

## Safety Alert

### SA 18-296 Drug and Alcohol Breaches

	<p><b>Audience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Infrastructure and Services employees</li> </ul>	<p><b>Contact:</b></p> <p>Graham Jackson, Director Safety and Engineering Systems 9422 5450 Kylie Mills, Associate Director Safety Services 9200 0243</p>
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#### Background

Workers on site under the influence of drugs and alcohol present a risk to the health and safety of other people on site as their judgement can be impaired. There have been numerous fatal and severe accidents in the past where persons have been under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Non-compliance with TfNSW Drug and Alcohol Policy and Drug and Alcohol Standard can have serious repercussions. Rail Safety workers are subject to the Rail Safety National Law (NSW) and associated regulations.

#### What happened?

Over the last 2 weeks there have been five separate incidents of non-negative results occurring from alcohol and drug testing including for an illicit drug. All these results have been from contractors engaged on TfNSW sites and included non-rail safety workers.

#### Actions Required

- Any and all TfNSW sites require all employees and/or subcontractors to comply with TfNSW policies and procedures including the requirements for the TfNSW Alcohol and other Drugs Standard 60-ST-010.
- Due to a marked increase in non-negative tests on TfNSW sites all employees and /or subcontractors must be reminded that it is an offence on the part of the individual undertaking rail safety work if when tested an individual records a prescribed concentration of alcohol above 0.00 grammes per 100 millilitres of blood (above zero)
- All employees and/or subcontractors must ensure that they do not undertake duty if they are affected by or are under the influence of alcohol or drug, or have within their body amounts above the designated levels of, drugs and alcohol as prescribed within the Policy and Standard.
- Returning a non-negative drug and alcohol test could result in disciplinary action being taken against the individual. Workers will be banned from working at TfNSW sites.
- If an employee and/or subcontractor is involved in an incident and is tested for alcohol or drugs and returns a non-negative or is found to be **impaired by drugs or alcohol**, both criminal and civil action can be taken against the individual, which could, depending on the severity of the incident result in a term of imprisonment or monetary fine or both.

- TfNSW also have a Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Program which staff can be referred to or they can contact themselves.

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**Issued and authorised by the Director Safety and Engineering Systems**



Signature:

Name: David Bainbridge, A/Director Safety and Engineering Systems

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018