



MEDIA ADVISORY

29 March 2011

Royal Commission on the Pike River Coal Mine tragedy

Arrangements for media at Preliminary Hearing – 11.00am

Tuesday 5 April 2011

The Chair of the Royal Commission on the Pike River Coal Mine tragedy Justice Panckhurst has granted access to media for the Preliminary Hearing at the Greymouth Court on Guinness Street, starting at **11.00am on Tuesday 5 April 2011**.

The limited space inside the courtroom and the number of people required and wanting to attend the Preliminary Hearing has resulted in arrangements being made to accommodate media requirements on the day.

We require the co-operation of all journalists, camera operators and other media representatives, to ensure the smooth running of the Preliminary Hearing. All media representatives are required to:

- Register their attendance by contacting tony.wallace@dia.govt.nz by **4pm on Wednesday 30 March 2011**. All media attendees will be expected to display their organisation's photo identification while in the precincts of the Court. (If media staff are working on a roster or rotation basis then all potential attendees will be required to register).
- There is only space for two cameras in the courtroom – one TV camera and one still camera. There will be up to three seats available in the courtroom for journalists.
- Audio and visual coverage will be via a pooled feed managed by TVNZ). Any media needing access to this feed must contact Tony Wallace by **4pm on Wednesday 30 March, 2011** and

will need to ensure they have the correct connectors (BNC connector for visual and Cannon 3 pin for audio).

- Stills photography will be via a pool photographer from NZPA, with free images to be available from their website at www.nzpaimages.co.nz
- A news facility will be available for all registered media attendees. The facility will be an adjacent courtroom. This facility will provide technical infrastructure for taking feed; e.g. splitters, (provided by TVNZ), a TV monitor to view live footage and appropriate furniture and access to other parts of the Court as required. To ensure certainty of coverage you are requested to provide your own internet connections. Access to the facility will be available on request, from the afternoon Monday 4 April, to set up equipment and cabling.
- The Commission may impose some restrictions on coverage, but media will be advised of these at the start of the Preliminary Hearing.
- All media attending the Preliminary Hearing will be required to display a media identification sticker. These will be available from Tony Wallace or Joe Frahm at the Court on 4 or 5 April.
- The Court will be available for set-up from 9.30am on 5 April but all media must be seated in the waiting area by 9.15am.
- Cellphones are required to be switched off or silenced during the Preliminary Hearing and cannot be used for capturing images.

IMPORTANT NOTE

These requirements apply to the Preliminary Hearing only. There will be updated requirements for future hearings. Media will be advised of these in advance of the start of hearings.

Please be familiar with the information in the attached schedules. These schedules outline the standard conditions for media coverage in Court. These conditions, notwithstanding that they apply to court coverage, will apply in addition to the arrangements outlined above.

Your cooperation is expected and appreciated. Acceptance of these conditions is required as a condition of registration.

If you have any questions on the above arrangements or about the Preliminary hearing please contact:

**Tony Wallace
Senior Communications Advisor**

The Department of Internal Affairs

Phone 00 64 4 495 9472, 0064 27 440 2667 tony.wallace@dia.govt.nz or

Attached

Schedule One – Standard Conditions for Television Coverage

Schedule Two – Standard Conditions for Still Photographs

Schedule Three - Standard Conditions for Radio Coverage