



RIS Ref DNRM737-0917  
File Ref: DOC17/2636

17 October 2017

Ms Sharon Gillard  
Principal Advisor Statutory Services  
Department of Natural Resources and Mines  
PO Box 15216  
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Ms Gillard

### **Decision Regulatory Impact Statement- Queensland's Mine Safety Framework**

Thank you for your enquiry of 28 September 2017, and further information provided 12 and 17 October 2017, seeking advice on the adequacy of the 'Queensland's Mine Safety Framework' Decision Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS).

### **Consultation RIS**

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines (the Department) released a Consultation RIS for stakeholder comment in September 2013. The Consultation RIS contained proposals intended to further mine safety and health standards, while developing greater consistency with other jurisdictions. A total of 246 submissions were received in response.

Following the release of the Consultation RIS, the Department commented that further consultation was undertaken with stakeholders between 2014 and 2017.

### **Introduction of the Bill**

The purpose of a Decision RIS is to incorporate the results of consultation on proposed regulatory amendments, including how stakeholder views were taken into consideration in developing a final recommendation.

The Queensland Productivity Commission (the Commission) notes that under the Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation (the Guidelines) the preparation of a Decision RIS should be provided to the decision maker to support the decision of introducing regulatory amendments (that is, before a Bill is introduced).

As the *Mines Legislation (Resources Safety) Amendment Bill 2017* (the Bill) was introduced to Parliament on 7 September 2017, the Government determined that a Decision RIS should instead be prepared in time to inform debate of the Bill. The Commission has therefore assessed the Department's Decision RIS on that basis.

### **Assessment of the Decision RIS**

The Decision RIS discusses nine proposals from the Consultation RIS that are included in either the Bill or the proposed *Coal Mining Safety and Health (Explosion Barriers) Amendment Regulation 2017*. According to the Department, the remaining 13 initiatives, originally included in the Consultation RIS, are not discussed in the Decision RIS and will be resolved at a later date.

Due to the size of the original Consultation RIS, it was agreed with the Department that a streamlined Decision RIS, which references pertinent additional information contained in the Consultation RIS, could be prepared.

The Commission has assessed that the Department's RIS and considers it adequately contains a summary of the results of submissions received on the Consultation RIS and includes recommendations based on the outcomes of further consultation. The Commission notes that where a regulatory proposal imposes a cost, that these impacts are clearly presented and discussed in the RIS.

Given this, the Commission considers the Decision RIS is adequate to inform consideration of the Bill and Regulation by Government and Parliament.

Consistent with the Guidelines, the Decision RIS and this letter of adequacy will be published on the Commission's website following approval of the RIS for release.

Please contact Sean Mackay, Principal Analyst, on (07) 3015 5149 should you require any additional information or guidance in relation to the above comments or the Guidelines in general.

Yours sincerely



**Carrie Haines**  
Team Leader