

23 August 2024

Open cut examiner of coal mines other than underground mines

Prerequisites and written exam details

1. Prerequisites

An application for examination must be accompanied by evidence that you have the following:

Prerequisite	Requirement
Tertiary or vocational qualification	Any one of the following: • Bachelor of Mining Engineering issued by an Australian university, or • RII40220 Certificate IV in Surface Coal Mining (Open Cut Examiner) issued by a registered training organisation (the superseded qualifications RII40215 & RII40213 Certificate IV in Surface Coal Mining (Open Cut Examiner), or other equivalent superseded qualification is acceptable). If you hold a qualification/unit of competence that is not specified as a prerequisite, refer to Fact sheet - Recognition of qualifications and units of competence.
Practical experience	A minimum of three years practical coal mine other than underground experience*, including: • a minimum two years being present: — with a minimum 1 year in a production area involving the extraction of waste or coal and associated activities and — during other mining activities related to the extraction of waste or coal (this must be included in the three years of experience above) • a minimum six months experience in leading, supervising or co-ordinating workers involved in the extraction of waste or coal and associated activities.

Prerequisite	Requirement
	Your experience must be verifiable and/or signed off by a supervising manager who held a Mining Engineering Manager of coal mines other than underground mines practising certificate at the time of your employment (or an interstate equivalent or relevant). Refer to the Guide: Applying for a certificate of competence for more details.
Emergency preparedness unit	RIIERR401E Apply and monitor surface operations emergency preparedness and response systems, issued by a registered training organisation The superseded units RIIERR401D and RIIERR401B Apply and monitor surface operations emergency preparedness and response systems, or other equivalent superseded unit number is acceptable. If you hold a qualification/unit of competence that is not specified as a prerequisite, refer to Fact sheet - Recognition of qualifications and units of competence.
Portfolio of evidence	You must attach the following documents as evidence of your competence which must be relevant to the function. Your name must be in the document as evidence you were involved. If not, then you must have your supervisor/manager sign off the document confirming your involvement or attach another document confirming eg email. You may attach multiple documents to provide sufficient evidence: • Risk assessment - a copy of a WHS risk assessment that you were involved in at your mine during the last three years • Workplace inspection - a copy of a WHS workplace inspection, task observation or audit, that you carried out and documented for your mine in the last three years • Review of principle hazard management plan or control plan - evidence, such as a report, of your involvement in reviewing a principal hazard management plan or control plan at your mine • Shift handover report, shift work plan or compliance report - a copy of a WHS shift handover report, shift work plan or compliance report that you completed in the last six months. For a shift handover report, the document must include your name and role. • Delivery of workplace training program - evidence of a WHS related training program in a mining or related field that you were involved in developing and delivering for workers in full

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	or part of it at your mine (eg. toolbox talks, shift or work group briefings). As an alternative a completed sign on list of attendees may be provided, with your name on it as the trainer, as evidence that you delivered it. • Safe work procedure or related document for standard setting - a copy of a safe work procedure or related document for standard setting (eg. work instruction, work order job detail) that you actioned at your mine during the last five years For more information about portfolio requirements refer to the Portfolio requirements: certificate of competence examination process
Identity verification	Refer to the Factsheet: Certifying documents and verifying identity

2. Written examination details

The written examination consists of the following papers:

Paper	Method of Examination	Duration of Paper
OCE1 - Legislation	Closed book	1 hour
OCE2 – Practical Open Cut Operations	Closed book	2 hours

2.1. OCE1 – Legislation

You will be required to demonstrate a working knowledge of the Work Health and Safety Act 2011, Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013, Explosives Act 2003, and their supporting Regulations, as they relate to the duties of an open cut examiner. You will also be required to demonstrate a working knowledge on key Standards and guidelines applicable to the supervision of surface coal mining activities.

2.2. OCE2 – Practical Open Cut Operations

This paper will deal with the interpretation and application of mining and engineering principles together with relevant aspects of mining legislation. You will be expected to have knowledge of safe working procedures and the causes and prevention of mine incidents.

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