

## NSW BRANCH

Level 2, 16-20 Good Street, Granville NSW 2142  
T: 1300 763 223 E: [info@awunsw.com.au](mailto:info@awunsw.com.au) W: [www.nsw.awu.net.au](http://www.nsw.awu.net.au)  
Daniel Walton National and NSW Secretary



ABN: 92 860 257 789

4 August 2021

Policy and Strategy  
Better Regulation Division  
NSW Department of Customer Service

By email only: [explosives@customerservice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:explosives@customerservice.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

### Consultation on Proposed Explosives Regulation 2021

1. Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the consultation by the Department on the proposed *Explosives Regulation 2021* (the **Proposed Regulation**).
2. The Australian Workers' Union (the **AWU**) is one of the largest trade unions in New South Wales, representing over 17,000 workers in a variety of industries. In particular, we represent workers across the civil construction industry and in a number of other industries in which explosive materials may be used.
3. The AWU does not object to adoption of Option 2 – updating the current regulation as set out in the Regulatory Impact Statement (the **RIS**).
4. The only observation we wish to make concerns question 9 at page 29 of the RIS, which asks whether we support transferring the publishing requirement for the register of explosives and notices of revocation of an authorised explosive from the Government Gazette to the SafeWork NSW website.
5. The AWU does not agree that the requirement to publish such material in the Government Gazette should be removed from the Proposed Regulation and makes the following observations:
  - (1) Websites, including government websites, are notoriously dynamic and old webpages may become inaccessible if, e.g., there is a major overhaul or upgrade of functionality. While we agree that the register should be published on the SafeWork NSW website, we consider this requirement should be *in conjunction with* an ongoing requirement to publish the material in the Government Gazette. This ensures that practitioners and businesses can confirm with 100% certainty the contents of the register by referring to the Gazette, in the event of technical or other issues with the website.

- (2) The Government Gazette is widely known by experienced practitioners as the source of information concerning registers and authorisations, including in relation to explosives.

Yours sincerely,  
**The Australian Workers' Union**

**Tony Callinan**  
NSW Branch Secretary