Inquest into the death of Laurence Edwin Rowe

Laurence Edwin Rowe died on 18 August 2008 from a head injury when he became trapped in a forklift between the mast and operator's cage.

Coroner James McDougall delivered his findings of inquest on 11 December 2014.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported. Further information relating the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible agency named in the response.

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A question for this inquest is whether, given the evidence that has been heard in relation to the actions by Belle Maison Properties Pty Ltd and Mr Brian Curtis, charges under the Workplace Health and Safety Act ought to be considered. I find there is evidence which requires the consideration of the chief executive of Workplace Health and Safety Queensland.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Treasury.

On 12 September the Treasurer, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships responded:

The Office of Industrial Relations Queensland considered the information provided by the coroner.

The office decided in view of the lapse of time since it completed its original investigation, and the consequent difficulty in obtaining useful evidence, that it is not appropriate to re-open the investigation into the matter.