

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, 22 May 2024

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Division No.: Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

Supplementary Information No. B11

Question:

Provide a list of the recommendations of the safety Inquiry into agricultural industry in Western Australia, undertaken by the WorkSafe Western Australia Commissioner, Darren Kavanagh, including the progress of their implementation?

Answer:

Table 1 lists the Inquiry recommendations and their implementation status.

Table 1: Agricultural Industry Inquiry recommendations, responses and progress

Report Recommendations	Response	Progress to Date
1 Continue to utilise the ANZSIC (Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification) codes for internal purposes, but supplement with other data sources.	Supported	Implemented
2 Utilise the Agriculture and Support Services (05) subdivisions of the ANZSIC codes separately, rather than the agriculture, forestry and fishing division (01), to focus attention of the farming sector on fatalities and serious injuries.	Supported	Implemented
3 Prioritise the agricultural industry both within the WorkSafe Group of the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety and externally [see details in 3.1(a) and 3.1(b) below].	Supported	Implemented
3.1(a) Establish a dedicated specialist Agricultural Team.	Supported	Implemented

Report Recommendations	Response	Progress to Date
<p>3.1(b) A plan for inspections for the next five years, including KPIs for proactive activities, and widely publicised.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented in principle</p>
<p>3.2 An advisory service be established in partnership with an industry organisation, or administered internally by WorkSafe.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Consideration in progress</p>
<p>4 Establish a fund through a levy on the industry with matching government contributions.</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Noted Recommendation is outside WorkSafe's jurisdiction.</p>
<p>5 Increase the industry's awareness of the consultation, participation representation obligations and arrangements [see details in 5.1-5.4 below].</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented</p>
<p>5.1 Create and publicise on agricultural industry webpages information about the consultation, participation and representation obligations and arrangements. Such information ought to be made available in the languages represented in the agricultural industry workforce.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>In progress</p>
<p>5.2 Participation of industry groups be sought to publicise these obligations and arrangements.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented</p>
<p>5.3 Utilise public events associated with inspection campaigns to educate farmers and workers about consultation.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented</p>
<p>5.4 External advisory service be tasked with educating farmers and workers about consultation arrangements.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Consideration in progress</p>

Report Recommendations	Response	Progress to Date
<p>6</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>A suite of codes of practice and guidance notes be developed.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented in principle</p>
<p>6.2</p> <p>Codes of practice and guidance notes be written as simple “how to” and “how not to” documents.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented</p>
<p>7</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>The regulator and industry engage with machinery and equipment manufacturers and dealers, regarding equipment fit for purpose rather than farmer modification.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented</p>
<p>7.2</p> <p>A repeated campaign of farmer safety alerts regarding specific hazards.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented</p>
<p>7.3</p> <p>Funding be made available to retrofit ROPs, upgrade yards and races, put in place lone worker emergency contact systems.</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Recommendation is outside WorkSafe’s jurisdiction.</p>
<p>7.4</p> <p>The regulator to draw to the industry’s attention codes of practice and guidance notes for dealing with well-known hazards.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented</p>
<p>8</p> <p>The regulator to investigate and action a way to provide the industry with timely information about the causes of fatalities and serious injuries.</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>Implemented</p>