

Department of Education, Skills and Employment

Via email – vet-reforms-engagement@dese.gov.au

Improving industry engagement and reforming qualifications in Vocational Education and Training

To whom it may concern

The Civil Contractors Federation National (CCF) is pleased to provide feedback on the Improving industry Engagement and Reforming Qualifications in Vocational Education and Training Discussion Paper.

The Civil Contractors Federation is the peak industry body for the civil construction industry. We have 2000 members Australia-wide, who are responsible for the construction and maintenance of Australia's civil infrastructure, including roads, bridges, pipelines, drainage, ports and utilities. CCF is also the owner of 'CivilTrain' one of the largest private Registered Training Organisations in the civil construction sector.

CCF has reviewed the Discussion Paper and notes many of the matters the Department is seeking feedback on have previously been addressed by CCF in prior submissions to Government. I therefore attach for the Department's consideration the following CCF submissions:

- **Review of the Australian Apprenticeships National Skills Needs List**, 30 January 2020. This submission outlines the infrastructure and construction skills urgently requiring formal recognition on the NSNL. These skills include, for example, bridges, road and tunnel constructors, civil plant operators, pipe layers and line markers.
- **Interim Report Skills and Workforce Development Agreement**, 16 July 2020. This submission highlights a range of measures needed to achieve a more efficient and competitive VET sector. In this regard, CCF reiterates its policy position that additional Commonwealth funding for VET courses is required. This additional funding should be made available to *all* providers - industry RTOs, private RTOs and TAFE.
- **Civil Contractors Federation National Skills Survey**, 6 November 2020. This industry-wide survey obtained information and data on the skills needs of CCF members and provided recommendations to government to ensure there are sufficient skilled workers in the civil construction sector to support a thriving and sustainable industry that will lead Australia's economic recovery.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information in relation to this submission.

Yours sincerely



Chris Melham
Chief Executive Officer
Civil Contractors Federation National
1 March 2021