

AIOH SUBMISSION

CONSOLIDATED RECOMMENDATIONS

TO SUBMISSION

SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS REFERENCES COMMITTEE

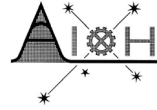
WORKPLACE EXPOSURE TO TOXIC DUST

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Recommendation 1

It is recommended that practical information on preventive measures for silica exposure should be provided by the Commonwealth and State Governments, with particular focus on SMEs at the level of Government, and on trade associations at the industry level.

Recommendation 2

Consideration should be given to amending current OH&S legislation to allow for more effective regulation of offences arising from exposure to toxic dusts in the workplace.

Recommendation 3

Notwithstanding recommendation 3, it is recommended that State OH&S Authorities must be more active in promoting preventive measures against toxic dusts in workplaces.

Recommendation 4

In order to both conduct prosecutions and prevent exposure to toxic dusts in the workplace, OH&S Authorities must recruit more occupational hygienists.

Recommendation 5

Given the importance of occupational hygienists in the control of toxic dusts in the workplace, any information in government publications relevant to this should refer employers to the use of competent practitioners i.e. Certified Occupational Hygienists (COHs).

Recommendation 6

The duty of care on manufacturers, etc under OHS legislation to provide adequate information on the risks to health from their products must be emphasised. Product Stewardship should be promoted as an appropriate model for disseminating information.

Recommendation 7

Consideration should be given to extending current OH&S legislation to discourage enterprises from promulgating misleading information.

Recommendation 9

Nanoparticles should be referred to NICNAS for assessment.