



22 September 2017

Committee Secretary
Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000
Via email: ipnrc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary

CCA SUBMISSION – MINE LEGISLATION (RESOURCES SAFETY) AMENDMENT BILL 2017

Cement, Concrete and Aggregates Australia (CCA) is the peak industry body representing the \$12 billion-a-year heavy construction materials industry in Australia. Our members are involved in the extraction and processing of quarry products, as well as the production and supply of cement, pre-mixed concrete and supplementary materials. CCA's members service local, regional and national building, construction and infrastructure markets. Our industry employs approximately 6,000 people statewide.

We welcome the opportunity to provide a submission to the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee – *Mine Legislation (Resources Safety) Amendment Bill 2017* (draft Bill).

Worker health and safety is fundamental to the heavy construction materials industry. CCA is supportive of efforts to improve health and safety outcomes in the heavy construction materials industry, and measures to improve the health and safety in the sector, as long as such measures are proportionate to the risk involved, and are undertaken within the context of a supportive regulator that works in partnership with industry. CCA is strongly supportive of the Mines Inspectorate continuing to maintain its positive relationship with the quarrying industry in being proactive, proportionate and supportive in how it deals with the industry.

In relation to any changes to the regulatory framework, CCA believes that a number of principles should be reflected as much as possible in health and safety legislation impacting on the quarrying industry:

- Improved health and safety performance
- Managed risks to health and safety
- Applying regulation in proportion to those risks
- Simple to implement
- Not represent an onerous obligation
- Nationally consistent

CCA comments on the proposed amendments of specific interest to the sector in the draft Bill are outlined below.



CONTRACTOR AND SERVICE PROVIDER MANAGEMENT

CCAA members are supportive of the proposed changes in relation to Contractor and service provider management including the requirement for contractors and service providers to provide a copy of their safety and health management plan to the SSE for consideration and integration (as appropriate) into the quarry's single Safety and Health Management Scheme.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARD OF EXAMINERS MEMBERSHIP

CCAA notes that the draft Bill provides for additional appointments to the Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee (MSHAC) and is supportive of the additional representative from the Mines Inspectorate. CCAA strongly believes it is vital that the representation on MSHAC includes continued representation from the quarrying sector, whose operations are quite distinct from other parts of the mining industry.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

The draft Bill proposes the addition of a new paragraph to Section 7 of *Mining and Quarrying Safety and Health Act* relating to health assessment and health surveillance (for prospective, current and retired industry workers):

Clause 51 Amendment of s7 (How objects are to be achieved)

Section 7 – (j) providing for the health assessment and health surveillance of persons who are, will be, or have been workers.

In principle, CCAA members are supportive of health monitoring where "there is a significant risk of an adverse effect on the worker's health", and notes that members undertake pre-employment and periodic health surveillance of their workers.

As mentioned in the Explanatory Memorandum, the inclusion of health surveillance for the quarrying industry is a changed aspect of the legislation, and CCAA believes that further consultation and additional information about this matter (and how it will be implemented in practice), needs to be fully explored and understood.

CONSULTATION

In addition, CCAA is strongly concerned about the very limited time available (only two weeks) for our association and our members to thoroughly examine the Bill, and to explore the likely implications it could have for our industry's operations. Whilst we have endeavoured to provide useful feedback on the Bill in the time available, we are concerned that the full implications of the Bill may not fully understood or appreciated, or unintended consequences realised.



In this context, we would welcome the opportunity to be involved in the design and implementation of the Bill's provisions, to ensure that the specific issues associated with our industry are taken into account.

CCAA thanks you again for the opportunity to comment on the *Mine Legislation (Resources Safety) Amendment Bill 2017*. To further discuss any of the issues raised in the submission, please contact me

Yours sincerely

Aaron Johnstone
CCAA State Director - Queensland