

Inquest into the death of Wayne MacDonald

Wayne MacDonald died on 18 December 2010 whilst employed by LCR Mining Group as a truck driver. Mr MacDonald was in the process of changing and inflating a replacement tyre on a trailer. As he lowered the trailer to the ground using a jack, the replacement tyre came into contact with the ground. The tyre failed (known as zipper failure) and Mr MacDonald was hit by a catastrophic shockwave of air as he lay in the confined space between two sets of wheels on the trailer.

Coroner David O'Connell delivered his findings of inquest on 9 September 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. The departments named in this response will provide implementation updates until the recommendation is delivered. Further information relating the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible minister named in the response.

Recommendation 5

That an Australian standard for up to 24 inch diameter truck tyres be investigated, created, and, if considered appropriate, implemented into law by regulation within a period of two years, and if no Australian standard is created within two years then a recognised standard under part five of the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999* be implemented within one year.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Department of Natural Resources and Mines.

On 11 June 2015, the Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines responded:

The coroner handed down nine recommendations at the inquest into Mr MacDonald's death. The Department of Natural Resources and Mines responded to recommendation five. The remaining recommendations are not included in this response as they are directed to industry, and not the Queensland Government.

The Mines Inspectorate contacted Standards Australia regarding reconstituting the AS2230:1999 (New pneumatic tyres for light trucks and trucks/buses) committee. The Australian Standards project manager canvassed industry and has enough support to reconstitute the committee to review AS 2230.

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines also considered the development of a Recognised Standard under the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*. The department formed a tripartite committee (joint government, industry and union) to develop the recognised standard. They met on 20 March 2015 and 24 April 2015, with a further two day meeting scheduled in mid-2015.

A final draft of the Recognised Standard is scheduled to go to the department's Recognised Standard Management Group chaired by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines for their review in 2015.

On 23 May 2016, the Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines responded:

The Recognised Standard Development Committee met throughout 2015 with the final meeting held on 11 February 2016.

On 23 March 2016 an advanced draft of the recognised standard was emailed to a wider group of stakeholders from Queensland, Western Australia and New South Wales. Members of this group included mining companies, tyre and rim manufacturers, repairers, engineering professionals and the WA and NSW mines inspectorates.

In 2016 stakeholder comments will be reviewed and considered for inclusion in the final draft of the recognised standard for tyre and rim management.

The final draft of the recognised standard will be delivered to the department's Recognised Standards Management Group with the aim of final approval by the Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee in 2016.

The recommendation will be implemented when the recognised standard for tyre and rim management is approved by the minister.

On 4 January 2017 the Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines responded:

The 28 September 2016 Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee meeting supported approval and release of the Recognised Standard. Recognised Standard 13: *Tyre, wheel and rim management* approved by the Minister on 16 December 2016.