

# AQF Level 7 Vocational Degree in Reliability and Testing Engineering

## Phase 3

Claire Werner  
23 July 2026



**Mining and  
Automotive**  
Skills Alliance



## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live and work.

We acknowledge Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community.

We honour and respect their Elders, past and present, and extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



# Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Welcome to Country
- Introduction to the Project Teams
- The Project Committees
- The Webinar Briefings
- Project Overview – what are we developing and why
- Project Status
- Consultation Strategy
- The Project Activities
- Next Steps
- Discussion and Questions
- AUSMASA Project Updates



# AUSMASA Project Team



**Annie Barry**

Manager Training Products



**Magda Van Der Walt**

Project Lead



**Martene Hosking**

Project Coordinator

# MEYVN Group Project Team



**Claire Werner**

Director - Meyvn Group



**Maha White**

Consultant - Meyvn Group

# Bi-Monthly Project Webinars

## Why

To keep government representatives, peak bodies and stakeholders informed as the AQF Level 7 Vocational Degree is developed

To provide a dedicated channel for your input at key points in the project

## Webinar Cadence

Every two months, for one hour, via Microsoft Teams

## How does this differ from the Technical Committee?

The Technical Committee does the technical design work, developing and reviewing the training products

This forum keeps you briefed on progress and seeks your perspective, without the detailed development role

## Project Overview

# Vocational Degree Overview

We will develop and implement Australia's first AQF Level 7 Vocational Degree, focused on the **Reliability Engineer** occupation in the mining sector.

Deliverables:

- 1 new qualification – Vocational Degree in Reliability Engineering; consisting of;
- 39 proposed new Units of Competency
- Updated Companion Volume Implementation Guide (CVIG)

Training Product Development is the third phase of the project. Phases 1 and 2 are now complete and will inform the structure and development of the qualification.



# Phase 1 Overview

**“Was there a need and an appetite?”**

Concluded June 2025

- Desktop research and environmental scan
- Industry consultation
- Opportunity analysis
- Data-based response
- Sample product and role identified
- Reported to DEWR and approval confirmed – June 2025

Investigated both mining and automotive roles.

The headline recommendation was to **proceed to Phase 2 and focus on the Reliability and Testing Engineer role.**



## Project Overview

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# Phase 2 Overview

Concluded January 2026

Guided by two committees

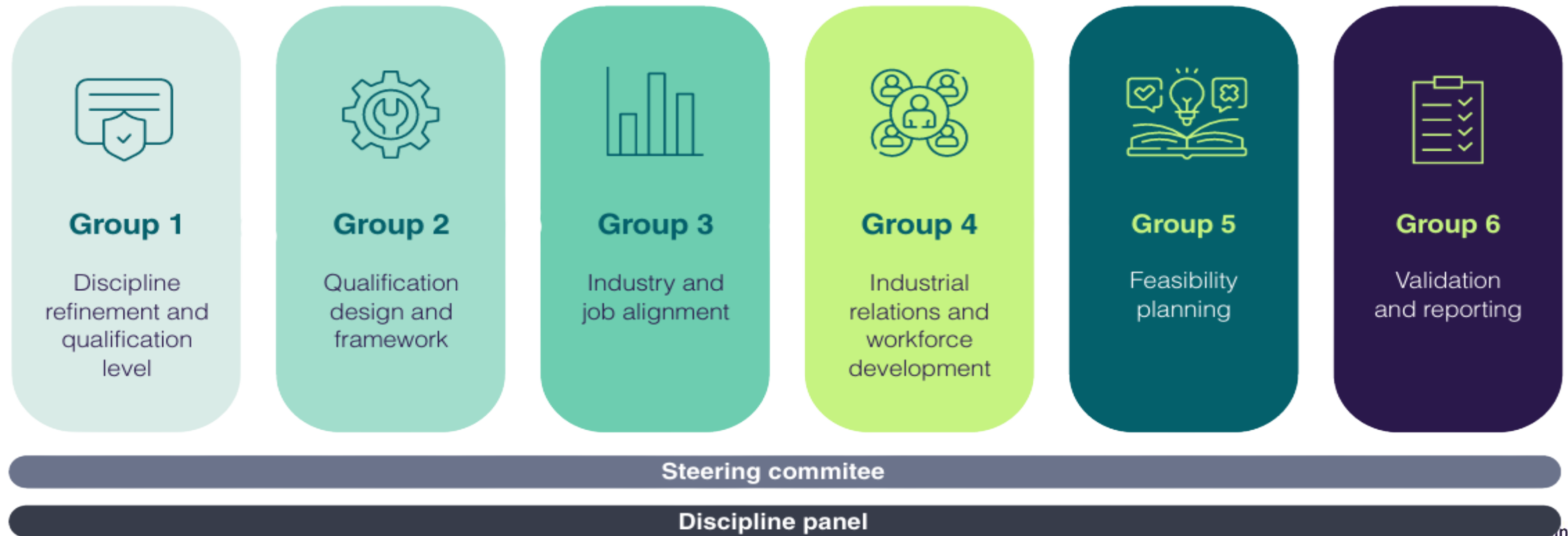
1. **Steering Committee:** Government, Industry, Peak Bodies, RTOs
2. **Discipline Panel:** Engineers with lived experience, engineers with training experience, technical experts, academic experts

Phase 2 was organised into 6 structured activity groups, each representing a distinct stage in the design, validation, and feasibility process leading to the development of the proposed qualification.



# Phase 2

## Scoping Activities



## Project Overview

# Refine & Align Consultation

### Who we consulted:

- **Unions:** Mining and Energy, Electrical Trades, Australian Workers, Australian Manufacturing Workers
- **Jobs and Skills Councils:** Manufacturing Skills Alliance, Public Skills Australia
- **Peak body:** Australian Industry Group

### Stakeholder feedback centered on four core themes:

- **Entry requirements:** Stakeholders emphasised the requirement to consider pathways for diverse learners.
- **Safety:** WIL was widely supported, with a strong focus on the shared responsibility model across the RTO, employer and Learner to ensure safety in the workplace.
- **Regulatory environment:** Stakeholders emphasised the importance of maintaining transparent, ongoing engagement with regulators to ensure quality, rigor and alignment with national standards.
- **Foundation skills:** LLN and academic readiness were highlighted, particularly in relation to entry requirements and ongoing student support.



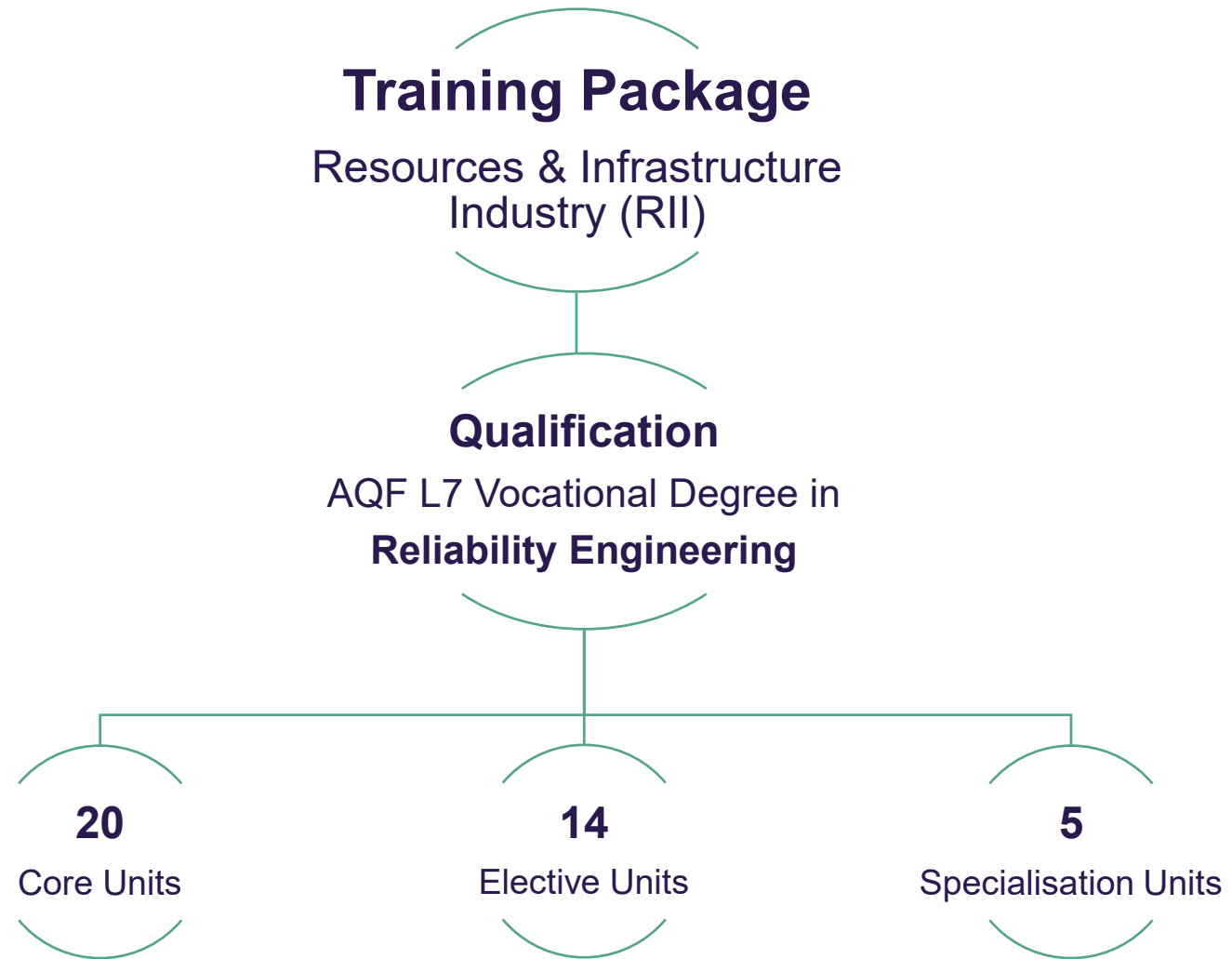
# Project Timeline



# Project Committees

| Technical Committee                                                                                                                                                                               | Work Integrated Learning Committee                                                                                                                                                                | Industrial Relations Consultation                                                                                                                                           | Working Groups                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Subject matter experts from Industry, HE, VET, Contractors, and Regulators</p> <p>Provide technical and industry advice</p> <p>Ensure products are fit for purpose and align with the TPOF</p> | <p>A sub-committee established under the Technical Committee</p> <p>Provide focused expert advice on the design and delivery of the qualification's workplace integrated learning components.</p> | <p>A standing item to consult employee representative organisations</p> <p>Provides a dedicated channel to discuss items relevant to workers and their representatives.</p> | <p>Groups are established on an as-needed basis to inform specific aspects of the work as it progresses.</p> |

# At a Glance



# Capability Clusters



Engineering foundations and technical communication



Safety, risk and environmental compliance



Condition monitoring and diagnostics



Reliability methods and failure prevention



Digital systems, data and enterprise resource planning (ERP) integration



Professional practice, collaboration and influence



Applied research, innovation and systems thinking

# Elective Streams



Energy systems  
and  
sustainability

2 units



Digital and  
data-driven  
reliability

3 units



Materials testing  
and  
innovation

3 units



Industry applications  
and collaboration

3 units



Commercial  
and strategic  
management in  
engineering  
operations

3 units

**Specialisation Elective - Testing & Validation**  
To consist of 5 units, of which all must be completed

# 1

## Foundation Year

Learners build a broad base of theoretical knowledge and practical skills. Emphasis is placed on foundational science and engineering principles, alongside an introduction to reliability concepts.

# 2

## Development Year

Increase in specialised and technical competency clusters with complex, integrated problems – reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of reliability engineering. Learners function more independently in both learning and work applying initiative to troubleshooting.

# 3

## Practicing Year

Integrating all skills in complex, open-ended situation allows for contextual specialisation. The competency clusters at this stage demonstrate advanced application and higher responsibility.

## Project Overview

# Workplace Integrated Learning

WIL is embedded throughout all 3 years of the qualification, rather than being defined to discrete placements.

- Capability clusters include components directly linked to student's workplace experience
- Academic learning and professional practice develop concurrently
- Feedback loops between industry supervisors, lecturers and peers

**Year 1:** Structured exposure and reflection on workplace systems and culture

**Year 2:** Application of technical and analytical skills under supervision

**Year 3:** Autonomous project work demonstrating full professional capability



# Consultation Strategy

### Who we will consult:

- Mining SWAP members
- Peak bodies
- Employers and employer groups
- Employees and their representatives/unions
- Commonwealth, state and territory governments
- Commonwealth, state and territory licensing and regulatory bodies
- Public and private RTOs
- Other Jobs and Skills Councils

### How will we consult:

- Committee meetings and engagements
- Online workshops
- Public consultation
- Government consultation
- Senior Responsible Officials check
- Interviews with targeted stakeholders



# Proposed Webinar Dates



- **Wednesday 16 September 2026**
- **Wednesday 18 November 2026**

# Q&A



# Projects Update

AUR | AUM | RII Training Packages

**July 2026**



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# Critical Control Management

This project will address mine site supervision competencies in the Resource and Infrastructure Industry (RII) Training Package. The review’s focus is on managing risks and issues concerned with high-level health, safety or environmental matters. Existing units have been reviewed to ensure training products are appropriately aligned with legislative requirements for risk mitigation and management on mine sites.

Project progress:

- Targeted consultation closed on 10 July
- Feedback is being incorporated to finalise the draft training products

| Step                            | Date            |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Step 3: Incorporating Feedback  | May – July 2026 |
| Step 4: Senior Officials’ Check | August 2026     |



# Review of Drilling Operations Qualifications

This project involves a national review and revision of a suite of RII drilling qualifications, to align with current industry practices, workforce needs and emerging demands.

It also includes developing 3 new skill sets to support national licensing requirements for water drillers, administered by the Australian Drilling Industry Association (ADIA) and the National Uniform Drillers' Licensing Committee (NUDLC).

- The Training products being reviewed include 5 qualifications, 63 Units of Competency and 3 new Skill Sets.
- Consultation is underway to inform the draft training products
- Project completion due in July 2027

| Step                                     | Date                        |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Step 1: Initial Development              | December 2025 – August 2026 |
| Step 2: Public & Government Consultation | August 2026                 |



# Certificate III in Automotive EV Technology

This project focuses on reviewing and updating the AUR32721 Certificate III in Automotive Electric Vehicle Technology qualification, along with associated battery EV skill sets, to address the evolving needs of the automotive industry amid rapid electrification.

The project responds to industry transformations driven by EV adoption, hybrid technologies, and expansion into adjacent sectors like mobile plant, agriculture and marine. It involves national consultation to ensure training products reflect current technologies, safety standards and job roles.

- Consultation is underway to inform the draft training products
- Project completion due in July 2027



| Step                                     | Date                        |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Step 1: Initial Development              | December 2025 – August 2026 |
| Step 2: Public & Government Consultation | August 2026                 |

# Review of Certificate III in Mobile Plant Technology

This project will review and update AUR31220 Certificate III in Mobile Plant Technology to ensure that future workers develop the necessary skills for the evolving mobile plant sectors, including complex electrical systems and instrumentation.

Project progress:

- Public and Government consultation on first draft training products are now completed
- Feedback is being incorporated into the draft UoC
- Changes to training products are under review by the technical committee

| Step                              | Date             |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Step 3: Incorporating Feedback    | June – July 2026 |
| Step 4: Second round consultation | Aug 2026         |



# Safe and Respectful Workplaces

This project is a collaboration between AUSMASA and Future Skills Organisation (FSO) to develop and contextualise nationally accredited training materials that promote safe and respectful workplaces.

It responds to findings from WA’s inquiry into sexual harassment in the mining industry and amendments to the Fair Work Act 2009.

- AUSMASA is responsible for contextualising the assessment resources developed by FSO for the new unit of competency, ensuring they are suitable for delivery within the mining industry.
- Consult with relevant stakeholders to determine the appropriate RII qualifications for the new unit of competency and incorporate the unit into those qualifications.
- Update and upload the Companion Volume Implementation Guide (CVIG) to reflect the inclusion of the new unit of competency within the relevant RII qualifications.

| Step                                  | Date            |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| FSO – Step 4: Senior Officials’ Check | July – Aug 2026 |



# Handling Automotive Flammable Refrigerant Gases

The project will review and update key units of competency within AUR20220 Certificate II in Automotive Air Conditioning Technology to reflect the skills and knowledge required for the safe handling of highly flammable refrigerant gases in automotive systems.

Project progress:

- Public and Government consultation on first draft training products are now completed
- Feedback is being incorporated into the draft UoC
- Changes to training products are under review by the technical committee

| Step                            | Date      |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Step 4: Senior Officials' Check | July 2026 |



# Thank you

The Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance (AUSMASA) is a Jobs and Skills Council funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.



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# Thank You

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