

Mining Industry Advisory Committee

COMMUNIQUE

A summary of the 11 December 2019
Mining Industry Advisory Committee (MIAC) meeting

1. nanoDPM Working Group (nDPM WG)

Following initial discussion at the October 2019 MIAC sitting, draft recommendations 1 - 6 from the nDPM WG consultation were distributed amongst MIAC members to discuss and seek feedback from their stakeholder groups. An additional recommendation 7 relating to potential research focusing on changes in worker urinary levels of 1-aminopyrene (1-AP) and the relationship with exposure to elemental carbon (EC) was considered at the meeting. Recommendations 1,3,4,5 and 6 were supported by the group. Recommendations 2 and 7 required further discussion.

2. Prioritising Codes of Practice (CoP)

MIAC members were provided with information on the proposed top 5 codes to be developed in line with the new work health and safety (WHS) legislation. These include: Mines Safety Management Systems (MSMS), Principal hazard management plans, Mine Shafts and winding systems, Emergency management plans and Health and hygiene management plans. Members noted that MSMS is the priority code, required day one of WHS legislation proclamation. Members asked for clarification on the CoP development process. The Chair agreed to circulate a flowchart outlining the process, including activities and possible timeframes.

3. Draft musculoskeletal disorders framework

MIAC members were provided with the Draft WA framework for the prevention and management of work-related musculoskeletal disorders. Feedback was provided directly to the project group and centred on primary prevention.

4. Work Health and Safety (WHS) legislation reforms

MIAC members were provided with an update on WHS legislation reforms including the introduction of the WHS Bill into parliament on 27 November 2019. In addition, DMIRS is now collating the submissions and have a dedicated team to focus on the implementation and communication of the WHS legislation package.

5. Mental Health Strategies Working Group (MHSWG)

MHSWG Chair provided fellow MIAC members with a progress update of the Group's activities. Discussions focused on Jacobs report recommendations, in particular the viability

of gathering industry data on number of workers in FIFO / DIDO arrangements in WA mining operations.

6. Significant incident reports

The Chair noted one Significant Incident Report (SIR) and two Mining Safety Bulletins (MSBs), which had been issued by DMIRS since the previous meeting. These included:

- [SIR No. 278 Trailer tarpaulin cover mechanism fracture – fatal accident](#) - 200 Kb
- [MSB No. 168 - Safe drinking water management at mine sites](#) - 171 Kb
- [MSB No. 167: Adequate assessment of fitness for work](#) - 66 Kb

7. Mines Safety statistics

MIAC members were provided with mines safety statistics, and examples of recent notifiable incidents. Discussions focused on the number of incidents by commodity and what the causal factors were.

8. Towards 2020 Commitments

The Chair spoke to a presentation that detailed the work that Mines Safety Directorate is doing to progress the *Towards 2020* commitments. Discussion focused on the Human and Organisational Factors (HOF) guidance being available on the website shortly. MIAC members sought clarity on whether industry HOF reporting was necessary, however DMIRS confirmed that while it wasn't, inspectors would be looking as to whether HOFs were considered in industry incident investigations.

9. Conference of Chief Inspector of Mines update

The Chair recently attended the national conference and provided a verbal update of items covered at the conference. Western Australia is to host the next meeting in November 2020.

10. Safe Work Australia (SWA) workplace exposure standard (WES) for respirable crystalline silica (RCS) and respirable coal dust (RCD)

MIAC members were provided with verbal update and meeting papers on the new proposed WES. Members noted the information, but requested on the process for implementing the standards, in particular for RCS across WA mining operations.

11. Next meeting: 12 February 2020

For further information on the Mining Industry Advisory Committee, please refer to the MIAC page on the DMIRS website: www.dmp.wa.gov.au/Safety/What-is-the-Mining-Industry-8578.aspx.

Andrew Chaplyn – Chair