

Minutes

Mining and Petroleum Competence Board

Details

Location: Mining and Energy Union
Nymboida House
L 11 215 Clarence St
Sydney NSW 2000

Date/time: 5 August 2025
9.00am – 3.00pm

Chairperson: Joanne Muller, AM (Independent)

Members Present

1. Chairperson: Joanne Muller, AM (Independent)
2. Member: Angela Hudson (NSW Resources)
3. Member: Anthony Margetts (Resources Regulator)
4. Member: Craig Reed (NSW Minerals Council)
5. Member: Kurt Bridges (Cement Concrete & Aggregates Australia)
6. Member: Peter Denison (Independent) from 1pm
7. Member: Ron Cowdrey (Australian Workers Union)
8. Member: Steve Barrett (Mining and Energy Union)
9. Member: Stephen Tranter (Mining and Energy Union)
10. Member: Anthony Israel (NSW Minerals Council)

Secretariat

1. Javier Garcia, Graduate Policy Officer (NSW Resources)

Observers

1. Andrew Palmer (Resources Regulator)
2. Shane Pegg (Resources Regulator)
3. John Flint (NSW Resources)

Apologies

1. **Member:** Jessica Urquhart (Independent)

This meeting:

No	Issue
1.	<p>Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Board Member Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Hudson delivered the acknowledgement of country. Mr Flint will facilitate the Strategic Planning Session to follow the meeting. <p><u>Outcomes</u></p> <p>The Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Noted the observers for this meeting and the appointments expiring in 2025. Noted the status of the expression of interest process for the Chair.
2.	<p>Declaration of Interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Bridges will abstain from voting on the appointment of Wayne Beattie due to a Conflict of Interest. <p><u>Outcomes</u></p> <p>The Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Declared conflicts of interest arising from the agenda items of the meeting. Declared no changes or additional interests to the pecuniary interests register.
3.	<p>Acceptance of Previous Minutes and Actions</p> <p><u>Outcomes</u></p> <p>The Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Endorsed the 6 May 2025 minutes for publication. Noted the status of actions arising from the previous meeting and those remaining from prior meetings. <p>Actions</p> <p>A. Secretariat to publish the 6 May 2025 minutes on the Resources Regulator’s website.</p>
4.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p><u>Outcomes</u></p> <p>The Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Noted correspondence sent and received by the Board between 12 April and 11 July 2025.

5. Annual Report (Presentation of Draft)

- The Chair formally thanked and commended the NSW Resources Policy Team for the preparation of the Annual Report.

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Endorsed** the draft MPCB Annual Report for 2024-2025 that was presented.

Actions

- B. Secretariat to submit the MPCB Annual Report for 2024-2025 to the Minister's Office for noting prior the 31st of December 2025.
- C. Secretariat to publish the MPCB Annual Report for 2024-2025 on the Resources Regulator's website once it has been noted by the Minister.

6. Report on Outcomes of the 2023 Changes to Manager of Electrical Engineers

- Data gathered from the flexible criteria pilot program was presented. The data showed the pilot program to be a success with no significant differences between the candidates for the pilot program and the control (existing eligible candidates).

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Noted** the outcome of the above pilot program.
- ii. **Recommended** the continued use of flexible criteria for the electrical engineering Certificates of Competency.
- iii. **Endorsed** the Certificate of Competence Working Group to review the results and consider their implementation for other Certificates of Competence.

Actions

- D. Working Group to review the Outcomes of the 2024 Changes to Electrical Engineering certificates of competence and consider the implementation of the pilot program's flexible criteria for other Certificates of Competence.

7. Update on the Operationalisation of the New Auditing Procedure

- The Board discussed the merits of implementing a specific procedure for allowing Practising Certificates to be surrendered on occasions where certificate holders no longer require the use of their certificates and do not wish to continue the Maintenance of Competence.

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Noted** the operationalisation of the Resources Regulator's new auditing procedure.

- ii. **Noted** the 2025 report of completed audits will be presented to the Board during MPCB 2026-2.

Actions

- E. Secretariat to replace references to ‘punitive action’ with ‘enforcement action’ in future papers on the new Maintenance of Competence auditing procedure.
- F. Regulator to add to the practising certificates FAQ outlining the current process for surrendering a Practising Certificate by pursuing non-renewal.
- G. Regulator to present a report on completed Maintenance of Competence audits carried out in 2025 at MPCB 2026-2.

8. **Annual Report for Practising Certificates and Projections**

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Noted** and **Discussed** the report presented.
- ii. **Endorsed** the Certificate of Competence Working Group to further consider the report.
- iii. **Noted** the annual report on certificate of competence exam results (2018 – 2024) is to be tabled at MPCB 2025-4.

Actions

- H. Regulator to present annual report on certificate of competence exam results (2018 – 2024) at MPCB 2025-4.
- I. Certificate of Competence Working Group to consider the Annual Report for Practising Certificates and Projections.

9. **Update on Implementation of Revised MoC Scheme**

- Candidates issued certificates prior to the gazettal of the revised scheme may elect to use the former MoC Scheme requirements. The Department emphasised that candidates in compliance with the former scheme will meet the requirements of the new scheme.

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Noted** the progress of implementing the new Maintenance of Competence scheme.

10. **Update of Working Group**

- The Regulator presented the Board with data collected from the recent Certificate of Competence survey. The Regulator explained that, although the sample size was smaller than had been hoped for, the quality of responses was highly informative.

- The Board discussed if Mutual Recognition fell under the Terms of Reference of the Working Group, due to differing examination standards in jurisdictions outside NSW. Concerns were held by the Board that this may lead to suboptimal competency outcomes, however, it was conceded that there had not yet been any known incidents which had been attributed to this.

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Noted** the update on the activities of the Working Group.

Actions

- J. **Secretariat to circulate the results of the Working Group's Certificate of Competence survey to the Members.**
- K. **The Resources Regulator to consider issues relating to mutual recognition**

11. **Appointment of Examiners**

- The Board discussed whether qualifications in training and assessments needed to be mandatory for potential examiners.

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Approved** the appointment of the applicants, as per the provided brief.
- ii. **Approved** the Chair endorsing the brief on behalf of the Board.
- iii. **Agreed** that qualifications in training and assessment do not warrant being mandatory.

Actions

- L. **Regulator to create mandatory and non-mandatory criteria for examiners.**

12. **Quarterly Report on Certification Outcomes**

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Noted** the Report on Certification Outcomes for April to June 2025.
- ii. **Noted** the Report on Certification Activities Completed April to June 2025.
- iii. **Noted** the Report on Planned Activities for July to October 2025.

13. **Update on the 2024 Work and Communication Plans**

- The Department indicated to the Board that most items from the plans were on track.

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Noted** the status of project identified in the Work Plan.
- ii. **Noted** the general status of actions identified in the Communication Plan.
- iii. **Discussed** the focus areas for the Chair's 2025 presentations.

Actions

M. Secretariat to draft the 2025 Chair's Presentation for the EESS and MEMSS.

14. Meeting Dates & Venues

Outcomes

The Board:

- i. **Noted** the meeting dates and locations remaining for 2025.
- ii. **Approved** the proposed meeting dates for 2026 (3 February, 5 May, 4 August, 3 November).

Actions

N. Members to consider if their organisations might host a meeting in the new year.

15. Additional Business

- No additional business was raised.

16. Strategic Planning Session

- The Board discussed and contributed to the drafting of the Mining and Petroleum Competence Board's Strategic Plan to 2029.

Actions

O. Department to draft the Strategic Plan to 2029 for presentation at MPCB 2025-4.

- Meeting closed at 2:30pm.

Summary of Actions

- A. Secretariat to publish the 6 May 2025 minutes on the Resources Regulator's website.
- B. Secretariat to submit the MPCB Annual Report for 2024-2025 to the Minister's Office for noting prior the 31st of December 2025.
- C. Secretariat to publish the MPCB Annual Report for 2024-2025 on the Resources Regulator's website once it has been noted by the Minister.
- D. Working Group to review the Outcomes of the 2024 Changes to Manager of Electrical Engineers and consider the implementation of the pilot program's flexible criteria for other Certificates of Competence.
- E. Secretariat to replace references to 'punitive action' with 'enforcement action' in future papers on the new Maintenance of Competence auditing procedure.
- F. Regulator to add to a practising certificate FAQ to outline the current process for surrendering a Practising Certificate by pursuing non-renewal.
- G. Regulator to present a report on completed Maintenance of Competence audits carried out in 2025 at MPCB 2026-2.
- H. Regulator to present annual report on certificate of competence exam results (2018 – 2024) at MPCB 2025-4.
- I. Certificate of Competence Working Group to consider the Annual Report for Practising Certificates and Projections.
- J. Secretariat to circulate the results of the Working Group's Certificate of Competence survey to the Members.
- K. The Resources Regulator to consider issues relating to mutual recognition
- L. Regulator to create mandatory and non-mandatory criteria for appointing examiners.
- M. Secretariat to draft the 2025 Chair's Presentation for the EESS and MEMSS.
- N. Members to consider if their organisations might host a meeting in the new year.
- O. Department to draft the Strategic Plan to 2029 for presentation at MPCB 2025-4.

Approval

Name/position	Signature/approval	Date
Angela Hudson	Endorsed	11/11/2025
Acting Chair		