



**CIVIL CONTRACTORS
FEDERATION**

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CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE PIPELINE THREAT

Australia's peak voice for the **Civil Infrastructure** sector has today sent a stern warning that Australia's civil infrastructure pipeline of road and rail projects is at serious risk of stalling due to a shortage of skills and tightening access to raw materials from quarry operations.

With Australia's freight task doubling every 20 years and population growth heading toward 30 million by 2030, the Civil Contractors Federation is calling on the Federal Government to link arms with the States to address these issues as a matter of urgency.

Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Contractors Federation Christopher Melham said his organisation is furious that a submission lodged by CCF to the Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2018 seeking a reclassification of several civil occupations as trades within the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations* (ANZSCO) coding system was rejected. "There excuse – budgetary constraints", Melham said.

CCF is advocating for various occupations within the sector to be reclassified and formally recognised with the ANZSCO system so an apprenticeship program can be offered to students and other personnel looking to build a career in the civil construction sector. "Without the reclassification of these occupations we cannot replace workers lost to the industry, nor can we attract school leavers to pursue a career in Civil", he said.

Quarry owners are also struggling to keep up with the increased demand for raw materials (e.g. sand and aggregate) required for major constructions and new quarry licensing approvals are being hampered by red tape.

CCF is calling on the Federal and State/Territory Governments to address these issues as a matter of urgency and is encouraging political parties to adopt a bipartisan approach to the infrastructure reform agenda.

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About the Civil Contractors Federation

The Civil Contractors Federation (CCF) is the peak employer body representing over 2,000 companies engaged in civil construction in every jurisdiction of Australia. CCF Members are responsible for the construction and maintenance of Australia's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, pipelines, drainage, ports and utilities. CCF members also play a vital role in the residential and commercial building construction industry by providing earthmoving and land development services including the provision of power, water, communications and gas.

Constructing Australia's Infrastructure