



LEGISLATION UPDATE

No. 4/2007 (LU07-04)

22 June 2007

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO ASSIST IN INTERPRETING COAL MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATION 2006

Maintenance of explosion-protected plant in an explosion-protected state

Clause 19 **Electrical engineering management plan**

(1) The electrical engineering management plan for a coal operation must make provision for the following:

...

(d) the maintenance of explosion-protected plant and installations in an explosion-protected state.

Clarifying points:

1. The explosion-protected properties of electrical plant must be maintained while ever the plant is energised in a *hazardous zone*.
2. Hazardous zone is defined in the legislation.
3. When explosion-protected electrical plant is energised in a *non-hazardous zone* it must be maintained in a condition that is safe, suitable for the environment and commensurate with the risks associated with the plant. Before such plant is energised in a *hazardous zone* it must be verified by a qualified electrical person as complying with the certification or approval or both, and be verified by a qualified electrical person as being in an explosion-protected condition.
4. Plant that was originally explosion protected that has been modified for use in a *non-hazardous zone* or is no longer certified or approved or for other reasons is not suitable for use in a *hazardous zone* but remains underground must have all certification and approval markings removed and be prominently marked 'not explosion protected' to avoid accidental use in a *hazardous zone*.

Guidance Notes, presentations and other support documentation are available on the NSW DPI website at:

www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/minerals/safety/legislation/commencement and specific guidance is available in Technical Reference EES-003 *Practices for the Life-Cycle Management of Explosion-Protected Equipment*.