



MINERALS COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA
REPORT TO THE AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION AND
CONSUMER COMMISSION (ACCC) UNDER
CONDITION 3 OF INTERIM AUTHORISATION
AA1000504
REPORT NO. 8

16 SEPTEMBER 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. BACKGROUND.....	3
2. COMMUNICATIONS AND ACTIONS TAKEN TOWARDS ESTABLISHING MATERIAL ARRANGEMENTS	4

1. BACKGROUND

On 24 April 2020 the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) granted conditional interim authorisation in respect of the application for authorisation AA1000504, lodged by the MCA.

In its decision to grant interim authorisation, the ACCC authorised companies listed in a Schedule of Participants to engage in proposed conduct as set out in paragraphs 10-14 of the decision.

Condition 3 of the decision requires the MCA to provide the ACCC with regular updates on the implementation of the proposed conduct, including any material developments and arrangements, at a frequency agreed with the ACCC.

On 5 May the ACCC advised the MCA of its view that Condition 3 reports should be provided fortnightly, with the first report to be provided on Monday, 11 May 2020 or shortly thereafter.

On 27 August the ACCC made a final determination granting authorisation that requires the MCA to continue providing regular updates under Condition 3, which the MCA has undertaken to provide on or about the 12th of each month.

This is the eighth report under Condition 3, which sets out further progress the industry has made towards ensuring the availability of critical supplies for mining operations.

2. COMMUNICATIONS AND ACTIONS TAKEN TOWARDS ESTABLISHING MATERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The minerals industry has continued to work to understand the shortfall of respirators of a certification and specification suitable for open cut and underground mining. Consultation with companies has revealed no apparent shortage explosives or explosives inputs, equipment components and parts.

Industry participants have advised that there are currently no urgent shortages of PPE. Demand for P2 masks suitable for open cut and above ground mining and quarrying is being supported by a domestic manufacturer together with international supply chains.

On 11 September a second domestic manufacturer received certification of its P2 masks. These masks contain materials suitable for use in underground mining applications. Fit testing is currently being undertaken and initial advice on the testing results will be made available to industry thereafter.

The availability of masks suitable for specialist applications continues to rely solely on international supply chains.