

# POLICY

## Qualifications of Mine Safety Inspectors

### Policy statement

This policy establishes the qualifications necessary for appointment as an inspector under the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013*.

It expands on the legislative requirements for appointment.

### Purpose and principles

This policy applies to the appointment of inspectors under the *Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Act 2013* (the “Act”). It does not apply to appointment as a mine safety officer or investigator.

Section 19 of the Act specifies the conditions necessary for appointment as an inspector:

- 19. A person may be appointed as an inspector only if the regulator is satisfied that the person has:*
- (a) appropriate knowledge and skills, and adequate experience, in mining operations or petroleum operations to effectively exercise the functions of an inspector, and*
  - (b) if qualifications are prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this section, those qualifications or qualifications that the regulator determines to be equivalent to those qualifications.*

### Key requirements

A person will only be appointed as an inspector of a mine or petroleum site under section 18(2)(a) of the Act if they have:

- A. the qualifications required to be nominated to exercise the following key statutory functions:
  - mining engineering manager (underground mines or open cut coal mines), or

- electrical engineering manager (underground coal mines), or
- mechanical engineering manager (underground coal mines), or
- electrical engineer (mines other than underground coal mines), or
- mechanical engineer (mines other than underground coal mines), or
- quarry manager;

*OR*

- B. qualifications that the Chief Inspector determines to be equivalent to the qualifications in A.

*OR*

- C. qualifications that the Chief Inspector determines to be appropriate and relevant for undertaking compliance and enforcement of the WHS laws at mines or petroleum sites.

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