



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

NWP207A Work effectively in the water industry

Revision Number: 2

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Modification History

NWP207A Release 2: Layout adjusted. No changes to content.

NWP207A Release 1: Primary release.

Unit Descriptor

This unit of competency describes the outcomes required to work effectively in the water industry. It requires an understanding of the role of water organisations in the community, services they provide, water systems used, the importance of maintaining water quality, and structure of the organisation.

Application of the Unit

This unit supports the attainment of skills and knowledge required for new entrants to the industry or those who are preparing to enter the water industry workforce.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

This unit of competency contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.	Performance criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where <i>bold italicised</i> text is used, further information is detailed in the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.
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Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1 Assess the importance of water services to the community.	1.1 Explore and explain structure of the water industry nationally, at a state and territory level, and locally. 1.2 Explore and explain <i>range of water and waste systems</i> used to deliver services. 1.3 Explore and explain community's use of water services. 1.4 Review and assess <i>strategies</i> to ensure long-term water sustainability.
2 Assess the factors affecting water quality.	2.1 Review <i>legislative, regulatory and licensing requirements</i> governing the organisation and understand their impact. 2.2 Identify characteristics, requirements and standards for drinking water. 2.3 Conduct simple tests for assessing water quality. 2.4 Identify and assess <i>environmental risks and impacts</i> to water services. 2.5 Identify organisational procedures for maintaining water quality.
3 Apply knowledge and understanding of the organisation's systems and structure to work.	3.1 Identify and describe water and waste systems and infrastructure used by the organisation in delivery of its services. 3.2 Review and describe organisation's management structure and role relationships. 3.3 Review and apply organisation's key policies and procedures. 3.4 Review and apply standard reporting procedures and identify impact on own work.

Required Skills and Knowledge

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

Required skills:

- access, interpret and apply relevant organisational and legislative requirements
- identify system and infrastructure components
- identify organisational structure and its components
- identify environmental policies, plans and procedures
- perform work-related calculations
- work effectively as part of a team
- use literacy skills in regard to verbal and written communication in the workplace
- complete basic workplace records and reports

Required knowledge:

- relevant legislative requirements and responsibilities
- standard operating procedures
- established environmental management procedures
- risk management principles
- control procedures for environmental risks and incidents
- environmental impact assessment
- primary agencies involved in drinking water quality management
- water quality performance indicators
- overview of the water supply system
- water hazardous agents and preventative strategies
- community and agency roles and responsibilities in monitoring water quality
- recording procedures
- basic workplace reporting procedures

Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, the range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

The candidate should demonstrate the ability to work effectively in the water industry including:

- assessing water sustainability strategies, with reference to the structure of the water industry and water industry services
- identifying characteristics of water quality and applying procedures for maintaining water quality to legislation and organisational requirements
- applying key organisational policies and procedures to a specific job role

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Access to the workplace and resources including:

- documentation that should normally be available in a water industry organisation
- relevant codes, standards and government regulations

Where applicable, physical resources should include equipment modified for people with disabilities.

Access must be provided to appropriate learning and assessment support when required.

Assessment processes and techniques must be culturally appropriate, and appropriate to the language and literacy capacity of the candidate and the work being performed.

Validity and sufficiency of evidence requires that:

- competency will need to be demonstrated over a period of time reflecting the scope of the role and the practical requirements of the workplace
- where the assessment is part of a structured learning experience the evidence collected must relate to a number of performances assessed at different points in time and separated by further learning and practice
- a decision of competence only taken at the point when the assessor has complete confidence in the person's competence over time and in various contexts
- all assessment that is part of a structured learning experience must include a combination of direct, indirect and supplementary evidence
- where assessment is for the purpose of recognition (RCC/RPL), the evidence provided will need to be authenticated and show that it represents competency

demonstrated over a period of time

- assessment can be through simulated project-based activity and must include evidence relating to each of the elements in this unit

In all cases where practical assessment is used it will be combined with targeted questioning to assess the underpinning knowledge. Questioning will be undertaken in a manner appropriate to the skill levels of the operator and cultural issues that may affect responses to the questions, and will reflect the requirements of the competency and the work being performed.

Range Statement

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. ***Bold italicised*** wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Add any essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts.

Range of water and waste systems may include:

- water catchment systems
- water storage systems
- water treatment systems
- water distribution systems
- stormwater drainage systems
- sewerage systems and sewerage treatment systems
- trade waste treatment systems

Strategies to ensure long-term water sustainability may include:

- water conservation, including:
 - water saver fittings and fixtures
 - behavioural change
 - water rationing strategies
 - water recycling and re-use
 - water treatment and re-use
 - third pipe systems
 - improved catchment and storage

Legislative, regulatory and licensing requirements will include:

- relevant federal and state or territory legislation and regulations
- codes of practice, associated standards and guidance material
- documented organisational policies, manuals and induction programs
- relevant community planning and development agreements, such as land care agreements

Environmental risks and impacts may include:

- impact of mismanagement of chemicals
- impact of mismanagement of biological agents
- detrimental impact on limited water resource
- spillage
- waste disposal
- detrimental impact on urban and non-urban water catchment areas
- detrimental impact on rivers, waterways and channels
- unsatisfactory water and wastewater treatment processes
- unsatisfactory trade waste treatment and disposal processes
- poor construction processes

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.

Competency field

Common.