

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 210

asked on Wednesday, 19 February 2020

MR D LAST ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY (HON DR A LYNHAM)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Brady report's warning that 12 Queensland miners will die in the next five years unless the fatality cycle is broken—

Will the Minister advise (a) if the government will join calls from both the Queensland Resource Council and the CFMEU to commit to implementing all the recommendations in full from the report to ensure the safety of Queensland miners and (b) what will be the likely timeframe for their implementation?

ANSWER:

Dr Sean Brady's review is data-driven and provides genuine analysis of, and insight into, factors potentially impacting safety performance in Queensland's mining and quarrying industries. It is therefore critical that all stakeholders and those participating in discussions on this issue make the effort to read and properly understand Dr Brady's conclusions and recommendations, and the data and analysis that underpin them.

To this end, the Brady report is being reviewed by the Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee (CMSHAC) and the Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee (MSHAC). CMSHAC and MSHAC are to report back to me by the end of this month.

Of the 11 recommendations Dr Brady makes in his *Review of all fatal accidents in Queensland mines and quarries from 2000 to 2019*, seven are directed at industry and four are directed at the regulator.

The regulator has accepted and committed to implementing each of the four recommendations it has received.

Specifically, the regulator:

- has adopted the serious accident frequency rate as a measure of safety in the industry (**recommendation 10**).
- has adopted the high potential incident frequency rate as a measure of reporting culture in the industry (**recommendation 11**).
- is establishing a specialist, dedicated data analytics unit, whose sole purpose will be to collate, categorise, actively search and identify concerning trends in incident data for the industry (**recommendation 7**). The regulator will undertake targeted recruitment to ensure the unit has the appropriate skillset. Recruitment will be completed this financial year but the regulator will review staffing arrangements of the unit periodically to maintain currency of skills and capacity.

- will develop a new and greatly simplified incident reporting system (**recommendation 8**). To ensure that this system meets the criteria identified by Dr Brady—namely, that it is easy to use by those in the field; that it is unambiguous; and that it encourages open reporting, rather than being an administrative burden to reporting—the regulator will consult with industry and union stakeholders over the coming year.

The government acknowledges industry and the CFMEU's stated commitment to acting on the recommendations, and I invite industry to communicate broadly the action it is taking in respect of those recommendations.