

Annual Report

Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee

1 July 2015 - 30 June 2016

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1 Background

The Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee (the Committee) is required to be established under the Part 6 – Industry consultative arrangements of the *Mining and Quarrying Safety and Health Act 1999* (the Act).

An annual report on the Committee's operations must be prepared by the chairperson as soon as practicable, but within four months, after the end of each financial year and given to the Minister.

The Minister must table the report in the Legislative Assembly within 14 sitting days of receipt of this report.

2 Role

The primary function of the Committee is to give advice and make recommendations to the Minister about promoting and protecting the safety and health of persons at mines.

The Committee must discharge its function by periodically reviewing:

- The effectiveness of the Act, regulations and guidelines
- The effectiveness of the control of risk to any person from operations.

In periodically reviewing effectiveness the Committee must have regard to:

- The risk management performance of the mining industry
- The appropriateness of guidelines
- Education, training, and standards of competency within the mining industry
- The implementation of recommendations from inspectors' investigations, coroners' inquests, boards of inquiry, and other sources
- The promotion of community knowledge and awareness of safety and health in the mining industry
- Any other matter referred to it by the Minister.

The Committee also has the function of:

- Establishing, recognising and publishing the competencies accepted by it as qualifying a person to perform the stated tasks; and the safety and health competencies required to perform the duties of a person under the Act.
- Making recommendations about individuals nominated to be district workers' representatives, if asked by the Minister.

3 Membership

The Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee (the Advisory Committee) consist of nine members representing the Mines Inspectorate, workers and operators who are nominated to and appointed by the Minister. The membership term is three years. The Advisory Committee Chairperson is the Commissioner for Mine Safety and Health.

A new Advisory Committee was formed in May 2016 after the previous committee memberships had lapsed.

The Advisory Committee includes members from the Australian Workers' Union (AWU), Australian Manufacturing Workers Union (AMWU), Queensland quarrying industry, QRC and the Mines Inspectorate.

Only 2 meetings were held in this 2015/16 reporting period.

Table 1: Committee members as at 30 June 2016

Name	Membership	Organisation
Mrs Kate Du Preez	Chair - Commissioner for Mine Safety and Health	Independent Chair
Mr Phillip Howard Goode	Inspector's Representative	Department of Natural Resources and Mines
Ms Julie May Devine	Inspector's Representative	Department of Natural Resources and Mines
Ms Maryann Florence Wipaki	Operators Representative	Queensland Resources Council (Glencore)
Mr Grant Egginton	Operators Representative	Queensland Resources Council (South32)
Mr Simon Delander	Operators Representative	Queensland Resources Council (Evolution Mining)
Mr Russel Wilson	Operators Representative	Queensland Resources Council (CCAA)
Mr Peter John Ambrose	Operators Representative	Queensland Resources Council (CCAA)
Mr Daryl Arthur Harrison	Workers Representative	Australian Workers Union
Mr James Coghlan	Workers Representative	Australian Workers Union
Mr Richard James Finch	Workers Representative	Australian Manufacturing Workers Union

4 Meetings held

During the reporting period the following committee meetings were held:

Table 2: Meetings held 2015–2016

Meeting Number	Date	Location
na	September 24 2015	Cancelled due to committee appointment delays
na	December 10 2015	Cancelled due to committee appointment delays
47	April 8 2016	Brisbane
48	June 23 2016	Brisbane

5 Issues reviewed

5.1 Legislation changes

Regular updates were provided to the committee covering the planned amendments to the *Mining and Quarrying Safety and Health Act 1999* and its Regulations as a result of earlier consultation of proposed regulatory impacts on industry.

Updates also included current initiatives by the Board of Examiners in the areas of ongoing assessment of statutory competencies.

5.2 Guidance Notes, Guidelines, Safety Bulletins and other information materials

One function of the Committee is to peer-review the appropriateness of industry guidance information and create awareness of other information sources.

During this period a number of guidance notes and other industry advice were drafted and discussed. These included guidance notes on working at heights, tailings dam management, exploration, shaft sinking, and site safety and health representatives.

Regular updates on a mine plan submission project were provided to the committee; this initiative allow mines sites to submit their mine plans electronically to the department.

5.3 Mining Competency Framework

A major role of the committee is to recognise the competencies required for roles and positions mentioned in mine safety and health legislation. Recognised competencies are available on the department's website.

Updating and adding to these competencies from time to time is a necessary committee function. Over the period there were no changes to other than a general update to competency unit designators, due to changes implemented by the training industry.

The committee was also briefed on the Surveyors Board of Qld program covering ongoing professional development and certification of mine surveyors.

5.4 Emergency response capability

An underground mine managers forum was held in February 2016 at Mt Isa which included participation of the larger underground metalliferous mines in Queensland. Concern of emergency preparedness and mutual assistance resulted in the group planning to conduct a larger emergency exercise at the George Fisher mine, later this year.

5.5 Health Improvement and Awareness Committee

The Queensland Mining Health Improvement and Awareness Committee was established in 2008 to assist industry anticipate, identify, evaluate and control health hazards in the mining environment.

During the year, HIAC was undergoing a review led by Professor Tony Parker AM from the Queensland University of Technology with the assistance of industry, unions and Simtars representatives. While the review was completed, during the reporting year, outcomes were not available to the committee.

6 Expenses incurred

Members of the Committee are not entitled to any remuneration other than the reimbursement of reasonable expenses and travel allowances to attend meetings.

Table 3: Expenses incurred and claimed by Committee Members 2015 –2016

Date	Member	Airfare	Accommodation	Status
8/4/16	Darryl Harrison	\$534.26	nil	Attended
23/6/16	Darryl Harrison	\$532.96	nil	Attended