

## Principal hazard management plans

Principal hazard management plans form part of the safety management system for a mine. Principal hazards are any hazards that have a reasonable potential to result in multiple deaths in a single incident or a series of recurring incidents. A reasonable potential refers to a real possibility or likelihood that the risk might eventuate. If the risk of an incident is theoretically possible but extremely unlikely to occur, it should not be considered to have reasonable potential to occur.

The most common principal hazards at mines or petroleum sites have been specified in the WHS (MPS) Regulation but there may be other hazards at the mine that have a reasonable potential to result in multiple deaths in a single incident or a series of recurring incidents.

**The attached template is in Word format for you to customise for your site.**

1. **AIM:** You may use the standard aim statement provided in the template or edit it to suit your operation's needs.

2. **WHAT:** Principal hazards are hazards that must have a reasonable potential to result in multiple deaths in a single incident or in a series of recurring incidents.

Table 1 (determination of principal hazards on site) is to be completed after assessing the risk of principal hazards against the definition of a principal hazard.

3. **WHO:** This is generally best done in a group format and after a review of industry information relating to the particular hazard type.

4. **HOW:** If the principal hazard is determined to exist on site then the corresponding Forms (19A-F) need to be completed.

Set up a team, which should include subject matter experts, to work through each respective Form relating to each principal hazard.

The objective of the process is to review each hazard using a risk assessment process and to record in the "Controls used to manage hazard" column what controls you have in place to manage the principal hazard.

Record who is responsible for implementing any programs of works that may result from the review of controls.

5. **WHEN:** You may adopt the suggested methods or modify it to your needs.

6. **ACTION:** Record who will be notified if any hazards are identified as a result of the process.

7. **DOCUMENT CONTROL:** Record any documents used in this program on the document control master list (Form 3A) and the location that it will be filed.

## References:

Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017, part 3.1 Managing risks to Health and Safety, clause 32-38

Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014, Preliminary, Meaning of Principal Hazard, Clause 5,

Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014, Division 2 Subdivision 2, Principal Hazard Management Plans, Clause 24-25,

Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014, Schedule 1 Principal Hazard Management Plans – additional matters to be considered.

Health and Safety in Quarries

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