

# **Meeting Minutes**

# Thursday - 16 April 2015

Members present:Mr Simon Ridge (Chair)Government member

Mr Andrew Chaplyn Government member

Mr Chris Davis Expert member
Ms Adrienne LaBombard Industry member

Ms Peta Libby Expert member
Mr Rob Mincham Expert member
Mr Rob Watson Industry member
Mr Gary Wood Union member

**Proxies for absent** 

members:

Mr Graham Short Proxy for Mr Simon Bennison.

Guest Presenters Professor Bill Musk University of Western Australia

Dr Susan Peters University of Western Australia

**Executive officer:** Mr Doug Brown Department of Mines and Petroleum

Meeting Business Decision/Action

# 1.0 ADMINISTRATION

## 1.1 Opening - 8:05am

The Chair opened the meeting advising members that proceedings will be recorded for minute taking purposes and that the recording would be erased once the minutes are confirmed.

The Chair welcomed Mr Graham Short to the meeting as proxy for Mr Simon Bennison.

# 1.2 Apologies

Mr Bob Allan (Expert member)
 Mr Simon Bennison (Industry member)

Mr Glenn McLaren
 Mr Stephen Price
 (Union member)
 (Union member)

# 1.3 Confirmation of meeting agenda

1.4 Confirmation of the meeting minutes of 19 February 2015

## 2.0 ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MEETING OF 19 FEBRUARY 2015

# 2.1 Action Point One

Information Sheet - Frequently asked questions on dogging and rigging
The Information Sheet to be amended to clarify when a high risk work licence is required. The amended publication will be circulated to members out of session for comment.

Members noted that the amended information sheet had been emailed to them for comment prior to the final version being uploaded to the Department's website.

Noted.

Agenda confirmed.

Minutes confirmed.

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#### 2.2 Action Point Two

Possible under reporting of working hours in the exploration sector Recommend to the Department that it includes information on reporting obligations in appointment letters to newly registered mine and exploration managers.

The Chair advised members the templates used for the appointment letters have been amended as suggested at the last MIAC meeting. The revised letters acknowledge newly registered mine and exploration managers and inform the recipients that it is a mandatory requirement for them to meet their reporting obligations under the mining legislation.

Noted.

#### 2.3 Action Point Three

Working in isolated areas

Place development of guidance material on the Action Register.

Members were told that guidance material for on 'Working in isolated areas' has been placed on the Action Register. After discussion, it was agreed that the first task is to scope out the issue to determine what form of guidance material would be suitable – a code of practice or a guideline. A working group would be formed for this purpose.

# Action Point One The Department to establish a working group to scope out what form of guidance material would be suitable.

#### 2.4 **Action Point Four**

Mobile autonomous equipment – guidance material

2.4a) Industry to review final draft of the guidance material and code of practice and report back at the next MIAC meeting.

Industry advised the meeting that it supported the circulated draft code as it was risk based and output focused. However, it did consider some of the 'general' information in the code could be removed. Industry will submit its amendments to the Department out of session.

It was agreed that any duplication in the code and guideline should be removed. An appendix to the code could provide information on how to introduce mobile autonomous equipment into an operation.

2.4b) The Chair to circulate information on codes of practice and guidance material.

The meeting was told generic information on codes of practice and guidance material emailed to members on 26 February 2015.

# Action Point Two Industry to submit its amendments to the Department out of session.

Noted.

#### 2.5 Action Point Five

MIAC Action Register

The Department to evaluate publications by NSW and Safe Work Australia and report back to MIAC at the next meeting.

The Department reported it commenced evaluating material developed by NSW and Safe Work Australia on Principal Hazard Management Plans (PHMP). The meeting was told the Department had already provided its feedback on guidance material developed by NSW on collision avoidance.

The Department will report back at the next meeting its progress in evaluating the PHMP material developed by NSW and Safe Work Australia.

The Department to report back at the next meeting its progress in evaluating the PHMP material developed by

**NSW** and Safe Work

**Action Point Three** 

Australia.

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#### 2.6 Action Point Six

MIAC Action Register

The Department to draft a briefing paper to have 'tyre safety' placed on the Action Register.

See Agenda Item 4.0.

#### 2.7 Action Point Seven

Progress of safety legislation reforms

Notify members when the report by Marsden Jacob is released in the public domain.

Members confirmed that they had been emailed a web link to the final report by Marsden Jacob.

During this item the Chair also provided an update on the tender process for the development of a consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) in relation to the Work Safety and Health (Resources) Bill.

Noted.

# 2.8 Action Point Eight

Parliamentary Inquiry into Fly-in-fly-out (FIFO) work

MIAC to maintain watching brief on fitness for work issues relating to mental health issue in FIFO work.

The meeting was told the final report by the Parliamentary Inquiry is expected to be tabled in Parliament on 11 June 2015. The Chair advised that the Department has been called to appear again before the Inquiry, this time *in-camera*.

General discussion followed on issues affecting occupation safety and health in FIFO working arrangements. Particular issues mentioned were types of shift rosters and the nature of investigations carried out on incidents deemed to be suicides involving mine or exploration workers.

The meeting acknowledged that mental health issues in the workplace are broad in scope and are receiving attention at the national level.

# 3.0 RESULTS OF A PRELIMINARY STUDY BY UWA – CANCER AND DIESEL PARTICULATES

Professor Bill Musk and Dr Susan Peters joined the meeting for this agenda item to present the preliminary results of a study into possible linkages between cancer and exposure to diesel particulates. The study used CONTAM data provided by the Department with other data supplied by the Department of Health.

Questions were raised as to the level of background exposure to elemental carbon among the general community and whether the study took into account exposure to nano particles along with those in the micron range. Members were told the study did not include exposure to nanoparticles but this did not distract from its purpose.

Discussion followed on the possible impact of different levels of contaminants in diesel and the exposure to particulates among diverse categories of workers at a minesite.

The presenters requested the results of the preliminary study be treated as confidential at this time.

[Professor Bill Musk and Dr Susan Peters departed the meeting.]

# Resolution/Outcome

A briefing paper is to be prepared recommending diesel particulates be placed on the Action Register. The paper is to be tabled at the next meeting.

Noted.

Noted.

Action Point Four Mr Davis to prepare a briefing paper recommending diesel particulates be placed on the Action Register.

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#### 4.0 ACTION REGISTER - TYRE SAFETY

The Department spoke to a paper requesting the issue of 'tyre safety' be placed on the Action Register. The meeting was told tyre safety is not a new issue with the Department releasing a draft guideline for public comment in 2012. Since then the draft guideline has undergone substantial review with the most recent version now being released for public comment. Once the comment period has ended the draft guideline will be submitted to MIAC for endorsement.

# Action Point Five The issue of 'tyre

The issue of 'tyre safety' is to be placed on the Action Register.

#### Resolution/Outcome

Members agreed that tyre safety should be placed on the Action Register.

# 5.0 CREATION OF A RESOURCES INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE UNDER THE WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY (RESOURCES) ACT

The Chair informed members that a paper was tabled at the last meeting of the Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAP) proposing a single statutory body which would advise the Minister for Mines and Petroleum on safety and health issues across mining, petroleum and major hazard facilities. The body is to be known as the Resources Industry Advisory Committee (RIAC).

The meeting was told subsequent discussions between the Department and industry stakeholders since that meeting indicated that an alternate model should also be considered. This model would consist of two tiers with a tripartite body for each of the three resource areas and one overarching body (RIAC) having a coordination function. Members requested that the details of how this particular model would function be submitted to MIAC for its consideration.

#### **Action Point Six**

Circulate the alternative consultative model before the next MIAC meeting.

#### Resolution/Outcome

The alternative consultative model based on two tiers to be circulated to members out of session before the next meeting of MIAC.

# 6.0 <u>STANDING AGENDA ITEM</u> – WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY (RESOURCES) BILL

The Chair reiterated the information provided during consideration of Action Point Seven.

Noted.

# Resolution/Outcome

Members noted the information.

## 7.0 STANDING AGENDA ITEM - MINES SAFETY STATISTICS

Members discussed the statistics provided and noted the decrease in Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate for the coal industry.

Noted.

# Resolution/Outcome

The information provided was noted.

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#### 8.0 OTHER BUSINESS

## 8.1 Intentions of Expert Members to continue after 30 July 2015

The Chair asked the expert members to indicate their intentions as to re-nominating for another three year term on MIAC. Their current tenure ends on 30 July 2015.

#### Resolution/Outcome

Expert members to advise the Executive Officer of their intentions by email.

# 8.2 High Risk Work Licences and Competency

Industry expressed its concern of what it sees as a decrease in the quality of competency and training assessments being delivered by some Registered Training Organisations (RTO). Members gave anecdotal examples of where training and assessment were fast tracked by RTOs leading to poor levels of competency among participants. Industry said that employers incurred additional costs in having to assess and retrain workers who were qualified but had limited competency.

Industry requested that the Department indicate what actions it takes in relation to verification of competency. The Chair informed the meeting that the Department does not perform a verification function but instead directs enquiries on such matters to the Resource Industry Training Council.

#### Resolution/Outcome

The Department is to examine its website as to what advice, if any, it provides on competency in training.

# 9.0 NEXT MEETING

MIAC will next meet at 8.00am, Thursday, 18 June 2015.

#### 10.0 CLOSURE

The Chair closed the meeting at 10:25am.

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Action Point Seven Expert members to indicate their intention to re-nominate for MIAC for another three year term.

Action Point Eight
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