

Water Allocation



Stakeholder Feedback Report - Validation

4 April 2022

Draft units of competency and skill sets for the Water Allocation and Entitlement Skills Project were made available on the Skills Impact website for stakeholder review from 8 to 24 March 2022. Please visit the website to view a full list of the documents that were submitted for consultation during this phase.

Feedback was received from a variety of stakeholders via email, webinars, phone and email, as follows:

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	National
Government Federal									
Government State									
Government Local									
Employer									
Peak Industry Body									
IRC Representative									
Regulator									
Training Board									
Registered Training Organisation (RTO)									
Union									
State Training Authority (STA)									
Other									

Below is a summary of the feedback raised for the draft skill sets and units reviewed for the project at the Validation stage, and how these have been dealt with. This involves a consideration of the information provided, views of industry stakeholders and from people who are part of the Subject Matter Expert Working Group (SMEWG) process. Resolutions are constructed to consider the needs and views of stakeholders to the extent possible, and to comply with the Standards for Training Packages 2012. The resolutions may represent a compromise on one or more stakeholder views with the aim of a workable outcome for industry, State and Territory Training Authorities (STAs) and training providers.

Acronyms: PC – Performance Criteria, PE – Performance Evidence, KE – Knowledge Evidence, AC – Assessment Conditions, SMEs – Subject Matter Experts, SMEWG – Subject Matter Expert Working Group, FS – Foundation Skills

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Units of Competency Feedback

General Feedback

Organisation Type: Employer, Peak Industry Body

Coverage: QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

For opening statement in the application, add 'or both' in reference to an irrigation footprint or infrastructure

PC 1.1, change 'connected to the' to 'available to the'

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback. These changes have been made.

Organisation Type: Employer, Peak Industry Body

Coverage: QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

PC 1.5- This PC covers product (water type) reliability, which is important

PC 2.1- Change to Confirm private diverter's water licence 'and access' conditions related to water share (allocation), allocation account, reporting requirements, allowable tradeable water carry over component, and where and/or how the water will be used

PC 3.9- Add in- Confirm reporting requirements and complete

Performance Evidence- Add in 'access conditions to dot point 1 so it reads 'confirmed the licence and/or water account conditions and/or types , including access conditions and penalties that may apply'

Knowledge Evidence- change to read 'types and classes of water available in local water market and their access conditions'

Final dot point also covers reliability

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your feedback.

Based on SME advice:

PC 2.1- Suggestion adopted and 'access' has been added after licence

PC 3.9- Suggestion adopted and new PC added - "Confirm and complete ongoing reporting requirements"

Performance Evidence - Suggestion adopted and 'access conditions' has been added

Knowledge Evidence - Suggestion adopted and 'their access conditions' has been added.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Not sure PC3.4 is needed when Monitor lead times also appears in PC3.3

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback.

PC 3.4 has been deleted as suggested.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Regarding PC 4.6 Complete end of year water balance for water account and identify carry over water available - The end of year water balance is also a PE requirement but is not supported by a corresponding KE point.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. "End of year water balance, including any carryover" has been added to the KE.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Regarding Foundation Skills - Numeracy - Identify and interpret trends from water market data sources - Does that include reading tables, graphs and charts?

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. The FS descriptor has been changed to read "Identify and interpret trends from water market data including graphs and charts",

Organisation Type: Employer, Peak Industry Body

Coverage: QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

Title- see if you can change to 'and/ or' production horticulture...

Description- add in 'irrigated agriculture' to first paragraph

PC 1.3- Include transition losses, ie 'Determine the volume of water, including any transition losses, and timing of watering to successfully undertake the agriculture and/or horticulture'

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for this feedback. Based on SME advice:

The title has been changed to "Purchase and sell temporary water for irrigated agriculture, horticulture and production horticulture"

Description - Suggestion adopted and 'irrigated agriculture' has been added to first paragraph.

PC 1.3 - Suggestion adopted with a slight change to terminology - "transmission losses" has been added.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Regarding PC1.3 Determine the volume of water, including transmission losses and timing of watering to successfully undertake the agriculture and/or horticulture - incomplete text?

Also determining the volume of water required or how to determine (written as calculated water volume in the PE) does not appear to be supported in the KE. Knowing how much water is needed and how much is likely to be lost in transmission is an obvious starting point to the process of buying and selling. However, as the application states that this unit is about just buying and selling is it necessary to bring to the determining of volume/calculations into the PCs and PE of this unit? Working out water requirements (volume of water across a variable season) would be a whole job task in itself. If retained the unit needs supporting KE points.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for the feedback.

PC 1.3 has been changed to "Determine volume of water, including transmission losses and timing of watering to successfully undertake the agriculture and/or horticulture activity".

The SMEWG advised that the users of this unit (that reflects AQF level 5 outcomes) will already possess the skills and knowledge to determine the volume of water for agriculture/horticulture activities, including transmission losses. The numeracy FS descriptors also support the outcomes of this PC - "Measure and calculate area, volume, percentage, ratio and price per megalitre (ML)".

Organisation Type: Employer, Peak Industry Body

Coverage: QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

PC 1.2- New wording '1.2 Determine quantity of water available to be carried over and confirm application process (by water authority) based on water entitlement' This includes automatic and manual situations

PC 4.4, add in 'as required' here-' Negotiate lease of space if required' as this inclusive of North Qld practices.

PE Dot point 8. Can we delete this? Strictly speaking you do not need to consult with a water broker. It is not always required as it doesn't always involve a sale transaction, and can be for a persons own use.

KE dot point 14- add in another sub-dot point 'carry over access conditions or scheme rules as determined by state and territory legislation'

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for this feedback. This unit has been revised in response to feedback from several stakeholders. Based on SME advice: PC 1.2- has been reworded to "Determine regulatory limits on amount of water that can be carried over "

PC 4.4 - Suggestion adopted and the PC has been changed to "Negotiate lease of space, if required and complete documentation"

PE Dot point 8. Suggestion adopted and dot point deleted.

KE dot point 14 - Suggestion adopted and dot point added "carry over access conditions or scheme rules as determined by state or territory legislation"

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Regarding PC 2.5 Undertake cost benefit analysis to determine... - Costs and benefits are mentioned in the KE but the cost benefit analysis process is not explicit in KE.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. "Key considerations when undertaking cost benefit analysis for carryover or continuous accounting" has been added to the KE.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Regarding Performance Evidence - used digital technologies to research water products - Use of digital technologies is not explicit in the PCs and not supported by KE

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Noted

Thank you for the feedback.

The SMEWG confirmed that 'used digital technologies to research water products' needs to remain in the PE but 'digital technologies' do not need to be mentioned in the PCs. In this unit, the PE is adding more specificity to the work outcomes covered by the PCs. For example, there are several PCs that require access to, and analysis of information prior to water transactions, that relate to this PE point. This work is typically done using the internet and may be as simple as using a personal computer to access water authority announcements and/or using water trading platform app on a mobile telephone.

The SMEWG supported the addition of the following to the KE: "common digital technologies used to research water market products, including accessing websites using personal computers and mobile devices".

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Regarding Performance Evidence - produced a report for,,, - financial planning - Is this the most appropriate terminology here? Financial planning is not explicit in the PCs or supported by KE.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG advised to replace "financial planning" with "cost benefit analysis" in the PE, because "cost benefit analysis" is referenced in PC 2.6.

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Regarding Performance Evidence - ... produced a report for... - key sources of information for water products - Should sources of information for water products be a specific KE point? Assume this comes from the research undertaken for PC 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3.

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback.

The KE already had a bullet point to cover sources of information needed to find water trading information required for the performance of the unit outcomes. The wording of this bullet point has been revised slightly to include water products. It now reads: "key sources of current information on allocation, allocation announcements, water products and market opportunities".

Organisation Type: Registered Training Organisation

Coverage: VIC

Stakeholder Comments:

Regarding Knowledge Evidence - when and how to seek legal and financial advice - Seeking legal and financial advice is not specified in the PCs. Perhaps consider inserting? Is this KE duplicated in the last KE point/subpoints?

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for the feedback that has helped to clarify the unit outcomes.

The SMEWG advised that it is not necessary to add legal advice in the PCs, because this is not always required for carryover transactions. As suggested, the following bullet point has been removed from the KE - "when and how to seek legal and financial advice" because it is not required in the PCs.

The SMEWG advised to retain "legal considerations" in the last bullet point of the KE related to considerations when developing a carryover water strategy, because this is a genuine consideration for some users of the unit, but does not mandate knowledge of when and how to seek this legal advice.

Organisation Type: Employer, Peak Industry Body

Coverage: QLD

Stakeholder Comments:

My Public Consultation Feedback was correctly adopted, thank you

Consideration and Proposed Resolution:

Feedback acknowledged

Organisation Type: Peak Industry Body

Coverage: National

Stakeholder Comments:

We approve for these water training units and skill sets to become nationally endorsed training package components.

Additional Stakeholder Support: Employer - NSW x 1, Peak Industry Body - NSW x 1, RTO - NSW x 1, Employer - QLD x 1, Peak Industry Body - QLD x 1, RTO - QLD x 1, Employer - SA x 1, RTO - SA x 1, Employer - VIC x 2, Peak Industry Body - VIC x 1, IRC Rep - VIC x 1, RTO - VIC x 1, Employer - National x 2, Peak Industry Body - National x 2, RTO - National x 2

Consideration and Proposed Resolution: Adopted

Thank you for your validation.