

Health control plan

Issue: From 1 February 2017, all mine and petroleum site operators were required to develop and implement a health control plan pursuant to clause 26(3) Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014 (WHS (MPS) Reg). Operators need to be aware of this requirement and be equipped to meet their legislative obligations.

The health control plan project aimed to carry out an awareness campaign across all operations, with a particular focus on small mines, to help mine operators ensure their health control plans sufficiently address key health issues such as dust, noise, hazardous substances, airborne contaminants, radiation, vibration, fatigue and extreme temperatures. The project also included the updating of guidance materials on health issues management.

What we did

- Published tools and resources to promote a process for developing a health control plan.
- Created online videos discussing health risk assessment, personal exposure monitoring of dust and health monitoring.
- Conducted interactive workshops that introduced the health control plan tools and provided an opportunity to apply them.
- Conducted evaluation workshops for mines and quarries that had already developed and implemented their health control plan.

New tools and resources

The project outputs included a suite of tools and resources for industry, including:

- ✓ A [guide](#) for the development and implementation of a health control plan.
- ✓ A [toolkit](#) that includes risk identification, assessment and control templates.
- ✓ [Information resources](#) on common mining health hazards and fitness for work topics.
- ✓ [Fact sheets](#) outlining legislative requirements for personal exposure monitoring and health monitoring and managing fitness for work.
- ✓ A dedicated [webpage](#) for mining-related health hazards.
- ✓ A series of [online videos](#) to further support understanding of the health risks and health control management-related to mining activities.

Outcomes

- The industry has greater awareness of their legislative obligations regarding health control plans.
- The industry has access to the necessary tools and resources to be able to comply with their obligations.
- Industry participants have been trained in the use of the new tools and resources to enable them to develop health control plans.

Next steps

The regulator will undertake targeted assessments to determine compliance with clause 26(3) WHS (MPS) Reg.

Recommendations

Mines and petroleum sites that have not developed health control plans should take immediate steps to do so.

Mines can access the information and tools available on the Resources Regulator website to assist with developing a health control plan.

Health control plan workshops and reviews



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