



POLICY DRIVING IN THE PILBARA

POLICY ON DRIVING IN THE PILBARA

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Policy is to establish guidelines that will help to reduce the risk of personal injury and property damage whilst driving in the Pilbara.

SCOPE

This Policy applies to all employees who are required to drive vehicles in the Pilbara.

INTRODUCTION

Vehicle accidents have been identified as a major cause of work related deaths in Western Australia and Rio Tinto Group.

Within Hamersley Iron, vehicle incidents in the Pilbara are one of the highest risks for a fatality. There are many rules and regulations throughout the organisation relating to driving vehicles and heavy equipment. This Policy is intended to compliment not override them.

Therefore, this Policy will provide the minimum standard for driving vehicles in the Pilbara.

POLICY GUIDELINES

1. Employees driving vehicles in the Pilbara are required to:
 - complete the basic driver awareness course
 - hold a valid drivers licence or certificate of competency, be aware of and comply with relevant rules and regulations:
 - Road Traffic Act
 - Mines Safety and Inspection Act
 - Company Policies, ie Alcohol and Other Drugs
 - Safe Operating Procedures and Permits, ie Pit Permit

2. Drivers and passengers must be aware of, and be able to identify, the symptoms associated with fatigue and respond by stopping to rest or changing drivers.

Work should also be planned, wherever possible, to avoid:

- driving into the sunset or sunrise
- driving excessive distances or for extended periods
- driving at night

2.1 The driver must ensure that:

- seat belts are worn at all times in moving vehicles
- a vehicle pre start and safety check is conducted
 - pre start checks are to include checking the operation of the parking brake
- any faults or damage to the vehicle are reported and fixed as soon as possible
 - any failure or concern which affects the safe operation of the vehicle, ie brakes, must be reported immediately and the vehicle placed 'Out of Service' with the wheels chocked (if necessary)
- any loose articles (which may become lethal projectiles or a distraction if the vehicle is stopped suddenly) are securely restrained
- the vehicle is safely parked when using a mobile/satellite phone, unless a hands free system is fitted
- when leaving a light vehicle unattended for any reason (excluding emergency services vehicles), under any circumstance, the;
 - engine is stopped
 - manual transmission is placed in FIRST gear (parking on flat ground or uphill incline)
 - manual transmission is placed in REVERSE gear (parking on downhill incline)

- automatic transmission is placed in PARK

- parking brake is fully applied
3. Drivers must be conscious of the conditions when travelling on unsealed roads and adjust their speed accordingly.
 - speed limit signs indicate the maximum allowable speed on that particular section of road under ideal conditions, and often warn of areas of low visibility due to hills or corners etc.
 - the maximum speed on any unsealed road is 90 kph and where the unsealed road is only a single lane width, the maximum speed allowable is 60 kph.
 - the speed of vehicles should be further reduced when passing oncoming traffic.
 - vehicle headlights must be on at all times while travelling on unsealed roads or between the minesites.
 4. Employees travelling into remote areas must:
 - have a structured reporting procedure in place to acknowledge arrival at a destination and/or return;
 - remain with the vehicle in the event of a breakdown, becoming bogged or other such situation preventing reaching the destination; and
 - ensure drinking water and an approved first aid kit is carried in the vehicle.
 5. Drivers are expected to provide assistance to other motorists in the event of an emergency.

POLICY ELEMENTS

Communication

The Vehicle Driving Policy will be discussed at Safety Meetings during implementation and included in the employee induction program.

Accountabilities

The MRU Manager will ensure that all employees within their MRU are aware of, and comply with, the contents of this Policy.

In the event that a light vehicle is found, by any employee, idling and unattended on the mine site, the engine is to be stopped and the vehicle left in accordance with above and the keys removed and given to the relevant Supervisor.