

# Fact sheet

## Control plan – health control plan – exposure to hazardous chemicals

November 2024



The Resources Regulator has developed a broad-brush risk assessment and a program of bowties to review principal hazard and control plan topics.

The bowtie program identified the material unwanted events (MUE) and critical controls to prevent serious injury or death of mine workers.

The bowtie for the control plan topic of health control plan identified 3 MUEs and the critical controls for assessment programs. This fact sheet provides information related to the assessment program focussing on the MUE – exposure to hazardous chemicals.

## Control plan – health control plan

### MUE – exposure to hazardous chemicals



### MUE critical controls

The Regulator's assessment program will focus on the following critical controls to prevent worker exposures to hazardous chemicals:

- select process to avoid the use of chemicals (eliminate)
- select process which uses less harmful chemicals (substitute)
- workers separated from chemicals (isolation)
- chemicals separated from other chemicals (Isolation)
- use of tools or equipment to limit worker exposures
- dilution of chemicals
- use of chemical specific personal protective equipment (PPE)
- chemicals stored, handled, transported and used in fit for purpose equipment (as per GHS classification and dangerous goods (road and rail transport) legislation)

# Fact sheet – Health control plan – exposure to hazardous chemicals

## Considerations

Mine operators should consider the material unwanted events above as a minimum and ensure that the review of critical controls to prevent serious injury or death is included within the site control plans and associated documentation. Relevant safety alerts, safety bulletins and information resources published by the Resources Regulator include:

Date published	Reference	Title
Updated 2024	Regulator's website hazardous chemicals	<a href="#">Hazardous chemicals</a>
August 2024	Consolidated report	<a href="#">Health control plan – stage 2 – coal mine sites</a>
June 2023	Targeted Program Report	<a href="http://www.resourcesregulator.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-06/targeted-intervention-lead-exposure-at-metalliferous-mines.pdf">www.resourcesregulator.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-06/targeted-intervention-lead-exposure-at-metalliferous-mines.pdf</a>
21 April 2023	Investigation information release	<a href="#">Investigation information release IIR23-02 LHD operator exposed to methane and carbon dioxide gas within unventilated section of underground roadway</a>
July 2022	Consolidated report	<a href="#">Consolidated report – Air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants – stage 2 – coal mines above surface December 2020 – October 2021</a>
17 June 2022	Safety alert	<a href="#">Safety alert SA22-01 Worker burnt during hot work</a>
June 2022	Consolidated report	<a href="#">Consolidated report – Air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants – stage 2 – coal mines below surface January 2021 – February 2022</a>
25 January 2022	Safety bulletin	<a href="#">Safety bulletin SB22-01 Welding fume extraction fans</a>
18 October 2021	Safety bulletin	<a href="#">Safety bulletin SB21-07 Polyurethan resin selection</a>
September 2021	Consolidated report	<a href="#">Consolidated report – Air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants – surface and underground metalliferous mines July – November 2020</a>
September 2021	Consolidated report	<a href="#">Consolidated report – air quality or dust or other airborne contaminants – underground coal</a>

## References

Program type	CP-1401
Control Plan	Health control plan – exposure to hazardous chemicals
MUE number	MUE01

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