1 Malop Street Geelong VIC 3220 PO Box 279, Geelong 3220 Telephone 03 4243 7000 Fax 03 4243 9321 worksafe.vic.gov.au



Coroners Court Ref: 20180607

1 December 2020

Mr Nick Boesten Coroner's Registrar Coroners Court of Victoria 65 Kavanagh Street Southbank VIC 3006

Via email: cpuresponses @coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr Boesten

## Finding without inquest into the death of Gavin Boyd

I refer to the findings and recommendations made by Coroner Olle in relation to the death of Gavin Boyd, sent to WorkSafe Victoria (**WorkSafe**) on 7 September 2020.

I note that His Honour recommended the following and advise that this recommendation will be implemented:

WorkSafe distribute an industry-wide release setting out the lessons learnt, and the initiatives undertaken by the employer and the farm owner in this case, in order to reduce the risk of electrocution by overhead power lines.

In response to His Honour's recommendation, please be advised that:

- WorkSafe and Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) met to discuss the coronial matter and ways to prevent the incident occurring again and how to communicate this to the agricultural industry.
- WorkSafe released a Facebook post titled "Electrical Safety Blitz no-go-zones" which
  reminded viewers that breaching the no-go zones can be fatal. A link was also provided
  on the post that directed viewers to WorkSafe's online resource about overhead
  electrical power lines no go zones. The WorkSafe Facebook page has a reach of over
  43,000 followers.
- In November 2020, WorkSafe published a guidance/safety alert titled "Managing the risks of overhead powerlines" directed at the agricultural industry. The alert is located at <a href="https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/safety-alerts/managing-risks-overhead-powerlines">https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/safety-alerts/managing-risks-overhead-powerlines</a>.
- The WorkSafe communications team are finalising content for a short presentation about overhead powerlines including the main messages arising from this matter. It is anticipated that this piece will be available shortly.
- Electrical safety will also be featured in the end of year email sent to subscribers for agriculture updates via the WorkSafe website. The email will also be forwarded to WorkSafe's external stakeholder group.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Coronial Lawyer, Georgia Daniel on 4243 7919 or *coronerscourt@worksafe.vic.gov.au*.

Yours sincerely

Colin Radford
Chief Executive
WorkSafe Victoria