

Fact sheet

Lead risk work notifications

September 2022

Introduction

A person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) at a workplace that is a mine or petroleum site, including the operator of a mine or petroleum site operator or a contractor, is required to ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, the health and safety of workers and others.

Part 7.2 of the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 outlines the requirement for notification to the NSW Resources Regulator of:

- lead risk work
- the removal of a worker from lead risk work.

Obligation to notify for lead risk work

Lead risk work is defined in clause 394 of the WHS Regulation as a lead process that is likely to cause the blood lead level (BLL) of a worker carrying out the work to exceed:

- 5µg/dL (0.24µmol/L) for a female of reproductive capacity

or

- 20µg/dL (0.97µmol/L) in any other case.
- Clause 403 of the WHS Regulation states that mine operators or a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) must notify the Regulator where and when lead risk work is being undertaken.
- Mine operators must notify the Regulator within 7 days once a determination has been made that work undertaken at the workplace is lead risk work.
- If a mine operator/PCBU is unable determine whether their work is lead risk work, that work is taken to be lead risk work until determined not to be.
- Under WHS Regulation clause 403(4), emergency service workers must also give notice to the Regulator as soon as practicable when they determine their work duties are classified as lead risk work.

How to notify the Regulator of lead risk work

To notify the Regulator of lead risk work, complete the [Notification of lead risk work in relation to a mine or petroleum site](#) available on our website.

Email this form to cau@regional.nsw.gov.au

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Obligation to notify the Regulator when a worker is removed from lead risk work

Under WHS Regulation clause 415, PCBUs must remove workers from lead risk work and notify the Regulator as soon as practicable, where:

- a) biological monitoring shows that a worker has high/elevated blood lead levels at, or more than:
 - 30 µg/dL (1.45 µmol/L) for workers not of reproductive capacity

or

 - 10 µg/dL (0.48 µmol/L) for workers of reproductive capacity.

- b) the registered medical practitioner who supervised the health monitoring recommends that the worker be removed from carrying out the lead risk work

or

- c) there is an indication that a risk control measure has failed and, as a result, the worker's blood lead levels is likely to reach the relevant level for the worker referred to in paragraph (a).

How to notify the Regulator of a worker removed from lead risk work

To notify the Regulator of a worker being removed from lead risk work, complete the [Notification of a worker removed from lead risk work](#) form available on our website.

Email this form to cau@regional.nsw.gov.au

Further information about lead risk work notifications can be found in [the Guide: Notification of lead risk work in relation to a mine or petroleum site](#) on the Regulator website.

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