



Australian Government

NWPCAD011 Inspect and report on embankment dam safety

Release: 1

NWPCAD011 Inspect and report on embankment dam safety

Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the NWP National Water Training Package.

Application

This unit involves the skills and knowledge required to inspect and report on embankment dam safety.

It includes preparing for and implementing dam safety visual inspections, reporting on conditions, faults in embankment dams and appurtenant structures. It also includes initiating emergency plans.

This unit applies to those with responsibility for the inspection of embankment dams and reporting of faults or trends. Those undertaking this unit would work under appropriate supervision while performing routine tasks in range of familiar contexts.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Not applicable.

Competency Field

Catchment and Dams

Unit Sector

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

1 Prepare for embankment dam inspection

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

1.1 Identify and apply organisational requirements relating to embankment dam safety inspection

	1.2	Identify features of embankment dam types and its application to inspected dams
	1.3	Identify embankment dam behaviour under a range of conditions
	1.4	Gather and validate checklists, previous inspection reports and relevant data
	1.5	Schedule activities and gather appropriate equipment for embankment dam inspection according to workplace procedures
2	Inspect and assess the condition of embankment dams	
	2.1	Implement embankment dam visual inspection procedures and practices including for unusual events
	2.2	Inspect and assess the condition and performance of embankment dams
	2.3	Recognise, record and assess failure indicators and changes in the condition of the embankment dam and appurtenant structures
3	Report the condition of embankment dams	
	3.1	Collect and record evidence to determine the extent of changes in conditions
	3.2	Prepare and submit reports to relevant personnel according to workplace procedures
4	Activate emergency plans	
	4.1	Determine if faults and changes trigger a dam safety incident
	4.2	Initiate and follow emergency plan according to workplace procedures

Foundation Skills

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

Range of Conditions

Range is restricted to essential operating conditions and any other variables essential to the work environment.

Non-essential conditions may be found in the Companion Volume Implementation Guide.

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces and is equivalent to NWPSOU025 Inspect and report on embankment dam safety.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=26336bc0-04e5-49d9-8c31-46c49b6a0037>

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Assessment Requirements for NWPCAD011 Inspect and report on embankment dam safety

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Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements and performance criteria on at least one occasion and includes:

- applying safety hazards protocols
- assessing the importance and urgency of deficiencies
- collecting and processing data from dam inspections
- communicating with engineering professionals and relevant team members on dam safety
- conducting embankment dam inspection activities
- following instructions, standard operating procedures, policies and standards for embankment dam safety
- gathering and recording data
- identifying changes and failure indicators in embankment dam and appurtenant structures
- identifying inspection features and scheduling activities according to the required frequency
- identifying the purpose and audience of dam safety reports
- interpreting and applying relevant organisational and regulatory information and requirements to the planning of inspection activities
- planning and organising work schedules and responses to contingencies
- reporting on inspection and monitoring outcomes, with recommendations for action
- using digital photography and locational equipment

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements and performance criteria and includes knowledge of:

- embankment dam behaviour under a range of conditions
- embankment dam design and construction principles including:
 - causes of cracks and settlement
 - dam performance history
 - hydraulics and erosion by water
 - materials science including soil and rock properties
 - pore pressures
 - principles of embankment dam inspection

- principles of filters, piping and embankment stability
- treatment of foundations, grouting and drainage system
- embankment dam safety
- embankment dam types including:
 - concrete faced rock fill dams
 - elements, zones
 - risks and failure modes
- emergency plans
- historic information and lessons from previous embankment dam incidents
- relevant legislation and regulations
- unusual events including:
 - earthquakes
 - increased seepage
 - large discharge events
 - large wave events
- workplace policies, procedures, guidelines and requirements relevant to the worksite

Assessment Conditions

Assessors must hold credentials specified within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment must satisfy the Principles of Assessment and Rules of Evidence and all regulatory requirements included within the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

Assessment must occur in workplace operational situations where it is appropriate to do so; where this is not appropriate, assessment must occur in simulated workplace operational situations that replicate workplace conditions.

Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Resources for assessment must include access to:

- relevant and appropriate materials, tools, equipment and personal protective equipment currently used in industry
- applicable documentation including legislation, regulations, codes of practice, workplace procedures and operation manuals.

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