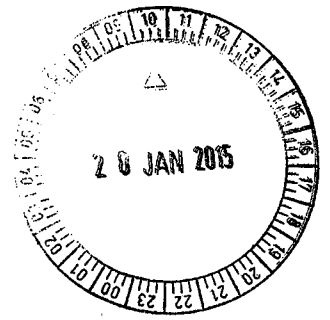




Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Mines and Petroleum**

Your ref: ASA  
Our ref: A2306/201401  
Enquiries: Don Frayne, General Counsel – 9222 3413  
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Mr Peter Abetz MLA  
Chairman  
Legislative Council Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation  
Parliament of Western Australia  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr Abetz

**INQUIRY INTO ACCESS TO AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS ADOPTED IN DELEGATED LEGISLATION**

Thank you for your letter dated 4 December 2014 inviting the Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) to make a submission on the matters referred to in the terms of reference for the Committee's inquiry into access to Australian Standards adopted in delegated legislation.

The following regulations which contain a reference to Australian Standards are administered by DMP:

- Dangerous Goods Safety (Explosives) Regulations 2007;
- Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007; and
- Mines Safety and Inspection Regulations 1995.

These regulations apply to the specialist fields of mining, explosives handling and storage and the storage and handling of dangerous goods. Those involved in the handling and storage of explosives and dangerous goods must be licensed professionals, rather than members of the general public. Regulations which contain a reference to Australian Standards are therefore unlikely to be used by the general public, but rather by professional or commercial entities that absorb the costs of access to the Standards. DMP does not make the Australian Standards available on its website, but does provide a link to the website of SAI Global, the publisher of the Standards.

I can advise that in future, DMP intends to lessen the reliance on the use of Australian Standards in regulations. An example of this is in the mining industry where a new, modernised *Work Health and Safety (Mines) Bill* will replace the *Mines Safety and Inspection Act 1994*. DMP is currently preparing this legislation which is based on the national *Model Work Health and Safety Act 2011* to harmonise work health and safety laws.

I trust this information will assist the Committee in its Inquiry.

Yours sincerely

Richard Sellers  
DIRECTOR GENERAL

23 January 2015