



**Mining &
Energy
Union
QUEENSLAND**

DON'T LET THE DUST SETTLE



**MINING & ENERGY UNION QUEENSLAND
GLOBAL DUST CONFERENCE 2026**



AGENDA

MONDAY

16.02.2026

2:00 PM

DELEGATE CHECK IN AND REGISTRATION

Mudjimba Room

5:40 PM

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Putt Putt Lawn

6:00 PM

HALL PAYNE LAWYERS WELCOME EVENT

Aqua Lounge

AGENDA

TUESDAY

17.02.2026

8:30 AM

CONFERENCE WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Mitch Hughes
Mining and Energy Union QLD District President

8:45 AM

GUEST SPEAKER

Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm
*Assistant Minister for Regional Development
Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Assistant Minister for Resources*

9:00 AM

VIDEO

Reflecting upon ten years since the reindentification of coal workers pneumoconiosis.

9:05 AM

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES FROM 2024 CONFERENCE

Mitch Hughes
Mining and Energy Union QLD District President

Morning Tea - 9.40am

10:10 AM

PANEL: REDISCOVERY OF BLACK LUNG IN QLD

Stephen Smyth
Heidi Roberts
Dr Anthony Lynham
Dr Bob Cohen
Fritz Djukic

11:10 AM

BACKGROUND ON REDISCOVERY OF BLACK LUNG IN QLD

Stephen Smyth
MEU General Vice President

Lunch - 11.30am

AGENDA

TUESDAY

17.02.2026

12:30 PM

STATUS REPORT - WHERE ARE WE WITH PREVENTION OF DUST DISEASES IN QLD?

Stephen Smyth

MEU General Vice President

Stephen Watts

MEU QLD Industry Safety & Health Representative

1:30 PM

STATUS REPORT - WHERE ARE WE WITH PREVENTION OF DUST DISEASES IN NSW?

Stephen Barrett

MEU District Check Inspector South

Tony Watson

MEU District Check Inspector North

2:30 PM

STATUS REPORT - WHERE ARE WE WITH PREVENTION OF DUST DISEASES IN AMERICA?

Josh Roberts

UMWA - Director of Occupational Health and Safety

Juan Zuniga

USW Health and Safety Specialist

Afternoon Tea -3.30pm

4:00 PM

WORKERS REPRESENTATIVE HISTORICAL PROJECT

Professor Michael Quinlan

School of Management and Governance and Director of the Industrial Relations Research Centre, UNSW

4:45 PM

A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS

Coverforce

Team Super

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY

18.02.2026

8:30 AM

OBSTRUCTIVE LUNG DISEASE: IT'S NOT JUST SMOKING

Dr Bob Cohen

Professor of Medicine and Director of the Occupational Lung Disease Program, Northwestern University, and Clinical Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, University of Illinois School of Public Health

9:30 AM

BLACK LUNG: ONE DIAGNOSIS, MANY DISEASES

Dr Cecile Rose

Professor of Pulmonary and Occupational Medicine, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the Colorado School of Public Health

Morning Tea - 10.30am

11:00 AM

TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR BLACK LUNG: LIMITED RELIEF, ONGOING STRUGGLE

Dr Leonard Go

Assistant Director of the Mining Education and Research (MinER) Center and a Research Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health

Lunch - 12.00pm

1:00 PM

DUST CONTROL & MONITORING, HEALTH SCREENING | WHAT'S SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN

Fritz Djukic

Resources Safety and Health Queensland

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY

18.02.2026

2:00 PM

**PANEL: PRACTICAL REALITIES OF GETTING DUST
MONITORED AND CONTROLLED, AND WORKER'S
EXAMINED | WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENS**

Stephen Watts
Stephen Barrett
Tony Watson
Josh Roberts

Afternoon Tea - 3.00pm

3:30 PM

WORKERS COMPENSATION SESSION

Linda McEnery
Hall Payne Lawyers
Craig Worsley
Taylors Solicitors

4:00 PM

A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS

Hall Payne Lawyers
Taylors Solicitors

6:30 PM

HALL PAYNE LAWYERS FORMAL DINNER

Mudjimba Room

AGENDA

THURSDAY

19.02.2026

7:15 AM

UNITY BANK BREAKFAST & A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR

Unity Bank
Mudjimba Room

8:40 AM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - ALBANIA

Gezim Kalaja
President
SPMSH
Arjola Alika
Vice President
BSPSH
Independent Trade Union of Miners of Albania

9:10 AM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - BOTSWANA

Mbiganyi Gaekgotswe
General Secretary
Botswana Mineworkers Union

9:40 AM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - MONGOLIA

Dolger Duinaakhuu
President
Mongolian Energy, Geology and Mining Trade Union

Morning Tea - 10.10am

10:40 AM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - INDIA

Akhter Jawed
Deputy General Secretary
Koyla Mazdoor Sabha

11:10 AM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - POLAND

Kamil Zaluksi
Deputy President
Porozumienie Związków Zawodowych "KADRA"

AGENDA

THURSDAY

19.02.2026

11:40 AM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - SOUTH AFRICA

Mpho Phakedi
General Secretary
National Union of Mineworkers

12:10 PM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - NORTH AMERICA

Josh Roberts
UMWA - Director of Occupational Health and Safety
Juan Zuniga
USW Health and Safety Specialist

Lunch - 12.40pm

1:15 PM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - INDONESIA

Usamah Acmed
Chemical, Energy and Mines Workers Union

1:45 PM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - GHANA

Abdul-Moomin Gbana
General Secretary
Ghana Mine Workers Union

2:15 PM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - ZIMBABWE

Justice Chinhema
General Secretary
Zimbabwe Diamond & Allied Minerals Workers Union -

2:45 PM

INTERNATIONAL REPORT - ZAMBIA

Joseph Chewe
President
Mineworkers Union of Zambia

Afternoon Tea - 3:15pm

AGENDA

THURSDAY

19.02.2026

3:45 PM

POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES - IMPORTANCE OF ACTIVELY MAINTAINING GAINS AND KEEPING PRESSURE ON

Mitch Hughes

Mining and Energy Union QLD District President

Josh Roberts

UMWA - Director of Occupational Health and Safety

4:45 PM

OUTCOMES AND ACTIONS

Stephen Smyth

MEU General Vice President

Dr Bob Cohen

Professor of Medicine and Director of the Occupational Lung Disease Program, Northwestern University, and Clinical Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, University of Illinois School of Public Health

5.15 PM

CLOSE AND THANKS

Mitch Hughes

Mining and Energy Union QLD District President