BAC-BR-18471

Professor Euan M Wallace AM
Secretary
Department of Health

50 Lonsdale Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Secretary

**STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH’S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REGULATION AND COMPLIANCE RADIATION TEAM**

I am pleased to provide you with my expectations for the Department of Health’s (the department) Radiation team to guide the regulator’s business planning processes.

In my portfolio as Minister for Health, I administer a range of Acts and regulations designed to promote wellbeing and to protect the health of the Victorian community.

I am committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all Victorians including protecting the Victorian community from the risks and harms associated with radiation.

As Minister for Health, I am responsible for administering the *Radiation Act 2005* (the Act) and this guidance should be read in the context of the objectives, obligations and functions outlined in this Act. This guidance should also be read in the context of any other legislative and non-legislative obligations on the Radiation team.

Based on consultation with the department about the government’s priorities and emerging risks, my expectations for the Radiation team are as follows.

* Implement a new licensing software system to reduce the processing time for applications and improve the quality of assessment for application and notification transactions required by the Act.
* Implement a compliance inspection program that satisfies the specified BP3 measure of 480 inspections per year of management licence holders.
* Ensure that our radiation safety standards are contemporary and fit for purpose.
* Continue to produce and widely distribute information about radiation safety regulatory issues to our stakeholders.

In addition, I expect all regulators in the health portfolio to commit to and action:

* Contributing to health, wellbeing, and safety outcomes for Aboriginal people and the advancement of Aboriginal self-determination.
* Climate change adaptation and enhancing health system resilience through the improvement of environmental sustainability.

I request the department’s Radiation team to incorporate these expectations into their business plans and include milestones for when the section will meet these expectations, and report on progress. The business plans should also include appropriate milestones to review the content of this letter and to advise me when it needs to be updated or renewed.  At any time, I may request that you report on meeting my expectations or issue a new statement of expectations letter.

I further request the department’s Radiation team to undertake a light touch review of the expectations in this letter as part of their annual reporting obligations and to advise me if there are any refinements they would recommend.

I look forward to the Radiation team working continuously towards achieving best practice in the administration and enforcement of regulation.

Yours sincerely

**Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP**

 1 / 7 / 2023