

8 May, 2019

The Director
Quad Bike Taskforce
Consumer Product Safety Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Director

Submission - Quad Bike Safety Issues Paper “exposure draft mandatory standard”

Primary Employers Tasmania (PET) is a registered employer organisation under the provisions of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*.

It is the only such organisation in Tasmania with 65 years’ specialist experience in representing the interests of employers engaged in the agricultural, horticultural and viticultural industries of the State.

PET is a not-for-profit organisation established exclusively for employers in the primary industry sector.

Our Committee of Management consists of hands-on farmers/employers with practical experience, which means our views represent the views, needs and priorities of our member base.

Workplace health and safety on rural properties is of concern to our members and PET provides guidelines and draft policies to its members in relation to quad bikes.

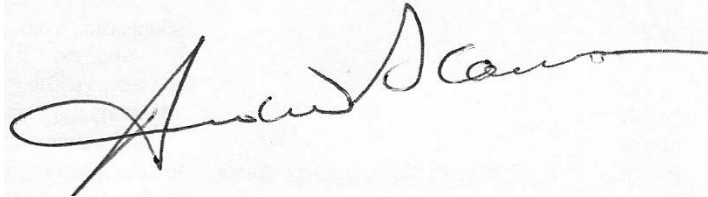
PET is a member of the Safe Farming Tasmania Reference Group and actively supports its advocacy for the improvement of quad bike safety.

Quad Bikes, as a member of the class of All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) which now includes Side-by-Side enclosed vehicles, are a popular and important piece of equipment on rural properties. However, it is acknowledged that, as in many workplaces, accidents will happen resulting in death and injury. As recently as April 2019 a nine-year-old boy died as the result of a quad bike accident on a Tasmanian farm.

Quad bikes are part of contemporary farming culture. Cultural attitudes to their use and safety are fundamental to how they are used. It is our belief that the most appropriate and effective way forward to minimise the risk to quad bike users and reduce injuries and fatalities is through a formal education process for both employers and those employees who use quad bikes.

On behalf of Primary Employers Tasmania, I highly commend the recommendations outlined in the Quad Bike Safety issues paper and in particular the creation of a mandatory safety standard.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Cameron", written in a cursive style on a light-colored background.

Andrew Cameron
Executive Officer/Workplace Relations Director