

Ask The Expert: Can You Reject an Unworkable JHSC Recommendation?



QUESTION

We do our best to support the joint health and safety committee (JHSC) but now they want us to install a costly ventilation system that we don't need and can't afford. Can we reject the recommendation'

ANSWER

Yes, provided your response is prompt, reasonable and carefully documented.

EXPLANATION

The only thing you can't do is ignore the recommendation. OHS laws, in other words, require only that you consider and respond to all JHSC recommendations. Rejection is okay as long as it:

- Is in writing;
- Is provided to the JHSC by the required deadline'typically 30 days; and
- Sets out the reasons for rejection, including an

explanation of why you think the recommended solution is unnecessary and too costly and the measures you have taken or will take to address the hazard.