



Australian Government

MSS025018 Assess the environmental risk and impact of a project activity or process

Release: 1

MSS025018 Assess the environmental risk and impact of a project activity or process

Modification History

Release 1. Updated unit code. Changes to performance criteria. Range of conditions removed. Assessment requirements amended. Equivalent outcome.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge to evaluate the risks and impacts associated with a specific project activity or process. It includes researching and describing the activity or process and local environment, identifying relevant environmental issues, assessing environmental risks or impacts, and then identifying appropriate environmental management actions and/or alternatives. Personnel will have access to an organisation environmental management plan for the site and/or a checklist to guide risk or impact assessment of the activity or process against organisation, community, and/or legislative requirements.

This unit applies to environmental technicians working in a range of industry sectors, including environmental monitoring, and sampling; occupational hygiene monitoring; groundwater and clean water; water treatment, storm and wastewater management; solid and hazardous waste management; site remediation or rehabilitation; management of contaminated sites; geotechnical services and civil engineering; natural resource management; resource efficiency. They work under the supervision of environmental managers, scientists, engineers and/or planners.

No licensing or certification requirements exist at the time of publication. Relevant legislation, industry standards and codes of practice within Australia must be applied.

Pre-requisite Unit

MSS024015 Apply an understanding of environmental principles to a site

Competency Field

Project management

Unit Sector

Environmental

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements describe the Performance criteria describe the performance needed to

essential outcomes.

demonstrate achievement of the element.

1 Clarify the project activity or process and environmental management framework

- 1.1 Review the history of the project activity or process and scope of the required risk and impact assessment
- 1.2 Identify legislative, regulatory and licensing requirements
- 1.3 Access, read and interpret available information about the site, including organisation environmental management documents or risk assessment guidelines
- 1.4 Write a detailed description of all phases of the project or process and the site or project environment
- 1.5 Confirm project or process details, risk assessment procedure and risk assessment criteria with supervisor

2 Identify environmental issues for project activity or process

- 2.1 Consult with organisation personnel to identify environmental issues
- 2.2 Confirm with supervisor if input from community representatives and environmental specialists is required
- 2.3 Identify significant hazards and short and long-term risks associated with the process or project activity
- 2.4 Analyse each part of the process or project for impacts on the physical, biological and social components of the local environment and ecological linkages operating at the site
- 2.5 Identify both positive and negative impacts

3 Assess environmental risks and impacts

- 3.1 Use agreed assessment criteria to evaluate project activity or process against legislative, regulatory and licensing requirements, site terms and conditions, community values, and organisation environmental management policies and plans
- 3.2 Summarise all significant environmental risks and impacts and the evidence used to justify the assessment

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| 4 Evaluate alternatives | <div style="margin-left: 20px;"><p>4.1 Read and interpret organisation environmental management documents to identify specified methods for controlling risks and minimising impacts at the site</p><p>4.2 Work with relevant personnel and experts to consider alternative solutions</p><p>4.3 Identify amendments to project activities, alternative processes or improved environmental management actions to minimise risks and impacts</p><p>4.4 Identify feasible and economically viable solutions and document the case for adopting them</p></div> |
| 5 Report findings | <div style="margin-left: 20px; padding-top: 20px;"><p>5.1 Report the assessment of environmental risks and impacts in the required format and expected timeframe</p><p>5.2 Brief supervisor and stakeholders about the environmental assessment process and outcomes</p></div> |

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance.

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Unit Mapping Information

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSS025002 Assess the environmental risk or impact of a project activity or process.

Links

The MSS Sustainability Companion Volume implementation Guides are available from VETNet: -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5b04f318-804f-4dc0-9463-c3fb9a3fe998>

Assessment Requirements for MSS025018 Assess the environmental risk and impact of a project activity or process

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Performance Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has completed the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit, and:

- evaluated the risks and impacts associated with at least 2 different project activities or processes and identified environmental management actions and alternatives in each case.

Knowledge Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has knowledge of:

- environmental terms, concepts and principles relevant to project activities or processes
- environmental management documentation (including environmental impact assessment, environmental impact assessment and public environment report) and environmental assessment process required for new major projects or developments
- roles, functions and responsibilities of environmental officers, environmental scientists, engineers and planners, and regulators
- legislation, regulations, licences and permit requirements for operations at site
- workplace environmental management framework of policy, procedures and management plans for site
- details of project activities or process phases
- typical kinds of impacts of project activities or processes on the physical and ecological environment, infrastructure, land use, social issues and community values
- workplace procedures for identifying and assessing and controlling hazards, risks and impacts associated with project activities or processes on site
- workplace project planning, management and reporting requirements
- hazards, health and safety requirements and workplace safe work procedures for work role.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions and contingencies. The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of facilities, equipment and resources, including:

- organisation environmental management plan for the site or a checklist to guide risk and impact assessment.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

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