

Questions on Notice – Mining impacts Inquiry 2023 – Australian Workers Union, NSW Branch

1. **Q: The Hon. MARK BUTTIGIEG:** Are you aware of any prosecutions that SafeWork has brought against the mining operators historically?

JACK AYOUB: I do not have that to hand, but we could take it on notice.

A: Jack Ayoub: The AWU isn't able to provide an exhaustive list. It is worth noting that Cadia Mine are currently being investigated by SafeWork after a mine worker was seriously injured when changing components of a Jumbo drill rig at Cadia East Underground Mine on 19 June 2023. The investigation is ongoing.

2. **Q: Ms CATE FAEHRMANN:** Thanks for appearing today. Coming in from the Chair's line of inquiry, has the AWU ever taken a position against any mine, similar to the green bans, I suppose, in Sydney—you know, the union movement working very closely with the community to stop something that would have just been unconscionable? Has the AWU ever done that or considered doing that with any mine proposal?

JACK AYOUB: I don't have that information to hand. Certainly, I think we could take that on notice, but I don't know of any direct example where we have opposed mining. But I wouldn't—either the corollary—say whether we have directly supported it. I am not too sure, but I am sure I could find that information out.

A: Jack Ayoub: The Australian Workers' Union has never taken a position against the development of a mine. Our role is to hold mine operators to account, and ensure workers are treated fairly at work and have safe working conditions. We leave the development and planning of mines to government and the various independent regulatory bodies.