

Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Workplace exposure limits) Regulations

Exposure Draft

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Victoria

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1 Objectives

The objectives of these Regulations are to amend the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017—

- (a) consequential to the publication of the Workplace exposure limits for airborne contaminants document by Safe Work Australia; and
- (b) to make other minor and technical amendments.

2 Authorising provision

These Regulations are made under section 158 of the **Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004**.

3 Commencement

These Regulations come into operation on 1 December 2026.

4 Principal Regulations

In these Regulations, the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017¹ are called the Principal Regulations.

5 Definitions

- (1) In regulation 5 of the Principal Regulations **insert** the following definitions—

"*asbestos exposure limit*" means the exposure limit for asbestos;

exposure limit means an exposure limit set out in the Workplace exposure limits for airborne contaminants document published by Safe Work Australia on its Internet site;

lead exposure limit means the exposure limit for lead dust, lead mist or lead fumes;

noise exposure limit means—

- (a) the 8 hour equivalent continuous sound pressure level of 85 decibels (A) measured in A-weighted decibels referenced to 20 micropascals at an employee's ear position; or
 - (b) the C-weighted peak hold sound pressure level reading of 140 decibels (C) measured in decibels referenced to 20 micropascals at an employee's ear position;".
- (2) In regulation 5 of the Principal Regulations, the definitions of ***asbestos exposure standard***, ***exposure standard***, ***lead exposure standard*** and ***noise exposure standard*** are **revoked**.

6 Determinations of Authority

Regulation 6(1)(b) of the Principal Regulations is **revoked**.

7 Manufacturers

In regulation 30(2) of the Principal Regulations,
for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

8 Determination of exposure to noise

(1) In regulation 32(1) of the Principal Regulations,
for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

(2) In regulation 32(2) of the Principal Regulations,
for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

9 Control of exposure to noise

In regulation 34 of the Principal Regulations,
for "standard" (wherever occurring) **substitute**
"limit".

10 Review of risk control measures

In regulation 36(1) of the Principal Regulations,
for "standard" (wherever occurring) **substitute**
"limit".

11 Atmosphere

In regulation 58(3)(a) of the Principal
Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

12 What must a safety data sheet contain?

In regulation 145(1)(k) of the Principal
Regulations, for "standards" **substitute** "limits".

13 Regulation 165 amended

(1) In the heading to regulation 165 of the Principal
Regulations, for "**standard**" **substitute** "**limit**".

(2) In regulation 165 of the Principal Regulations,
for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

14 Atmospheric monitoring

In regulation 166(1) of the Principal Regulations,
for "standard" (where twice occurring) **substitute**
"limit".

15 Regulation 186 amended

- (1) In the heading to regulation 186 of the Principal Regulations, for "**standard**" **substitute** "**limit**".
- (2) For regulation 186(1) of the Principal Regulations **substitute**—

"(1) An employer must ensure that an employee is not exposed to an airborne concentration of lead dust, lead mist or lead fumes at a workplace that exceeds the lead exposure limit.

Note

Act compliance—section 21 (see regulation 7)."

- (3) Regulation 186(1A) of the Principal Regulations is **revoked**.
- (4) In regulation 186(2)(a) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

16 Identification of lead-risk work

In regulation 194(2)(b) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

17 Control risk of exposure—person who manages or controls workplace

- (1) In regulation 209(2) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".
- (2) In regulation 209(3) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

18 Control risk of exposure—employer or self-employed person

In regulation 210(1) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

19 Determination of employee's exposure

In regulation 211 of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

20 Use of certain tools or instruments

- (1) In regulation 216(3) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".
- (2) In regulation 216(4) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".
- (3) In regulation 216(5)(b) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

21 Emergency procedures

- (1) In regulation 247(1)(b) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".
- (2) In regulation 247(4) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

22 Limited asbestos removal work

In regulation 250(1)(c) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

23 Medical examinations

- (1) In regulation 262(1) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".
- (2) In regulation 262(2) of the Principal Regulations, for "exposure standard" **substitute** "asbestos exposure limit".

24 Application of Division

In regulation 302(k) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".

25 Medical examinations

- (1) In regulation 311(1) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".
 - (2) In regulation 311(2) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" **substitute** "limit".
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26 What is high risk crystalline silica work?

In regulation 319C of the Principal Regulations, in paragraph (b)(i) of the definition of *High risk crystalline silica work*, for "standard" substitute "limit".

27 Manufacturer or supplier to give information about crystalline silica substances

In regulation 319G(1)(c) of the Principal Regulations, for "standards" substitute "limits".

28 Specific risk control measures—cleaning

In regulation 319X of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" substitute "limit".

29 Working environment

In regulation 429(2)(b) of the Principal Regulations, for "standard" substitute "limit".

30 Schedule 8—Disclosure of ingredients in safety data sheets

In clause 3(2)(a)(iv) of Schedule 8 to the Principal Regulations, for "standard" substitute "limit".

31 Schedule 13—Information required to be included in a notice of asbestos removal work

In item 13 of Schedule 13 to the Principal Regulations, for "standard" substitute "limit".

Endnotes

¹ Reg. 4: S.R. No. 22/2017 as amended by S.R. Nos 22/2017, 71/2018, 176/2018, 71/2019, 84/2020, 106/2020, 141/2020, 8/2021, 88/2021, 112/2021, 137/2021, 53/2022, 4/2024, 23/2024, 63/2024 and 132/2024.

Table of Applied, Adopted or Incorporated Matter

The following table of applied, adopted or incorporated matter is included in accordance with the requirements of regulation 5 of the Subordinate Legislation Regulations 2024.

Statutory rule provision	Title of applied, adopted or incorporated document	Matter in applied, adopted or incorporated document
Regulation 5 (inserts definition of <i>exposure limit</i> into regulation 5 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017)	Workplace exposure limits for airborne contaminants, published by Safe Work Australia in July 2025 on its Internet site, as amended from time to time	The whole