SUBMISSION

Consultation Regulation Impact Statement:

Workplace exposure standards framework under the model Work Health and Safety laws

Instructions

To complete this online submission:

- Download and save this submission document to your computer.
- Use the saved version to enter your responses under each question below. These questions are from the consultation regulation impact statement on the workplace exposure standards framework under the model Work Health and Safety laws.
- Once you have completed your submission, save it and upload it using the upload your submission link on the Engage submission form.

Submissions will be accepted until **11.59 pm AEDT, 13 September 2018**.

Additional documentation

Up to three additional documents can also be uploaded when you submit your response. Relevant documents to upload could include cover letters or reports with data and evidence supporting your views.

Help

If you are experiencing difficulties making your submission online, please contact us at WESconsult@swa.gov.au.

Respondents may choose how their submission is published on the Safe Work Australia website by choosing from the following options:

- submission published
- submission published anonymously
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For further information on the publication of submissions on Engage, please refer to the Safe Work Australia Privacy Policy and the Engagement HQ privacy policy.

Please note the following are unlikely to be published:

- submissions containing defamatory material, and
- submissions containing views or information identifying parties involved in hearings or inquests which are currently in progress.

Your details

(Please leave blank if you wish to remain anonymous)

1. Name or organisation

[redacted]

2. Email used to log into Engage

[redacted]

Questionnaire

(Consultation RIS questions)

1. Do the estimated rates of compliance with the workplace exposure standards align with your experience? Please explain. **(Section 2 Pages 24-25)**

yes

2. Are there any particular issues that make it difficult for you to comply with the workplace exposure standards? Please provide examples. **(Section 2 Pages 24-25)**

no

3. Are there any other costs to your organisation relating to the workplace exposure standards framework not discussed here? **(Section 2 Pages 26-30)**

no

4. If there is not an Australian workplace exposure standard available for a particular chemical, how do you manage the risk of exposure? Please describe. **(Section 2 Pages 29-30)**

Variously apply risk

5. Are there any other options that could be considered to achieve the government's objectives? Please provide details. **(Section 3 & 4 Pages 31-38)**

Independent auditing

6. Are there any practical issues to consider in relation to any of the proposed options? Please provide examples. **(Section 4 Pages 32-38)**

no

7. Would making the workplace exposure standards advisory (rather than mandatory) lead to changes in the level of compliance in your industry? Please explain. **(Section 4 Page 37-38)**

yes

8. Beyond these options, what else could be done to help your business understand and comply with the workplace exposure standards? **(Section 4 Pages 32-38)**

Provide easily accessible resources to evidence a national standard

9. What impact, if any, would the proposed name change from ‘workplace exposure standard’ to ‘workplace exposure limit’ have on your organisation? **(Section 4 Page 38)**

Probably none

10. Please provide details of the types of costs that are incurred by your organisation when a WES value is updated. For example, do you update any policies or procedures to reflect changes in the WES value? **(Section 5 Page 39-40)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

11. Survey respondents indicated that, on average, a quarter of their control costs are directly attributable to the current workplace exposure standards framework. Is this consistent with your experience? Please provide details. **(Section 5 Pages 39-40)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

12. Are there any other significant regulatory costs that you incur because of the workplace exposure standards that have not been included in the consultation RIS? **(Section 5 Pages 39-40)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

13. Do you think awareness of the workplace exposure standards will improve if they are updated more frequently? Please explain. **(Section 5 Pages 40-46)**

Not necessarily. ‘update’ does not mean ‘communicate’

14. What impact would more frequent updating of the workplace exposure standards have on your organisation? In your response, please consider the possible addition of the chemicals listed in Appendix C. **(Section 5 Pages 40-46)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

15. To understand and implement option 2, what would this cost your business or organisation? **(Section 5 Pages 40-46)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

16. What benefits would option 2 provide for your business or organisation, and community? **(Section 5 Pages 40-46)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

17. To understand and implement option 3, what would this cost your business or organisation? **(Section 5 Pages 46-52)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

18. What benefits would option 3 provide for your business or organisation, and community? **(Section 5 Pages 46-52)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

19. If workplace exposure standards were advisory (rather than mandatory), would your business continue to seek information or guidance from a WHS regulator? **(Section 5 Pages 46-52)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

20. For each option are there any other costs, benefits, and/or unintended impacts which have not been considered in this consultation RIS? Please provide details.

Click or tap here to enter text.

21. Do you have anything further you would like to add as part of this process?

A move from ‘mandatory’ to ‘advisory’ is an interesting debate.

It introduces the question of how to manage potential ‘misuse’.