

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5 March 2020 at Connexis National Office: Level 13, 40 Mercer Street, Wellington CBD and Microsoft Teams.

**Attendees:** Graeme Jackson, Joseph Reti, Earl Hasse (am), Darran Mumford (am), Dave Edgar, Mike Grumball, Michele Miller.

(via Teams) Stephen Griffiths, Angela Bailey, Katrina Foster, Jackie Messam, Charlie Dixon (am), Dave Houston, Andrew Massie, Antony Ainsworth, David Glenn (pm).

**Apologies:** Matt Iorangi, Jonathan Ackroyd, Mark Way, Graeme Johnson.

Meeting opened at 9.30 with welcome, health, safety & wellbeing, introductions.

### **Progress with other NZ Certificates in Electricity Supply**

- *Substation Maintenance (Level 4)* has been approved by NZQA. Programme to be developed.
- *Transmission Line Maintenance (Level 4)* was reviewed on 13 February. A consultation questionnaire will be put on Connexis website and stakeholders notified by email.
- The need for the *Live Lines qualifications* was established on 13 February. There was discussion about credit value and level of the qualifications. Drafts and a consultation questionnaire will be put on Connexis website and stakeholders notified by email.
- Connexis programme for *NZC Electrical Engineering* with ESI on-job unit standards has been submitted to NZQA.

### **Review of Electrical Codes of Practice (Action point from 13 February)**

The contact for review of ECP 46 is Mark Wogan at Worksafe.

### **Review summary for NZC Electricity Supply (Introductory) (Level 2)**

In 2016, 1700 graduates for Level 2, likely to be due to Telco demand in that year. Since then, graduate numbers have decreased (2017: 648, 2018: 235, 2019: 112).

Noted while 89 trainees are enrolled in Level 2, only 18 are achieving in the correct timeframe. Possible reasons include people being enrolled that are not suitable for the programme, or the time between provider's block courses.

Positive feedback from graduates, employers, and NZQA consistency reviewer. Health and safety and legislation were the most difficult for some to achieve.

Who is the target audience for this certificate? Noted second paragraph of purpose statement states qualification is for anyone entering electricity supply industry, not just electrical workers. This is appropriate as all distribution network staff must meet ENA Common Competency Framework (CCF) 1A Restricted area entry. (10507, 17026, 18038, 30265) [for the distribution sector]. (The CCF 2A requirements are met with the rest of unit standards listed in the L2 programme).

Grid Skills use an e-learning programme to cover the level 2 unit standards, most of which is mapped to the NZC ES (Introductory) programme.

One alternative for non-electrical workers is an induction at level 2 (or microcredential including the four unit standards) but asset owners stipulate a qualification.

Connexis to investigate which unit standards are required for an EWRB Trainee Limited Certificate and confirm the wording of the third paragraph of purpose statement.

Practical testing in US 28020 is not suitable for general audience. Suggest removing outcome 3 (RCD). If this testing is required by EWRB, needs to be covered in a different unit standard. Note proximity testers can be used but are not always reliable.

Range statement in US 20092 is awkward for some contexts. Connexis to follow up.

Noted credit value for US 10508 is high at 6 credits (a 4-page written assessment). However, RG agreed it is best assessed in a practical environment but noted “identify” could be either.

NZQA recommend Level 3 unit standards are not included in a Level 2 programme. Unit 30265 *Apply a health and safety risk assessment to a job role* would therefore not be included in the Level 2 programme.

Reviewed graduate profile outcomes (refer to draft qualification).

- Keep health and safety outcome in core and rewrite to include both contexts, and perhaps Wind Farm.
- Move outcome 2 to ES strand. This is covered in US 18275.

#### **Review summary for NZC Electricity Supply (Cable Jointing High Voltage) (Level 4).**

Currently 65 people enrolled and most are completing in expected time. In 2018 there were 11 graduates, all with the optional strand in 33kV. In 2019, 51 graduates, none with strand. Some will return to complete the strand if required by workplace.

Does strand need to be Level 5? It is not the level but the *training* in 33kV that is valued by trainees. Recommend reducing the level of these US to 4, because these are standard procedures in known situations. (The alternative is to remove the strand and develop a microcredential at Level 5).

Mostly positive responses to a survey of trainees, graduates and employers. The programme needs to avoid repetition (e.g. three unit standards about bending radius of cables; these standards have since been reviewed). There needs to be shorter pathways for people who are already qualified electricians or line mechanics.

Agreed NZC ES (Introductory) (Level 2) should be an entry requirement. This is in line with Line Mechanic Distribution.

Refer to draft qual for recommendations to strategic purpose statement and graduate profile outcomes.

*Unit standards to be revised*

- US 20069 LV paper insulated power cables needs to stay, off-job assessment (one event enough) with no company attestation, as not all companies have exposure to paper insulated pc. Noted it is not being manufactured in NZ but it is still quite common in areas with older cable.
- Recommend a unit standard is developed to assess and acknowledge the skills of jointers who perform pilot cable jointing/terminating. These cables are like the telecommunications copper cables, can be lead sheathed or plastic and vary from 7pr through to 200pr. Although it would be a useful skill for cable jointers, RG recommended not using this an elective in CJHV as there are a limited number of workplaces with exposures to these cables.
- Unit standard 28276 is similar to LMD US 23896. Recommend using the same US for both CJ and LMD. See also US 28279.
- In some workplaces, 22kV is now day-to-day rather than 11kV. The techniques with these cables are similar so recommend US 10547, 20061 and 20535 become 22kV. Change US 10550, 20063 and 28281 “up to 33kV”. Remove references to sweating and welding of joints.
- Change US 18026 and 28278 to “restricted space” instead of “confined space”.
- Rewrite US 28280 to be DKO installation at Level 3. With this unit standard, EWRB may allow Cable Jointers to sign off Certificates of Compliance for the cable lay.
- Change US 24152 to accommodate other tools such as remote-controlled cable cutters to spike the cable instead of a gun.

*Lunch break 12 - 12.40 pm*

**Review summary for NZC Electricity Supply (Utility Arboriculture)**

Numbers of graduates has increased (2017: 16, 2018: 35, 2019: 60) and currently there are 93 trainees. Noted all but one graduate had the optional strand.

Most responses to the graduate survey were positive. 50% graduates were confident about communication processes. This low result may be because there is no specific teaching or assessment about communication processes. All responses to the employer survey were positive. Although only 2 of the 7 employers responded to the survey, the companies that responded accounted for 42% of the total graduates. One commented US 28492 was ‘over the top’.

Discussed Minimum Approved Distance in reference to Tables 6 and 10 of ECP 34. Different networks recognise UA’s work as in Table 10 “Competent electrical worker” zone. Suggest Connexis approach Worksafe to encourage a review of ECP 34. Could add a table for arborists.

Utility Arborist is not a registration class of EWRB, and it is difficult for them to get recognition as “electrically trained”. Noted insulated tool work cannot be done at 1 metre. Suggest a conversation with EWRB is required. Perhaps a case could be made for registration under a current class of electrical worker.

Refer to tracked changes to qualification. Remove GPO about communication (not a key part of UA's role, not covered by the programme).

Entry requirements: Agreed NZC ES (Introductory) (Level 2) should be listed. Check Horticulture certificate is Ref: 2678.

Remove optional strand from qualification given the expectation *all* UAs work in the insulated tool zone.

Programme:

- Remove US 17600 *Work safely at heights* because it is already covered in the Arborist's certificate.
- Could add a unit standard about limits of work for UA, although this should be discussed in learning activities for US 17151.
- Lower level of 18030 to level 3 (equivalent to US 18272), so most of programme consists of Level 3 unit standards.
- Noted level 4 is appropriate for US 28494 and 26705 because most UAs work without direct supervision.

Closed meeting at 1.30 pm with thanks to all participants.