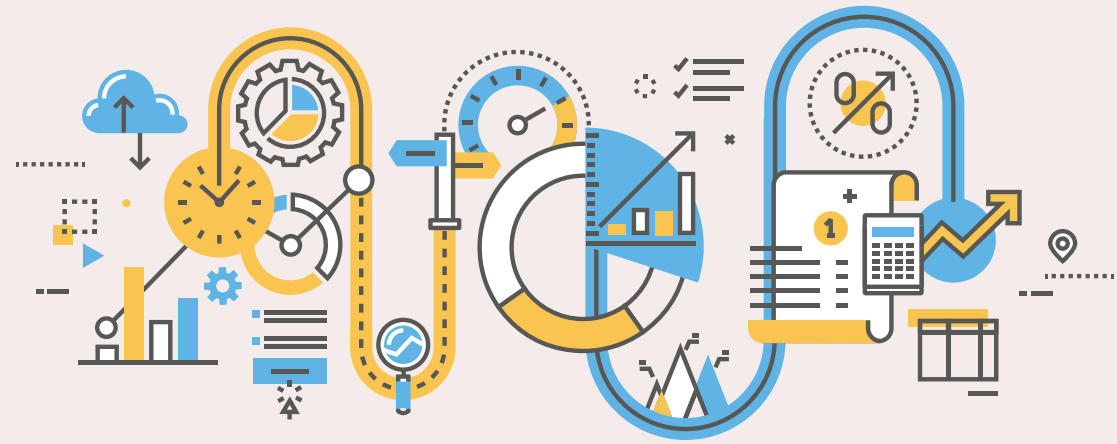




Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety**



Towards 2020

Regulatory strategy for a safe and healthy resources sector



Our commitments

as at December 2017



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Introduction

Overview

Towards 2020 describes the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety's vision for a safe and healthy resources sector. It provides an evolving snapshot of the safety regulator's high-level strategies and priorities over a three-year period.

This strategy builds on existing commitments 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 the safety regulator's focus for the resources sector 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 key initiatives and programs going beyond the day-to-day activities.

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

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

Completed commitments are 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 helps the regulator 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

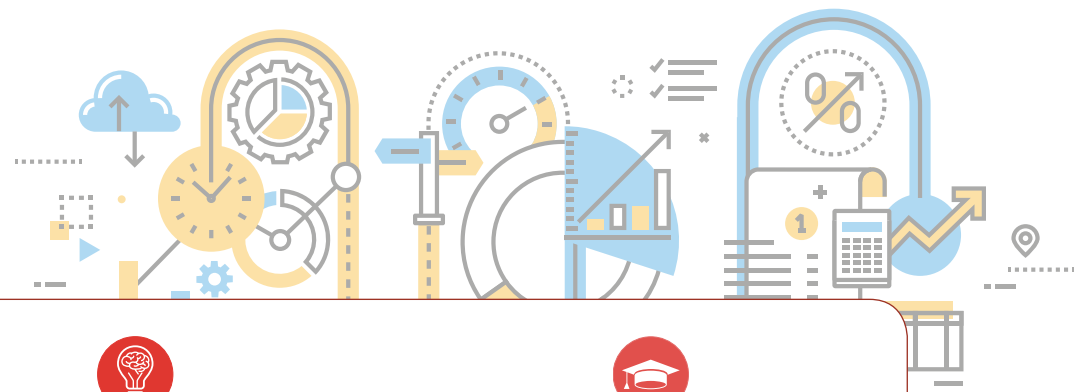
For ease of reading, each commitment is displayed on a separate page. The relevant industry sectors that are addressed in the commitment are displayed at the top of the table.

- **Sector** – industry sector the commitment is relevant to
- **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
- **Status** – update on progress.

Working together

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

Goals and core elements



World-leading regulation



Collaboration and partnership

Resources Safety works with other regulators, peak bodies, industry and workers in its pursuit of world-leading regulation.



Innovative systems

Technological innovations help drive efficiency and effectiveness, increase transparency, and identify emerging safety and health risks and trends.



Competency and training

Our staff have the skills, knowledge, qualifications and professional development necessary for consistent delivery of high-quality regulatory services.



Smarter systems



Digital platforms

Our digital platforms improve the way we work, make safety and health information more accessible, provide efficient communication channels, and strengthen engagement with stakeholders.



Data-driven decisions

Our enhanced data collection allows better analysis to support evidence-based decision making, and track trends and progress.



Balanced and integrated use of resources

Our resources are allocated to optimise effectiveness and efficiency.



Well-informed industry



Lessons shared

We share the lessons learned from incident analysis and recognised good practice.



Guidance provided

We draw on a wide range of internal and external expertise to produce targeted guidance for industry.



Collective learning opportunities

Workshops, roadshows and other information sessions provide opportunities to learn from collective experience and advance our safety and health knowledge.

Modernised legislation

Focus area: Harmonised, amalgamated health and safety legislation covering general industry, mining, dangerous goods, petroleum, major hazard facilities and geothermal energy

Sector: Mining, dangerous goods, petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs) and geothermal energy

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National reform processes Desire for a single Bill to cover general and resources industries, supported by regulations which cater to sector-specific needs Risk-based health and safety legislation for the resources sector that caters for industry diversity and innovation Identified need to amalgamate and modernise work health and safety legislation 	Develop and implement <i>Work Health and Safety Bill</i> and regulations	Legislation implemented	Mid-2019: Bill introduced into Parliament Mid-2021: Regulations implemented	Government approved development of <i>Work Health and Safety Bill</i> on 12 July 2017. Ministerial Advisory Panel on Work Health and Safety established to advise Minister on development of legislation.
	Develop supporting codes of practice, guidance and tools in consultation with stakeholders	Supporting guidance released	Mid-2021	Work health and safety legislation

Safety Regulation System (SRS) enhancements

Focus area: Fully integrated online systems that streamline administration and regulatory functions

Sector: Mining, dangerous goods, petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs) and geothermal energy

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> notifications submissions approvals reporting compliance assessment data analysis information sharing 	SRS modules released	Progressive releases to December 2020	Modules delivered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and hygiene (CONTAM replacement Phase 1) SRS mobile – ability to perform compliance activities remotely at site Notification of appointments
		Improved approval and transaction times	Six months after relevant module released	Pending data availability over time.
		Industry compliance actions better managed	Six months after relevant module released	Activity indicators for Mines Safety.
		Business intelligence reporting drives decision making	Six months after relevant module released	Business Intelligence has been introduced to the inspectorate via a suite of standardised reports. The suite of reports is undergoing consistent re-development as new data sets become available, increasing the variety of ways to analyse the information and increasing the value of knowledge gained through the analysis.

Human and organisational factors

Focus area: Industry understand human and organisational factors principles and apply to safety and health management

Sector: Mining, petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs) and geothermal energy

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unchanged incidence of musculoskeletal injury for a decade, requiring alternate approaches to risk reduction. Increasing incidence of psychosocial related harm Requirement to focus on development of positive safety cultures Requirement to focus on the need to include human factors in plant and equipment design 	Develop and implement five year plan to promote human and organisational factors inclusion in safety and health management in the resources sector	Human and organisational factors principles considered in the development of 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	May 2017	Post event report available in <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> vol. 5 no. 2
	Develop human and organisational factors expertise internally within the Department	Human and organisational factors expertise within inspectorate	December 2018	The Department is reviewing current available training.
	Develop and promote guidance materials	Guidance material developed and released for use	October 2019	Guidance material available on the website .
		Data trends indicate improved management of human and organisational factors over time	December 2020	

Mental health and wellbeing

Focus area: Improved workplace mental health and wellbeing in the resources sector

Sector: Mining, petroleum, major hazard facilities (MHFs) and geothermal energy

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	Research contract awarded to University of Western Australia. Research team established and literature review is underway. Data collection has commenced.
	Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guides and tools released and publicised	December 2020	Drafting of code of practice is underway.
	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	Proposed process for managing and maintaining information has been drafted for consideration by Mental Health Commission.
	Include legislative and industry reporting changes as part of the proposed Work Health and Safety reforms	Legislation and industry reporting	Mid-2019: Bill introduced into Parliament Mid-2021: Regulations implemented	Government approved development of Work Health and Safety Bill on 12 July 2017. Ministerial Advisory Panel established to advise Minister on development of legislation.
	Develop mental health training assessment guide	Training program assessment criteria released	September 2018	Draft guide is being reviewed by the Department prior to publishing.
	Raise awareness of workplace mental health and wellbeing through targeted activities, including audits and involvement in industry forums	Data trends indicate improved management of workplace mental health and wellbeing over time	December 2020 Ongoing	Psychosocial harm audit criteria being reviewed to incorporate stakeholder feedback. Continuing to raise awareness through stakeholder events and <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine.

Risk-based resourcing

Focus area: Appropriate targeting of compliance and enforcement efforts (right resource, right place, right time)

Sector: Mining

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
Need to assign resources efficiently, using a risk-based approach	Develop and implement the Assigned Resources Based on Risk (ARBOR) initiative	All proactive inspections based on risk profiles	December 2020	The prototype of the ARBOR system was tested in the first-half of 2017 with implementation into all proactive field work planning taking place from July 2017.
		Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in incidents and injuries over time	December 2020	Pending data availability over time.

Health and hygiene

Focus area: Increased attention on chronic exposure to agents that lead to adverse impacts upon health

Sector: Mining

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trends indicate that an unacceptable number of mine workers are being exposed to the risks associated with agents that can harm their health, including; noise, respirable contaminants and asbestiform minerals Approval of new mine types in Western Australia that require increased focus on health and hygiene Concern about non-compliance and adequacy of measures to mitigate exposures to airborne contaminants and heat Findings of the <i>Cancer incidence in the Western Australian mining industry (1996-2013)</i> cancer paper Concern about diesel particulate matter (DPM) and health implications, particularly nano diesel particulate matter (nDPM) in underground and enclosed workspaces 	Produce and promote health and hygiene management plan guidance materials	Guidance materials produced and publicised	December 2018	Drafting has commenced. Health and hygiene management guidance published in December 2017.
		Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in exceedances over time	December 2020	Pending data availability over time.
	Raise awareness of the health impacts of nDPM and monitor work being done across industry to mitigate the effects	Data trends indicate improved mitigation of nDPM exposure over time	December 2020	Article on nDPM included in August 2017 issue of <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine.
	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	Research sampling completed in October 2017. Analysis of data has commenced.
	Produce and promote ventilation code of practice	Ventilation code of practice released and publicised	December 2018	On track – stakeholder feedback being incorporated into draft code of practice.
	Develop and promote ventilation guidance materials	Guidance materials produced and publicised	December 2019	Drafting to begin following release of the ventilation code of practice.
		Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in ventilation-related incidents over time	December 2020	Pending data availability over time.

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing guidelines are not aligned with international safety standards Need to support risk-based approach to management of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) 	Produce and promote naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) code of practice	NORM code of practice and associated guide released and publicised	September 2018	On track, release for public comment planned shortly and will be advertised via Resources Safety news alerts .
		Data trends indicate improved compliance	March 2020	Pending data availability over time.
	Refine the approval process for radiation management plans (RMP)	Implemented checklist for RMP content	April 2018	Development commences soon.
		Industry understand the required considerations and standards for RMPs	June 2018	
	Define and implement the requirements for appointment of radiation safety officers (RSO)	New candidates are assessed against defined criteria and retrospective evaluation of existing RSOs is undertaken using a risk prioritisation	January 2019	
		Industry understand the requirements for appointed RSOs	January 2019	

Ground control

Focus area: Improved ground control management

Sector: Mining

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant incidents Findings in the <i>Fatal accidents in the Western Australian mining industry 2000-2012 report</i> 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	July 2018	The draft ground control code of practice and associated guidelines scheduled for public comment in early-2018.
		Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in ground control-related incidents over time	July 2020	Pending data availability over time.

Emergency preparedness

Focus area: Improved emergency preparedness and safe systems for those working away from readily accessible infrastructure and support services

Sector: Mining

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
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	Emergency management code of practice released and publicised	January 2018	Emergency management code of practice due for release to industry early-2018.
	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 2018	On track.
	Review emergency management audit		December 2018	
	Implement an annual Emergency Management information session to be held in Perth	Post-forum survey indicates increased awareness of emergency management in the resources industry	November annually	Second annual Emergency Management information session held in November 2017. Event overview included in December 2017 issue of <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine.

Traffic management

Focus area: Improved traffic management practices

Sector: Mining

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant incidents Findings in the <i>Fatal accidents in the Western Australian mining industry 2000-2012 report</i> and <i>hazard register tool</i> 	Develop and promote traffic management as theme of 2017 Mine Safety Roadshow	Post-roadshow survey indicates increased awareness of compliance issues	November 2017	The roadshow concluded November 2017. Toolbox presentations will be available on the Department website.
	Produce and promote traffic management hazard awareness videos	Hazard awareness videos released and publicised	November 2017	The traffic management hazard awareness videos available from the Department website.
	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	Guidance on traffic management available from the Department website.

Storage and handling non-compliance

Focus area: Improved compliance with dangerous goods storage and handling requirements

Sector: Dangerous goods

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
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	Article highlighting issues included in March 2017 issue of <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine. Accredited Consultants Forum held in May 2017. Event overview included in August 2017 issue of <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine
	Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guidance and tools released and publicised	July 2018	Review is underway of guidance material and a number of publications have been updated.
	Design and implement inspections program to assess compliance	Data trends indicate improved compliance and reductions in storage and handling incidents over time	March 2020	Pending data availability over time.

Dangerous goods rail transport

Focus area: Effective regulation of the transportation of dangerous goods by rail as required by the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004*

Sector: Dangerous goods

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
Concern about compliance monitoring for rail transport of dangerous goods	Baseline analysis of data to determine compliance levels	Industry compliance levels established	July 2017	Completed.
	Hold first Rail Safety Forum to communicate regulator's expectations	Post-forum survey indicates industry understand regulator's expectations	October 2017	Dangerous goods Rail Safety Forum held October 2017. Toolbox presentation available on the Department website. Event overview included in December 2017 issue of <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine.
	Inspectorate training on the quantities and types of dangerous goods being transported by rail	Inspectorate trained in rail requirements	July 2018	A number of inspectors attended the Dangerous Goods Rail Safety Forum. Further training in 2018.
	Develop and promote guidance material	Guides and tools released and publicised	December 2018	On track.
	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	Pending data availability over time.

Approved emergency responders (AER)

Focus area: Improved effectiveness of AER system for dangerous goods transport

Sector: Dangerous goods

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
Concern about standard of AER applications and service delivery	Conduct baseline analysis of data to determine compliance levels	Industry compliance levels established	December 2017	Completed.
	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	Updated AER guidance available on the Department website .
	Design and implement audit program to assess AERs	Data trends indicate improved AER compliance and reductions in related incidents over time	December 2020	Audit program designed and a number of audits already undertaken.

Transport and storage of dangerous goods in agricultural sector

Focus area: Improved transport and storage practices for dangerous goods used in agriculture

Sector: Dangerous goods

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
Inspectorate concerns about dangerous goods storage and transport practices within the agricultural sector	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	December 2018	Article on Mingenew and Newdegate Field Days included in December 2017 issue of <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine
	Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guidance and tools released and publicised compliance issues	December 2018	Pamphlet developed on <i>Safe storage and handling of dangerous goods on farms</i> . Dangerous goods road transport decoder app launched December 2017.
	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

Focus area: Improved understanding and acceptance of regulatory responsibilities by site operators and managers when contracting dangerous goods transport services

Sector: Dangerous goods, major hazard facilities (MHFs) and mining

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
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	Exhibited at AOG Conference. Provided pamphlets at the 2017 Mines Safety Roadshow. Toolbox presentation from Mines Safety Roadshow will be available on the Department website.
	Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guidance and tools released and publicised	December 2018	Pamphlet <i>Beyond the gate – site responsibilities for transporting dangerous goods</i> developed.
	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	Pending data availability over time.

Performance standards

Focus area: Increased awareness and application of requirements and expected performance standards for operators

Sector: Petroleum and major hazard facilities (MHFs)

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
Regulator's expectations not being met for operator performance standards	Raise awareness of regulator's expectations relating to performance standards	Hold Performance Standards Forum to communicate to industry the purpose of biannual meeting agenda and regulator's expectations	December 2018	On track.
	Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guidance and tools released and publicised	December 2019	On track.
	Review quality of performance standards submitted by industry to the regulator	Performance standards meet regulators requirements	December 2020	Pending data availability over time.

Safety case assessments

Focus area: Raise awareness of requirements and expected standard of safety case submissions of operators

Sector: Petroleum and major hazard facilities (MHFs)

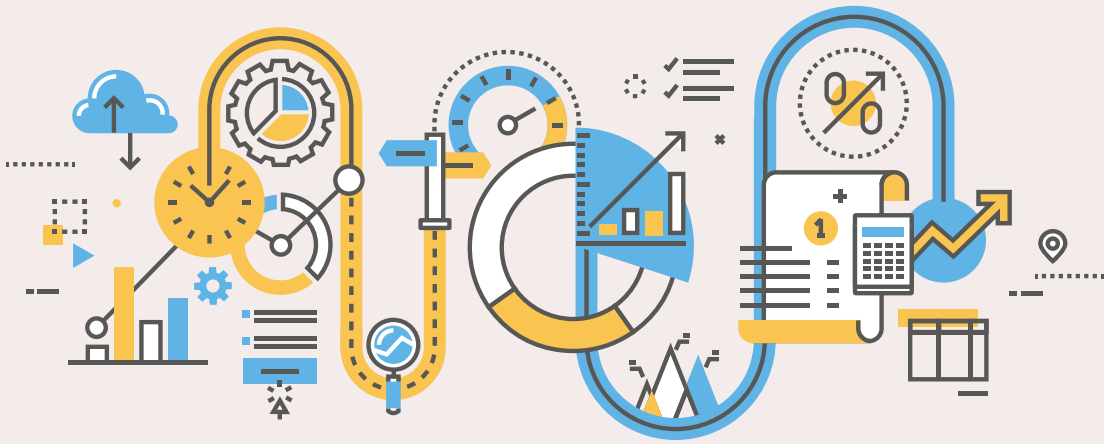
Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
Safety case submissions from industry do not meet regulator's expectations	Raise awareness of non-compliances and describe regulator's expectations through targeted promotional activities, including involvement in industry exhibitions and forums	Discussions held at industry events, and information published in <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine	December 2018	Article on Safety case five-yearly reviews included in the December 2017 issue of <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine.
	Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guidance and tools released and publicised	December 2019	On track.
	Review quality of safety cases submitted to the regulator	Safety cases submitted meet regulator's expectations	December 2020	Pending data availability over time.

Aging asset management

Focus area: Raise awareness of requirements and expected standard for managing aging assets

Sector: Petroleum and major hazard facilities (MHFs)

Drivers	Activity	Measures	Timing	Status
Operators not meeting regulator's expectations for management of aging assets	Raise awareness of non-compliances and describe regulator's expectations through targeted promotional activities, including involvement in industry exhibitions and forums	Discussions held at industry events, and information published in <i>Resources Safety Matters</i> magazine	December 2018	On track.
	Review and revise existing guidance and develop new guidance	Guidance and tools released and publicised	December 2019	On track.
	Conduct inspections program to assess compliance	Data trends indicate improved compliance	December 2020	Pending data availability over time.



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