

**The Hon. Wes Fang MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Law and Justice
Parliament of New South Wales
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000**

Dear Mr Fang

**2019 Review of the Dust Diseases Scheme Inquiry
Post-hearing responses - 11 February 2020**

I write to provide answers to questions taken on notice by Safe Work Australia on 11 February 2020.

1. What was the vote of Safe Work Australia Members regarding the workplace exposure standard for respirable crystalline silica?

At the Safe Work Australia Member's meeting 45 on 31 July 2019:

- three Members voted for 0.02 mg/m³
- seven Members voted for 0.05 mg/m³, and
- four Members abstained from voting.

2. Were concerns raised by engineered stone importers or fabricators about the ability to technically measure respirable crystalline silica at 0.02 mg/m³?

Yes. The Agency has received submissions from two engineered stone businesses to the effect that it is not possible, or would be technically difficult, to measure respirable crystalline silica at 0.02 mg/m³.

I hope these answers will assist the Committee in their deliberations.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Baxter
Chief Executive Officer
Safe Work Australia

28 February 2020