



Office of
Industrial Relations

Department of Education

Our reference: FILE68930 REC68931

Mr Michael Ravbar
State Secretary
Construction, Forestry, Maritime, Mining and Energy Union
Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Ravbar

I refer to your letter dated 4 April 2023 regarding the proposed triaging process for requests for regulator assistance from construction unions.

Your feedback regarding the proposed changes highlights the importance of working together to design and implement a sustainable and effective process focused on what matters most – keeping Queensland workers safe.

I acknowledge your concerns about our consultation approach and recognise that you did not feel adequately consulted before the temporary process commenced earlier this year.

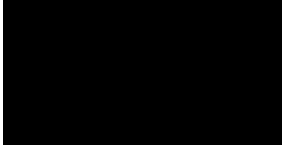
I also acknowledge you have raised concerns about the shift away from having a single point of contact for enquiries and there being a conflict of objectives, but I can assure you we are working towards the same goal – robust systems and processes that ensure how we manage and respond to work health and safety matters, eliminate, or reduce risks to workers. Noting the triaging process falls within the responsibilities of the Executive Director, Compliance and Field Services, I propose that consultation about a new process be put on hold until such time as a permanent appointment to this position is made. Under this approach we will not look to make any changes to the temporary process introduced in January until extensive stakeholder consultation has been undertaken by the incoming Executive Director. The temporary process will continue to be overseen by the Senior Officer (Regional Director) of the respective region, with any concerns regarding your experience of this process sent through to me.

The recruitment process to permanently appoint the Executive Director, Compliance and Field Services, will commence as soon as possible. As agreed during our meeting on 28 March 2023, and consistent with the previous recruitment process, the panel will comprise of a representative from industry, a union representative, and a public servant from outside the Office of Industrial Relations. My office will be sending communications to panel members before the end of this week outlining the next steps. I will continue to be the panel chair, noting the Director-General is the delegate responsible for overseeing the process, including endorsement of the panel's final recommendation.

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Lastly, in relation to my communications dated 6 March 2023, I can see how the absence of context left the sentiment I was trying to convey open to interpretation. I acknowledge the CFMEU would never intentionally put construction workers at risk, and it was not my intention to insinuate otherwise.

Regards



Kym Bancroft
Deputy Director-General
Office of Industrial Relations

19 / 04 / 2023