



Victoria Government Gazette

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SPECIAL

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY

Occupational Health and Safety (Plant) Regulations 1995

In accordance with the **Subordinate Legislation Act 1994**, notice is given of the availability of the above proposed Regulations and Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) for public comment. Comment on the proposed Regulations is also being invited under section 8 (2) of the **Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985**.

The objective of the proposed Regulations is to protect people at work against risks to health or safety arising from plant and from systems of work associated with plant.

The proposed Regulations are central to the reform of Victoria's occupational health and safety system. They will replace prescriptive, outdated Regulations made under three Acts as well as current plant-related regulations made under the **Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985**.

The proposed Regulations will establish one integrated set of requirements for designers, manufacturers, importers and suppliers of plant, employers and self-employed persons. The proposed Regulations' key requirements are the identification of hazards, assessment of risks and control of risks posed by plant and systems of work associated with the plant. The Regulations will also require notification of designs for certain types of plant and registration of certain specific items of plant with the Authority.

The proposed Regulations are based on the National Standard for Plant, which was endorsed by the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission in December 1993 following a comprehensive national development and public comment process. The proposed Regulations also reflect comments received on an initial set of draft Regulations which were advertised for public comment in August–October 1994.

The costs and benefits of the proposed Regulations are outlined in the RIS. The RIS concludes that the proposed Regulations will have a number of important benefits for the Victorian community and industry, including reductions in the number of plant-related deaths and injuries; reductions in the direct and indirect costs of workplace deaths and injuries; savings in social security payments and greater uniformity in plant regulation.

Notice is also given under section 8 (2) of the **Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985** of the proposal to make a Code of Practice for Plant. The proposed Code will provide practical guidance to persons on how to meet their obligations under the proposed Regulations. Written comments on the proposed Code are now also invited.

The proposed Plant Regulations will be accompanied by the Equipment (Public Safety) (General) Regulations 1995. The Public Safety Regulations will complement the proposed Plant Regulations by ensuring that plant used in workplace and non-workplace environments are subject to the same requirements dealing with the design, manufacture and supply of plant.

Copies of both of the proposed Regulations, RIS and Code may be obtained by writing to Action Direct Marketing, PO Box 527, Malvern, Victoria 3144 or by telephoning (03) 521 1500.

Submissions on the proposed Regulations, RIS and Code should be directed to Mr David Wong, Manager, Plant Safety Branch, Occupational Health and Safety Authority, PO Box 414, Melbourne 3005.

Submissions on the proposed Regulations and RIS should be sent to the above address no later than 28 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. Submissions on the proposed Code will be accepted up to 60 days from the date of this advertisement.

Any queries about the draft Regulations or Code should be directed to Mr David Wong (telephone number (03) 628 8324), while any

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questions about the RIS should be directed to Mr Garry Radley, Manager, Standards Development and Coordination Unit (telephone number (03) 628 8520).

To assist the Authority it is requested that comments on any of these documents be listed as general comments and/or more detailed comments, and that any detailed comments be identified by relevant section headings and numbers. Typed submissions would also be preferred. All submissions received will be treated as public documents.

ROGER PESCOTT
Minister for Industry Services



Gazette Services

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