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THE NATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY COUNCIL FOR THE NEW ZEALAND MINERALS INDUSTRY

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In the interests of safety in our industry please circulate widely.

October 2014

If you know of someone who should receive this email please forward onto them and they can email [Lily](#) to get on the distribution list.

WorkSafe Seek Submissions on Diesel Particulates

Worksafe New Zealand is consulting on a Workplace Exposure Standard (WES) for diesel particulate matter (DPM). Worksafe New Zealand proposes to adopt an 8 hour time weighted average (WES-TWA) of 100µg/m³ (measured as elemental carbon). A review was carried out to recommend a proposed WES value. This review was carried out by Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (TERA) in the

United States. Their review is [attached](#). Please note that “OEL” (occupational exposure limit) is equivalent to WES (Workplace Exposure Standard).

MinEx will be making a submission on this issue so please forward any submissions you might want to make to [Les McCracken](#) By 25 Nov. The WorkSafe material can be found on their [website](#).

Small Mine Templates

Work started in September on these templates but had to be deferred while we worked on the MinEx submission on the WorkSafe second draft of *Best Practice Guidelines - Health and Safety at Surface Mines, Alluvial Mines and Quarries 2014*

Work has restarted on the templates and we are looking at getting some assistance to complete these by mid to late November this year so that they are ready for use by the end of November.

The templates are being based on the NSW *Safety Management Kit* for small mines and quarries. While the package will contain a template allowing smaller operators to develop a health and safety management system compliant with the 2013 regulations, this will not be a matter of simply filling in and ticking boxes. The regulations define various processes, including employee involvement, that require companies go through a specific process. The system must be

Board of Examiners

The Board met for the first time the week ending 17 Oct and has issued a proposed Gazette notice detailing various proposals. Submissions on the proposal close at 5pm on Thursday 13 Nov and you may make a submission by:

post to:

Consultation on requirements of holders of Certificate of Competence under the H&S in Employment (Mining Operations and Quarrying Operations) Regulations 2013.
WorkSafe New Zealand
PO Box 165
WELLINGTON 6140
Attention: Ariadna Motus

OR email to:

Boe_Secretariat@worksafe.govt.nz

The following overall changes have

risk based and in some cases companies will need an outside facilitator to complete the work.

Industry Codes & Guidance Material

Surface mines, quarries and alluvial miner guidance

The MinEx submission on the second draft is available on our [website](#).

The second draft of the guidance is a significant improvement over the first draft and it is pleasing to see that WorkSafe have responded to our first submission in a positive way.

The submission was the result of consultation with the industry via a number of channels:

- The AQA website and an email to AQA members;
- The IOQ website and an email to IOQ members;
- An email to MinEx members;
- An email to AusIMM members; and,
- Liaison with Minerals West Coast who canvassed their members.

A review group was established by

been proposed for Certificates of Competence to be issued under the new Regulations:

- A current first aid certificate will be required for all CoC holders
- Applicants must present a log book of practical experience
- All CoC holders will be required to hold explosives unit standards with the following exceptions: site senior executive, mine surveyor, ventilation officer, mechanical superintendent, electrical superintendent, and winding engine driver.
- All applicants, apart from the following list will undergo an examination by a Panel of Examiners to test the applicant's knowledge of good mining practice in the subject areas covered by the requirements set for the CoC while B-grade opencast coal mine manager, B-grade quarry manager, B-grade tunnel manager and Coal mine underwriters may have to undergo such an examination:
- All CoC holders will need to achieve unit standards on: risk management; CIMS; health and safety requirements and human factors, with the exception of a MineSurveyor CoC. The SSE, 1st Class Mine & Coal Mine Manager, A-grade Coal Mine & A-grade Quarry Managers & A-grade Tunnel Managers will need to complete the 23547 (G3) course. B-grade Coal Mine & B-

MinEx for the first draft of the guidance and this same group, apart from a change in the stone cutting representative, reviewed this second draft. Thank you to the review team and those of you who made submission to MinEx. By now you should have received an email from me advising you of what happened to each of your submissions.

Overall the document:

- Is a significant improvement over the first draft; but it,
- Contains some sections that are written at a technical level well above what is considered appropriate for the target audience;
- Uses confusing language to deal with the issue of coverage of the 2013 regulations which can be easily corrected; and,
- Contains some guidance that the industry does not agree with.

Codes

Review meetings are scheduled for the following codes. The remaining codes are still being worked on by WorkSafe but resource issues have delayed these.

WorkSafe have asked us to advise industry of some minor errors in one of the ***Fire or Explosion in Underground Mines and Tunnels Approved Code of Practice (ACOP)***, released last year.

The errors do not impact the intent and compliance requirements of the ACOP. They are figures that have been used to illustrate examples in sections on explosion barriers.

grade Quarry Managers & B-grade Tunnel Managers will complete the 26856 (G2) course.

The consultation material will be circulated in the next 2 days and will also be available on our website.

Check Inspectors

Section 19ZU of the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 deals with the appointment of industry health and safety representatives (IHSR) for the underground coal sector. This role was formerly called a "Check Inspector".

Ged O'Connell of the EPMU has just announced the appointment of Stephen Woods as their IHSR "This is the first time in 22 years that miners will have a worker-elected check inspector on the job," says Ged O'Connell, EPMU assistant national secretary.

The IHSR role was created by legislation following the Pike River disaster and Royal Commission. IHSRs are empowered to independently inspect mines and stop work if there is a risk of serious harm

Please note:

Page 121 – Section 8.8.11

Explosion barrier design

(f)

Should read:

*“For roadways between 4.5m and 6m high, the bags should be distributed evenly between **three** layers, suspended from hooks...”*

Page 123 – Section 8.8.12

Distributed bag explosion barriers

Worked example 1, Line 3

Should read:

*“Stone dust mass required = **5,760m³**
....”*

Page 126 – Figure 11

Distribution of sub-barrier bags in a primary barrier – Plan of worked example 2

Should read:

*“Length of barrier **120m**”*

An updated version of the ACOP with the above changes will be available on the WorkSafe New Zealand website shortly.

to anyone involved in a mining operation.

"Because of the deregulation of the mining industry, we don't have people in New Zealand with the skills and training to do the job yet," says Ged O'Connell. "We're training people up right now, but in the meantime it's important to have someone in the role.

"Stephen brings a huge depth of experience from his work in Queensland mining. He'll be a great asset to the underground coal mining industry and play a pivotal role in keeping miners safe."

Stephen Woods will join Worksafe inspectors and accompany mine managers on inspection tours in Huntly and on the West Coast during the week-ending 31 Oct.

Safety Alerts

Safety Alerts from October 2014

[WA Safety Alert 207 - serious injury from rotary kiln dryer \(24/10/14\)](#)

Business Leaders' Health and Safety Forum

Chris Baker (MinEx Chair) attended the [Business Leaders' Health and Safety Forum](#) AGM and CEO Summit on 21 September. This Forum now has membership in excess of 200 and

[WorkSafe Alert - controlled burn-offs
\(24/10/14\)](#)

[QLD Safety Alert 309 - fatal accident
falling into ore pass \(24/10/14\)](#)

[QLD Explosive Safety Alert 86 -
ammonium nitrate explodes \(24/10/14\)](#)

[MHSA Safety Alert - High wall
\(10/10/14\)](#)

All 2014 safety alerts can be found on the [MinEx Website.](#)

Extractive Qualifications Review

The Governance Group will be soon be developing a consultation plan to seek industry views on the qualifications that have been developed with input from Working Groups representative of the sector. This consultation is to confirm industry agrees with the content and structure of the qualifications before they get submitted to NZQA for approval to list.

[**Click here to access the**](#)

there were 132 senior leaders from 102 organisations at the CEO Summit.

The focus of the Summit was 'Getting ready for the new health and safety environment' and speakers had a clear message for New Zealand chief executives and managing directors – *start getting ready for the new health and safety legislation now*. The speakers covered specifics of the new legislation as well as relating their own experience in leading change.

There was a clear message from members who attended that they are fully committed to the reform of New Zealand's health and safety system - but there is a lot of work to do. There is clearly a role for the Forum to support business leaders, and to encourage collaboration between business, the regulator and unions on creating safer workplaces.

The Forum is a significant success and is playing an important role in both working with Government, and creating momentum around the actions required for New Zealand business health and safety performance to dramatically improve.

Industry Liaison

Les McCracken (MinEx CEO) attended [AusIMM](#) regional meetings in Christchurch and Dunedin during

**latest MinEx presentations
and submissions**

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October to talk about coal and mineral explorer's responsibilities under the new 2013 regulations. Further talks are planned for Auckland and Reefton during November.

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