

Summary of submissions

**HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK
(MINING OPERATIONS AND QUARRYING
OPERATIONS – PRESCRIBED COMPETENCY
REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATES
OF COMPETENCE) AMENDMENT
SAFE WORK INSTRUMENT 2025**

December 2025



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

WORKSAFE
Mahi Haumarū Aotearoa

CONTENTS

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Purpose | 1 |
| Background | 1 |
| Consultation | 1 |
| Summary of submissions | 1 |

Purpose

This document summarises the submissions made on a proposed amendment safe work instrument (SWI) for mining and quarrying certificates of competence, and WorkSafe New Zealand's response to the feedback.

Background

The Health and Safety at Work (Mining Operations and Quarrying Operations – Prescribed Competency Requirements for Certificates of Competence) Amendment Safe Work Instrument 2025 (the Mining and Quarrying Amendment SWI) specifies requirements for the issue, renewal and continuation of certificates of competence for the extractives industry.

WorkSafe consulted on the proposal to develop the Mining and Quarrying Amendment SWI between 21 October 2024 and 15 November 2024.

The [Mining and Quarrying Amendment SWI](#) commenced on 30 June 2025 and is published on WorkSafe's website.

Consultation

WorkSafe consulted on the proposed Mining and Quarrying Amendment SWI with its social partners (BusinessNZ and the Council of Trade Unions), relevant stakeholders in the extractives industry, the New Zealand Mining Board of Examiners, and all certificate of competence holders. A link to the consultation was shared on WorkSafe's LinkedIn social media channel. A public notice with details about the proposed SWI was also published on our website.

WorkSafe received six submissions on the Mining and Quarrying Amendment SWI.

No changes were made to the Mining and Quarrying Amendment SWI following consultation.

Summary of submissions

| SUBMISSION | WORKSAFE RESPONSE |
|--|---|
| All but one of the submitters expressed approval for the proposed changes. | WorkSafe noted this support. |
| Different emergency response unit standards should be added to specified certificates of competence. | WorkSafe considers that the Coordinated Incident Management System emergency response unit standards and unit standard 30905 (Demonstrate knowledge of the Underground Mines Emergency Protocol) align well with emergency response practices in New Zealand. |
| Certain emergency response and human factors unit standards should be removed from specified certificates of competence. | WorkSafe considers that the unit standards should be kept, for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– the Coordinated Incident Management System emergency response unit standards align with how emergencies are responded to in New Zealand– the human factors unit standards were added to the certificate of competence requirements following strong support from industry. |
| The transitional provision should be extended from three months to six months. This will give training providers and certificate of competence applicants longer to prepare. | WorkSafe considers the three-month transition period to be sufficient for preparation, as training providers and industry were informed of the proposed changes during the consultations for both the original SWI and the amendment SWI. |

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