



**Hon Bill Johnston MLA**  
**Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Commerce and Industrial Relations;**  
**Electoral Affairs; Asian Engagement**

Minister for Employment

Date: 16 MAY 2017

Our Ref: 71-00642  
Your Ref: MS17-006205

Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash  
Minister for Employment  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

**SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA DRAFT CORPORATE AND OPERATIONAL PLANS**

Thank you for your letter of 10 April 2017 seeking my approval of the *Safe Work Australia Corporate Plan 2017-2021* and the *Safe Work Australia Operational Plan 2017-2018* (the Operational Plan).

I am pleased to offer my support for these Safe Work Australia (SWA) plans which are aimed at achieving significant and continued reductions in the incidence of work-related death, injury and illness and improving outcomes in workers' compensation arrangements for injured workers and their employers.

There is no indication of industry consultation and agreement in your letter for a separate review of work health and safety (WHS) laws in the building and construction industry. As a result of this and other factors, I oppose your proposal.

A review of the model WHS laws, as agreed by WHS Ministers, is being undertaken in 2018. This review will provide the opportunity for all industry sectors, including building and construction, to make their views known.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my advice on these important WHS issues.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Johnston'.

**Hon Bill Johnston MLA**  
**Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Commerce and Industrial Relations;**  
**Electoral Affairs; Asian Engagement**

10 MAY 2017