

Submission to MITO on ‘Extractives Unit Standards Consultation’



Submitted on 1 September 2017

MinEx submission to MITO on changes to Unit Standards – August 2017.

MinEx makes this submission in response to MITO’s “Extractives Unit Standard Consultation”, dated 19 July 2017¹.

For your reference, MinEx has also submitted to WorkSafe New Zealand on its discussion document “Proposed requirements for granting Extractives Certificates of Competence” dated June 2017. A copy of this submission is attached in Appendix One. MinEx’ submission to WorkSafe proposes that New Zealand Qualifications Authority (“NZQA”) qualifications replace the current ad hoc group of unit standards required of CoCs for safety-critical roles specified in regulation.

Background to MinEx use same intro as WS sub

MinEx is the national health and safety council for New Zealand’s extractive sector - the mining and quarry industry. Our principal purpose is to help the industry achieve its goal of being free from fatalities, injuries and diseases. MinEx is funded by the mining and quarry sectors – through the respective associations and a number of individual companies – with a mandate to;

1. be the main point of contact with WorkSafe New Zealand (“**WorkSafe**”) and other agencies on all extractive sector matters related to health and safety, and
2. through leadership and consultation develop an industry view on relevant legislation, regulations, guidelines and training matters, and work with WorkSafe and other agencies to adopt and implement those views, as appropriate.

To inform this submission, MinEx consulted with the Aggregate and Quarry Association, the Institute of Quarrying, and many other mining and quarrying operators, some of which made their own submissions referencing MinEx’ work.

Submission

This submission addresses individual unit standards.

Comments on Unit Standards for Tunneling

US 21281

This US needs to cover the potential for methane in its training as it can occur naturally and come from pipe leaks and old rubbish tips.

¹ <https://mito.org.nz/news/extractives-unit-standard-consultation/>

[US 15669](#)

This US should also look at the issue of ground stability under other items of plant that are not near ponds or steep banks and tips. Unstable ground and shifting of loads and or dynamics of load bearing of plant as can happen with cranes and excavators has seen many cranes tip over.

[US 15660/15670](#)

This US is very mine-centric and should have an option and or a section that covers concrete lining as support in underground situations. This may look at pre-cast linings.

[US15662 \(The WorkSafe document proposes to remove this\)](#)

We believe this US should be retained but should also cover precast lining options such as jacked pipes and segments.

[US 21661](#)

This US should reference the underground electrical legislation in Section 1 “Guidance Information”.

[Comments on Unit Standards for Quarries](#)

[Worker Health](#)

With the increased focus on worker health, it is not clear what unit standards contain the skills and knowledge applicants require to meet ever-increasing occupational health requirements. We propose that **US 8902** and **US 7143** be merged into one US and that worker health requirements under Regulation 108 be included in the new US.

[US 28793](#)

We propose that this US be extended to include worker health requirements such as health surveillance and exposure monitoring.

[New US based on 16810, at a lower level](#)

US 16810 is a Level 6 Unit. We propose that a new unit standard be developed on implementing an emergency plan that would be at a level 4, and more appropriate at supervisor/site specific CoC level. As an alternative, US 16805, Manage Workplace Emergency Prevention Processes may be able to fill this void.