



QLD Recognised Standard 14 - Monitoring Respirable Dust in Coal Mines

CHECKLIST TO HELP YOU MONITOR YOUR WORKPLACE

Monitoring Respirable Dust in Coal Mines

STEP 1

Setting Up Your Program

ELEMENT	ITEM	COMMENT / ACTION
Setting Up Your Monitoring Program		
Is there a documented and current (<5 years) site wide health risk assessment that formally identifies and assesses the risk to worker health at a SEG level?		
Has a baseline assessment been performed and a statistical review of the data documented? If not, is one planned for completion?		
Does the mine have a respirable dust monitoring program?		
Does the respirable dust monitoring program meet or exceed the minimum sampling requirements?		
Has the respirable dust sampling plan been developed by a competent person?		
Has the respirable dust sampling plan been reviewed and endorsed by a Certified Occupational Hygienist (COH) or equivalent?		
Does the respirable dust monitoring program plan:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish similar exposure groups (SEGs) across all site activities?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure that sampling is representative of worker numbers, shiftwork hours, tasks performed and conditions at the mine		

Monitoring Respirable Dust in Coal Mines

STEP 2

Conduct Your Sampling

ELEMENT	ITEM	COMMENT / ACTION
Carrying Out Your Program		
Is respirable dust sampling conducted by a competent person?		
Does the sampling methodology comply with AS2985?		
Does the sampling methodology specify minimum sample durations, random sampling protocols and data collection?		
Is all personal exposure monitoring undertaken for 80% or more of the working shift?		
Is personal sampling conducted to capture a range of workers, crews and conditions without biasing the results?		
Is all equipment maintained and calibrated appropriately?		
Are samples analysed by laboratories that are certified (i.e. NATA) to ISO17025?		
Is all appropriate sampling data recorded when personal dust sampling is conducted?		

Monitoring Respirable Dust in Coal Mines

STEP 3

Reviewing the Data

ELEMENT	ITEM	COMMENT / ACTION
Reviewing the Sampling Results		
Are samples disregarded (void sample) if they do not meet the minimum sampling or quality requirements?		
Is the reason for deciding a sample is void or invalid documented?		
Is there a process to identify and invalidate samples that are tampered with, including biasing of results during sampling?		
Is an investigation conducted and documented when a personal sample (excl realtime) exceeds the exposure limit?		
The SSE is aware of each individual sample exceedance?		
Is the Regulator and Trade Union notified within 24 hours of an exceedance result being received by the mine?		
Is a retest done within 14 days of an exceedance result being received by the mine?		
Does the respirable dust monitoring program use appropriate descriptive statistics to estimate the exposure of each SEG?		
Is the 95% Upper Confidence Limit (95% UCL) of the mean used when comparing SEG exposure data with exposure limits?		

Monitoring Respirable Dust in Coal Mines

STEP 4

Recording and Reporting

ELEMENT	ITEM	COMMENT / ACTION
Recording and Reporting		
Are results of personal exposure monitoring provided back to the person sampled and all coal mine workers?		
Is the respirable dust monitoring program reviewed by a COH (or other competent person) at regular intervals not exceeding 12 months?		
Does the COH submit the review of the respirable dust monitoring program to the site senior executive?		
Do you submit the mine's dust monitoring results to the DNRm's database every 3 months?		
Are all personal exposure monitoring results reported to the department quarterly, in the prescribed format?		
Does your record keeping process provide for the storage of all sampling results and data for a period of 30 years?		

Monitoring Respirable Dust in Coal Mines

STEP 5

Control Effectiveness

ELEMENT	ITEM	COMMENT / ACTION
Control Effectiveness		
Does the mine have a static and / or realtime dust monitoring program to assess control effectiveness?		
Is information captured on controls to enable an exceedance investigation to be accurately performed (i.e. status of controls, control failure rectifications, control audits)?		
Are investigations from single exceedances used to review exposure controls? Is this documented?		
Is the SHMS updated with any new / revised controls?		