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### MinEx says no silicosis risk for residents (2)

Thanks Murray. The press release has gone too general media so hopefully some will pick it up.  
Wayne Scott

### MinEx says no silicosis risk for residents (2)

This is a great article, but nothing that we didn't already know. Pleased that Wayne has met with Dr Humphrey as it is...  
Murray Francis

### Plan needed for aggregate supply to Christchurch (1)

Rail it over from Westport, plenty in the Buller river, right next railway. Good for flood protection as well, two...  
Neal Clementson

### Call to save lives from RCS exposure - MinEx (1)

It is interesting that operators focus on health checks rather than exposure monitoring. By the time health monitoring...  
Kerry Cheung

### Young accuses PM of mining policy misinformation (1)

Jonathan Young has hit the nail on the head. The

## MinEx seeks specific quarry and alluvial regs

Eamon Rood - Mon, 11 Dec 2017

MinEx recommends reforming regulations for quarries and alluvial mines and training requirements for extractives in a [briefing](#) to policy makers.

The extractives health and safety council says the new Government needs to listen to quarries and alluvial miners, who are currently exempt from the full scope of regulations developed after the Pike River disaster.

Either new regulations or an approved code of practice will be needed, and possibly a separate Certificate of Competence for alluvial gold mine managers.

"MinEx is very firmly of the view that the different nature of hazards and associated risks at differing extractives operations require specific regulations to ensure these hazards are managed appropriately," says CEO Wayne Scott.

He says the WorkSafe Guidelines are an excellent model for these regulations, noting that many quarries and alluvial mines have just two or three workers.

"These small operations require different oversight than larger operations and the regulations need to reflect these differences."

Training and qualifications is another area where MinEx wants reform. In particular, it says the CoC regime does not fully align with obligations under the Health and Safety at Work (Mining Operations and Quarrying Operations) Regulations 2016.

Its briefing [reiterates](#) its call for a New Zealand Qualifications Authority certificate and diploma qualification to replace unit standards.

"At present, the training for a CoC does not adequately prepare applicants for their oral exam, nor provide the necessary skills, knowledge and experience required under the current mining regulations," Scott says.

"MinEx wants to see the current ad hoc approach of unit standards replaced by appropriate certificate and diploma qualifications for safety-critical roles."

This includes removing the CoC requirements for coal exploration and managing mines in a state of care and maintenance, which MinEx considers excessive considering the lack of principal hazards in these jobs.

### Recommendations

MinEx wants to engage with government in the early stages of policy development, including a general review of the regulations introduced after the 2011 Pike River tragedy.

This should focus on workability issues, MinEx says, outlining several suggested changes in the briefing.

Among these are changing the current regulations surrounding escapeway requirements, which came into force immediately for metalliferous mines while giving coal mines until 2024 to transition.

"This was apparently unintended and in fact requires actions that are not best practice in underground metalliferous operations and do not improve health and safety outcomes," MinEx says.

Similarly, regulations for electrical and mechanical controls were developed for underground coal mine and MinEx says they too should be changed to be suitable for open-cast operations.

It also suggests amending the definition of a quarry so it doesn't apply to all earthworks.

Another recommendation is forming a group comprising industry and government to review the Mines Rescue Trust structure, with a focus on funding. MinEx points out that levies on individual companies have increased because Mines Rescue does not receive financial support from operational tunnels, and less from mines after the closure of underground coal mines.

This would follow the review currently being conducted by NZ Mines Rescue Service and Fire Emergency New Zealand.

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Certificate of Competence

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[Cameron Massey](#)

Leading quarry and mining equipment dealers believe it is only a matter of time until autonomous vehicles are operating widely in the industry.



Mimico general manager Chris Gray says at this stage the technology may be better suited to the civil construction sector, but he says the technology could be transferred to the mining industry soon.

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### Plan needed for aggregate supply to Christchurch

[Bernie Napp](#)

The Harewood Gravel High Court appeal highlights growing pressure on aggregate supply to Greater Christchurch.



If the High Court agrees with the Environment Court on this appeal by the Road Metals-Isaac Construction joint venture, the availability of resource would reduce, even in quarry zones.

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**Turiwiri Quarry**



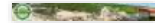
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