DRAFT CODE OF PRACTICE

**MANAGING ELECTRICAL RISKS IN THE WORKPLACE**

# Public consultation submission

This draft code of practice has been developed by the Commission for Work Health and Safety (the Commission) under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* (the WHS Act).

The WHS Act provides for the approval, variation, and revocation of codes of practice by the Minister. Under section 275 of the WHS Act, the Minister may only approve a code of practice if it was developed by a process that involves consultation between the unions and employer organisations.

This draft code of practice is intended to assist a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) to manage electrical risks in the workplace. It applies to all workplaces where a PCBU has management or control of electrical equipment, including electrical installations. The draft code provides guidance on the risk management process, specific electrical hazards and controls, working de-energised, working near energised electrical parts, work in roof spaces, tools and equipment, high-voltage electrical work and electricity in mines.

While this draft code provides general guidance and will assist a PCBU in meeting their obligations under the WHS Act, electrical work is covered under the Electricity (Licensing) Regulations 1991 (ELR) and regulated by Building and Energy. Any PCBU or worker conducting electrical work must comply with the requirements of the ELR and guidance material developed by Building and Energy.

The Commission’s objective is to promote comprehensive and practical preventive strategies that improve the working environment of Western Australians and seeks your comments about the draft code of practice from Friday 11 August 2023 to Friday 3 November 2023.

**Submissions close: 5.00 pm WST, Friday 3 November 2023.**

*Please use this cover sheet and feedback template to submit your comments to* *safetycomms@dmirs.wa.gov.au*

*Suggested content changes may also be tracked on the Word document and submitted together with this completed template.*

# Section 1: Submission details

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| **Internet publication** |
| Public submissions may be published in full on the website, including any personal information of authors and/or other third parties in **contained in the submission.** Please tick this box if you wish for your input to remain confidential (that is, you **do not consent** to having your input published on the internet)  |  |
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| Please tick this box **if your input contains personal information of third party individuals,** and strike out the statement that is not applicable in the following sentence: The third party **consents / does not consent to** the publication of their information.  |  |
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# Section 2: Feedback

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| **Track-changed document submission**  |
| Does this submission contain a **track-changed version** of the draft code? *If yes, submit as a Microsoft Word compatible document (\*.docx)*  |  | Yes |  | No |  |
|  X |  |  |
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| **General comments** |
| The Draft Managing electrical risks in the workplace Codes of Practice does not include information and guidelines for outdoor electrical installations for concerts, sports events, theatrical performances, outdoor movies, night markets, festivals and community events. Under the WHS Act (2020) and WHS (General) Regulations these venues include fixed venues with a combination of indoor and outdoor facilities adjacent to a building or buildings and temporary structures constructed by touring companies, Local Government, Festival management, Department of Local Government, Sports and Attractions (DLGSC). These events occur throughout Western Australia in summer for Perth and regional areas in the mid-west, central wheatbelt and south-west. The north-west holds events during the dry season (April to October) avoiding the possibility of cyclones.This submission proposes that this area is addressed in the final version of the Managing electrical risks in the workplace Codes of Practice after the public consultation has closed and all submissions reviewed.The MS Word tracked document of this draft code is included with this submission. |

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| **Detailed comments** |
| If commenting on specific content, you may wish to use the table below.  |
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| Reference to specific chapter/section/page | Comment |
|  | **Related Australian Standards:*** AS/NZS 2293 Emergency lighting
* AS/NZS 3000, Clause 1.5.7 (a) Extra low voltage equipment
* AS/NZS 3002 Electrical installations for shows and carnivals
* AS/NZS 3010.1 Portable electrical equipment
* AS/NZS 3760 In Service Safety inspections and testing of electrical equipment.
* Health (Public Buildings) Regulations 1992
* Health Department WA Guidelines for concerts, events and organised gatherings. 2022
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