

May 2024

## **Examiners' report 2024**

### Mining engineering manager of coal mines other than underground coal mines – Certificate of competence

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#### Written examination

#### **OCM1 – Legislation**

##### **Summary of results and general comments**

Exam date: 16 May 2024

Number of candidates: 12

Number passed: 3

Highest mark: 77%

Average mark: 51%

Lowest mark: 20%

Existing candidates: 60% to pass the paper.

New candidates: minimum pass mark of 60.

The written examination saw the introduction of the blueprinting marking process. This was the reason for the unusual total marks score. There were 5 questions in the paper overall. The written results were disappointing with several candidates not competent with the requirements of legislation. The candidates that passed the legislation exam answered the questions well and had familiarised themselves with all sections of legislation particularly when developing PMHMP.

##### **Question 1 (total of 18 marks) Notifiable Incident**

Highest mark: 17

Average mark: 11.5

Lowest mark: 5

Examiners' comments:

Candidates answered this question well overall with most candidates having a good understanding of notifiable incidents.

## **Question 2 (total of 23 marks) Work Health & Safety (Mines) Act 2013 No 54 Part 6 Enforcement measures**

Highest mark: 14

Average mark: 7.8

Lowest mark: 4

Examiners' comments:

Candidates answered this question well overall with most candidates having a good understanding of this section in legislation.

## **Question 3 (total of 15 marks) Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022 Operational controls**

Highest mark: 14

Average mark: 8.4

Lowest mark: 3

Examiners' comments:

This section of legislation is most frequently used in open-cut mining operations and candidates should be familiar with the requirements. Overall, the question was answered well with some candidates confused with other sections of legislation when answering the question.

## **Question 4 (total of 8 marks) Principal hazard management plans – Risks of roads and other vehicles operating areas**

Highest mark: 8

Average mark: 5.4

Lowest mark: 3

Examiners' comments:

Again, this section of legislation is most frequently used in open-cut mining operations and candidates should be familiar with the requirements. Overall, the question was answered well with some candidates confused with other sections of legislation when answering the question.

## **Question 5 (total of 19 marks) Principal hazard management plans –Ground or strata failure**

Highest mark: 19

Average mark: 9.5

Lowest mark: 2

Examiners' comments:

Developing principal hazard management plans is not an area that candidates frequently get involved in but is beneficial for identifying and managing risk and what controls are necessary.

Candidates were able to explain several of the requirements in this section of legislation. Candidates that passed this question had a good basic understanding of what must be considered.

## OCM2 – Open cut mining practice

### Summary of results and general comments

Exam date: 16 May 2024

Number of candidates: 12

Number passed: 6

Highest mark: 76%

Average mark: 59%

Lowest mark: 39%

Existing candidates: 60% to pass the paper.

New candidates: minimum pass mark of 187.

The written examination identified that some candidates had difficulty applying the legislation requirements practically in the field or incident management scenarios. Candidates need to get involved in activities outside of normal mining activities such as contractor management and managing tasks outside of normal mining activities.

### Question 1 (total of 50 marks) Mining Practice Tailings Management

Highest mark: 38.5

Average mark: 29.7

Lowest mark: 18.0

Examiners' comments:

This question was answered quite well. Candidates need to apply practical solutions in some cases such as increased supervision and monitoring.

### Question 2 (total of 50 marks) Incident management

Highest mark: 38.0

Average mark: 28.3

Lowest mark: 17.5

Examiners' comments:

This question was answered well. Candidates were applying site processes when answering the question. Some candidates initiated the mine emergency sub-plan which may not be practical in all incident scenarios due to the timing and magnitude of the incident.

### **Question 3 (total of 50 marks) Explosives Management**

Highest mark: 45.0

Average mark: 26.6

Lowest mark: 11.0

Examiners' comments:

This question was answered reasonably well with candidates having a good understanding of explosive management.

### **Question 4 (total of 50 marks) Safety Management Systems**

Highest mark: 46.0

Average mark: 33.8

Lowest mark: 17.0

Examiners' comments:

Some candidates answered this question well whilst others were not aware of the requirements of legislation when developing PMHMPs and PCPs.

Candidates need to get involved when PMHMPs and PCPs are being updated on their site.

### **Question 5 (total of 50 marks) Incident Management**

Highest mark: 44.0

Average mark: 33.4

Lowest mark: 26.0

Examiners' comments:

This question was answered well candidates were applying site processes when answering the question. Some candidates initiated the mine emergency sub-plan which may not be practical in all incident scenarios due to the timing and magnitude of the incident.

### **Question 6 (total of 50 marks) Project Management**

Highest mark: 41.0

Average mark: 23.7

Lowest mark: 13.0

Examiners' comments:

This question was answered poorly by most of the candidates. Candidates need to get involved in activities outside of normal mining activities such as contractor management and managing tasks outside of normal mining activities.

## Oral examination

Date: 14 August 2024

Number of candidates: 3

Number deemed competent: 3

Examiners' comments:

The successful candidates were able to demonstrate a good knowledge of legislation and applying legislation in the field.

Candidates were able to answer questions using a sequence and displayed they were in control and managing all situations and conditions.

Candidates that passed displayed that they had spent time researching incident learnings and activities that were being conducted on other mine sites to increase their knowledge and risk management in all areas of mining.

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## More information

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## Acknowledgments

Mining engineering manager of coal mines other than underground coal mines examination panel

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