

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 9

asked on Tuesday, 13 February 2024

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**MR D LAST** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR RESOURCES AND CRITICAL MINERALS (HON S STEWART)—

QUESTION:

With reference to page 21 of the RSHQ Annual Report—

Will the Minister advise (a) how many of the Coal Mining Board of Inquiry's recommendations require legislative amendment, (b) how many of those recommendations have been fully implemented and (c) when will the remaining recommendations be fully implemented?

ANSWER:

(a) Fifteen.

(b) Thirteen of the 15 recommendations were developed as policy proposals forming part of a consultation regulatory impact statement that was released for public consultation in 2022. In regard to the other two recommendations (recommendation 17 from the Board of Inquiry's part 1 report and recommendation 24 from the part 2 report), these were not progressed in the regulatory impact statement following advice from the independent regulator Resources Safety and Health Queensland (RSHQ) that they were adequately addressed in existing legislative provisions.

A draft bill resulting from this process was the subject of a public consultation process in 2023.

As announced in September 2023, following advice from the independent, tripartite Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee (CMSHAC), recommendations 14 and 15 from the Board of Inquiry's part 1 report, and recommendation 27 from the part 2 report, will not proceed.

The remaining 10 recommendations form part of a bill of reforms proposed for introduction into Parliament in the coming months.

(c) Of the 65 recommendations made by the Board of Inquiry:

- 30 were made to RSHQ;
- 30 were made to the coal mining industry (including three made specifically to Anglo American's Grosvenor mine);
- three were made to union-appointed industry safety and health representatives; and
- two were made to CMSHAC.

In regard to the 30 recommendations made to RSHQ: Other than the 15 concerning potential legislative amendment, 10 have been completed. The remaining five will be implemented through the making of new or revised recognised standards, which are nearing completion, or through regulatory action to implement the legislative amendments contained in the bill, after its passage.

In regard to the 30 recommendations made to the coal mining industry: During Estimates in August 2022, I announced that the former Transport and Resources Committee would conduct an inquiry into the coal mining industry's actions implementing the 30 recommendations it received from the Board of Inquiry. Public hearings took place in Moranbah and Brisbane in November 2022 and January 2023, and the committee tabled its Inquiry into Coal Mining Industry Safety report on 16 February 2023. I tabled the government's response to that report in May 2023.

In regard to the three recommendations made to industry safety and health representatives: The Transport and Resources Committee's Inquiry into Coal Mining Industry Safety included consideration of these recommendations, reinforcing the importance of effective worker representation for coal mining safety.

In regard to the two recommendations made to CMSHAC: These recommendations have been implemented.