

Communication from VIDA

No. 1/2025

VIDA provides the following update to industry regarding additional initiatives being developed to further support the integrity of its projects, and the status of a list of individuals and companies referenced in recent media reporting.

Recently, the Director-General participated in a cross-jurisdiction briefing with his counterparts from New South Wales and Queensland to convey to industry, construction partners and unions a new, joined-up approach to the reporting of unacceptable behaviours. This work is consistent with the Victorian Government's Wilson review and the Federation Funding Agreement Schedule signed by the states last year. The Unacceptable Behaviours Guide will be available shortly and it will be expected that this guide is displayed prominently across Big Build work sites.

VIDA is also engaging with Industrial Relations Victoria on the setting up of the Workforce Inspectorate Victoria (WIV), a key outcome of the Wilson review. The WIV will house a new complaint referral service which will be responsible for receiving complaints and tip-offs about improper conduct at public construction projects and ensure those complaints are referred to the appropriate investigating entity. Prior to the updated complaint referral service being enacted, reports should continue to be directed to the relevant regulatory and enforcement agencies, the VIDA Stopline or through the dedicated email address IndustryReporting@vida.vic.gov.au.

VIDA continues to work on further initiatives designed to support the integrity of its projects, including other initiatives arising from the Wilson review. Further updates will be provided in the coming months.

VIDA also wishes to clarify the status of a list of individuals and companies referenced in recent media reporting. Earlier this year VIDA took steps to ascertain whether individuals and companies named in media reporting, as well as companies associated with those named individuals, were involved in VIDA projects. VIDA wishes to make clear that the list was not a "blacklist" or "banned" list, nor a directive by VIDA to act against any individual or company.

VIDA continues to refer any reports it receives to Victoria Police, the Fair Work Ombudsman and other relevant regulatory bodies as appropriate, and re-iterates its expectation that any criminal, unlawful or inappropriate conduct on VIDA projects is reported through the appropriate channels.

For any further enquiries regarding these matters, please contact IndustryReporting@vida.vic.gov.au.