

COMMUNIQUE

20 August 2025

Compliance and Regulation System Transformation Project (CARS)

Mr Ian Munns, Deputy Director General, Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety, provided an update on the Compliance and Regulation System (CARS) Transformation Project, including its governance structure and current progress.

The system is expected to deliver transformative benefits for end users. Awareness and training for internal and external users is being developed, though extensive training should not be necessary given its intuitive design.

Emergency Management for WA Mines: Code of Practice

The updated *Emergency Management for WA Mines: Code of Practice* was considered by MAPAC for release for public consultation.

Updates to the Code are to align its content with current work health and safety (WHS) legislation, improve usability, and provide clearer, more relevant emergency process guidance.

MAPAC endorsed reducing the appendices (which will streamline future updates) while retaining examples for ease of use. MAPAC recommended inclusion of self-check processes or links to assessment tools.

It was also noted that adequate resourcing of WorkSafe Safety Education was needed to continue to deliver codes and practical tools for supervisors, workers, and other key groups.

Decision: MAPAC **endorsed** the release of the draft Code of practice: *Emergency management at Western Australian Mines* for public consultation for a period of 12 weeks.

Psychosocial hazards at work for fly-in fly-out (FIFO) work arrangements in the resources and construction sectors: Code of practice

MAPAC discussed key issues raised as part of the public consultation on the *Psychosocial hazards at work for fly-in fly-out (FIFO) work arrangements in the resources and construction sectors: Code of practice* (FIFO Code).

The FIFO Code will be updated to include new case studies and guidance on hazards, controls, and leadership practices. MAPAC reviewed the Code alongside advice provided by the Work Health and Safety Commission and its sub-group, the Legislative Advisory Committee, and endorsed inclusion of:

- Refocus of hazard types to pure hazards (not consequences).
- A case study on shutdown work to address perceptions of insecure employment and highlight risk controls.

- A reference to the Accommodation Code (underdevelopment) covering accommodation, food, and facilities standards.
- At least two practical examples of common workplace issues with positive leadership behaviours.
- Concise, cross-referenced information on psychosocial risks, including post-suicide support.

MAPAC proposed a 'statement of intent' be made available on the WorkSafe website to assist PCBU's understand the various psychosocial codes, their intersections, and language differences.

Mine Statutory Positions

WorkSafe continues to encourage mining workers to schedule and complete their statutory position examinations as early as possible.

AMEC congratulated WorkSafe for its reasonable adjustment procedure, ensuring every candidate is supported throughout the examination process.

The exam structure is currently under review to ensure it remains fit for purpose for statutory roles and aligned with the evolving complexity of the mining industry. This review will address exam length, ensure relevant content, and develop targeted modular pathways for different statutory roles.

WorkSafe continues to explore options to allow companies to book exams on behalf of their employees.

AMEC advised it has a practice Schedule 26 Supervisors exam available on its website, which is available to anyone who would like assistance with exam preparation. This free of charge, fully accessible legal examination preparatory course was developed with support of the WA Government's WHS Peak Body Grant Program. The course is intended to complement training, exam preparation and study, to prepare for the exam. [AMEC Course - WHS Foundation - Work Health & Safety Foundation](#)

SWA Consultation – Model Code of Practice: Biological hazards in the workplace

Safe Work Australia (SWA) released the draft model *Code of Practice: Managing the risks of biological hazards at work* for consultation.

The draft model Code is intended to apply to all workplaces covered by the work health and safety laws where there is a risk to workers or others to exposure to one or more biological hazards.

SWA has invited submissions from all interested stakeholders, including duty holders, regulators, government agencies, unions, workers, legal professionals, researchers, employer representatives, employers, and the public, and other parties.

[Consultation on the draft model Code of Practice: Managing the risks of biological hazards at work - Safe Work](#)

Member updates

CME acknowledged the staff at WorkSafe for their assistance over recent months ensuring communications are shared and effective.



CME released its Diversity Inclusion Survey to inform next year's Diversity and Inclusion report. It is hoped the progress seen previously will have continued.

The WorkSafe Commissioner will attend the SWA meeting next month and expects the consultation feedback on the *Impact of proposed workplace exposure limits for 9 chemicals* to be presented for member consideration.

UnionsWA recently had the opportunity to review Fortescue Zero's green technology and test facility in Hazelmere and was very impressed with the remarkable technology on display. The facility's trial and validate zero-emissions solutions at full industrial scale — hydrogen, ammonia and battery systems for haul trucks, trains, drill rigs, and marine vessels — as well as breakthrough processes for producing low-carbon iron and green cement.

The Chief Inspector of Petroleum Safety (CIPS) advised that batteries, when fitted to equipment, are outside the scope of the Dangerous Goods legislation, with amendments for certain applications currently under consideration. Hydrogen is covered by the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004*. There are several guides available on the website. [Storage, handling and production of hydrogen: Guide - WorkSafe – LGIRS](#)

WorkSafe Safety Education update

MAPAC noted the content of the update including:

Statement of regulatory intent and exemptions

- [Implementation of work health and safety regulations relating to high risk work licences for the use of earthmoving machinery used as a crane](#)
- [Granting of exemption from requirement\(s\) of the Work Health and Safety \(Mines\) Regulations 2022 – Regulation 81 – Licence required to carry out high risk work – Earthmoving machinery](#)

Recent Publications

- [Mines Safety Matters: Cyanide management on mine sites](#)
- *Exposures and Silicosis incidence in WA mining*, authored by WorkSafe Mines Safety Inspectors, recently published in the Occupational Medicine Journal on silica.

Safety alerts

- [Health and Safety Bulletin No. 18 Dangers of storing aerosol cans inside vehicle cabins](#)

The Traffic Code consultation closed with 13 submissions received and one late submission pending.

WorkSafe recent Safety Publications

WorkSafe has released additional guidance materials and self-assessment tools to further support mining operations to develop and review effective Mine Safety Management Systems (MSMS):

- Mines safety management system: Self-assessment
<https://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au/publications/mine-safety-management-system-self-assessment>



- Principal mining hazard management plan: Self-assessment
<https://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au/publications/principal-mining-hazard-management-plans-self-assessment>
- Principal mining hazard management plan: Guide
<https://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au/publications/principal-mining-hazard-management-plans-guide>
- Contractors engaged in mining operations: Guide
<https://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au/publications/contractors-engaged-mining-operations-guide>

Mine hazard alert – open stopes

In response to four major incidents, including a fatality, WorkSafe Mines Safety has released an educational video on controls for the high-risk hazard of vehicles operating near open voids or stopes. Mobile plant falls have caused multiple preventable deaths on WA mine sites, typically linked to non-compliance with procedures, missing barriers, and inadequate supervision. [Vehicles working in close proximity to underground voids](#) (animation)

Next meeting **15 October 2025**