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From: Melissa Fabian [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 10 December 2015 4:40 PM
To: SI Feedback
Subject: Submission: Review of the self-insurer licensing framework

Dear SIRA

I would like to submit feedback regarding the review of the self-insurer licensing framework.

As a Health and Rehabilitation Professional working in the industry for 20 plus years, the past 5 of which have been working in the field of safety, I have worked with a variety of clients. The vast array of my rehabilitation patients were cases relating to work related injuries which varied from over-use injuries to more serious cases such as regaining mobility after a major accident. Many of these cases could have been avoided with constant monitoring of WHS Procedures and continued Toolbox talks.

I believe that if you remove the necessity to have stringent safety inspections, workplace injuries and deaths will increase as people will not place any importance on safety. I'm sure you are well aware of the relaxed "she'll be right" Australian attitude and complacency shown when important areas are not inspected/tested regularly, not only in Safety but in life generally. WorkCover NSW made this very clear in their advertising campaign for workers to return home safe each night to their loved ones. A campaign that had a clear impact on me personally as well as many of my family, friends and colleagues.

If you take away the requirement to maintain high standards of safety then you are allowing businesses, large and small to become relaxed in their responsibilities not only to their employees, but the families of those employees.

This is why I support the current self-insurer licensing framework. I support the current regulatory monitoring of Self-Insurers, in particular NAT auditing by the Regulator. Regarding NAT audit frequencies, I support the current 3 year audit frequency for those Self-Insurers that meet the benchmarks and annual audits for Self-Insurers that don't meet the benchmarks as to change this would potentially compromise workplace safety.

The Regulator has a very hard job monitoring safety, but current practices of regular Self-Insurer audits helps keeps workers safe.

Merry Christmas and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Melissa Fabian

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