

Modernising Work Health and Safety Laws in Western Australia

Submission by Woodside Energy

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31 August 2018

Attn: WHS Reform
Department of Mines, Industry, Regulation and Safety
Locked Bag 14
Cloisters Square WA 6850

Dear Sir or Madam,

GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS TO MODERNISE WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY LAWS

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Government's public consultation process with regards to proposals to modernise work health and safety laws. Woodside is committed to ensuring the health and safety of its workforce and welcomes the Governments engagement in this matter.

Through our membership of the Chamber of Minerals and Energy of WA (CME) and the West Australian Chamber for Commerce and Industry (CCI), Woodside has been informed of the work by the Ministerial Advisory Panel to develop advice for the Minister on the modernisation of work health and safety laws. We firmly support the CME and CCI submissions to the Department of Mines, Industry, Regulation and Safety and encourage close consideration of the comprehensive recommendations therein.

Woodside, like the CCI and CME, supports efforts to harmonise and modernise work health and safety laws. Government focus in this regard should be on measures that will materially improve health and safety outcomes. In this context, Woodside notes that the proposed additional powers relating to third party intervention in the areas of rights of entry and ability to initiate proceedings under the Act represent an impediment to effective employee involvement and consultation in the workplace. We encourage the Government to instead develop direct and productive workplace-based mechanisms for workplace participation and consultation that will resolve issues between PCBUs and employees.

Woodside looks forward to further engagement with Government in this matter and will review the draft legislation in detail when it is available in 2019.

Your faithfully,

Meg O'Neill
Chief Operations Officer