



SSSIWA Engineering & Mine Surveying Commission

Invitation for Industry Comment

Strengthening Western Australian Mine Surveying Standards

The Western Australian Mine Survey Board intends to investigate the possibility of introducing Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and annual registration requirements for all Western Australian Authorised Mine Surveyors.

The board foresees the following benefits for WA Mine Surveying with the possible introduction of CPD and Annual Registration requirements:

- WA Mine Surveying Standards will be further strengthened
- Will assist to bring WA Mine Surveyors up to a National Standard
- Will assist with making the Mutual Recognition process work between states

Before investigating the proposal any further, the WA Mine Survey Board wishes to consult with the WA Mine Surveying community and supporting institutions to gather relevant information and views on the possible successful implementation of CPD & Annual registration.

Submissions

On behalf of the WA Mine Survey Board, the SSSIWA Engineering & Mine Surveying Commission invites all interested persons & organizations to make a formal submission to the board to support, object or provide comment on any part of the proposal. Background information is included in subsequent pages in order to assist with making an informed submission.

All received submissions will be tabled for review at the next WA Mine Survey Board meeting.

Formal Submissions can be sent to **Renny Leo** at: kemsig@kemsig.com.au or in writing to:

WA MSB Industry Comment,

PO Box 2667, Boulder WA 6432

Submissions will close on the 1st of October 2010

Renny Leo

SSSIWA Engineering & Mine Surveying Commission

Industry Comment – Background Information

The [“Review of the Mines Safety & Inspection Act 1994”](#) by Commissioner SJ Kenner was released in 2009 with four recommendations (76 – 79) being made in relation to Mine Surveying – pages 272 to 283. The Department of Mines & Petroleum in conjunction with the WA Mine Survey board is compelled to respond to these recommendations as well as other relevant points Kenner has raised in relation to WA Mine Surveying.

The Invitation for Industry Comment is in direct response to Point 1260. Page 279, where both Kenner & most Mine Survey Board members who were interviewed, “agreed that the concept of continuing professional development should be addressed, in order to maintain standards and update skills and knowledge, in relation to changing techniques in Mine Surveying”.

Points for Consideration

- The Department of Mines & Petroleum & the Mine Survey Board indicated at the last board meeting held on Tuesday 16th of March, 2010 that any move towards a CPD / Annual registration requirement for WA Mine Surveyors would need to be managed correctly and be beneficial to the individual.
 - Correct Management includes:
 - Consultation with the WA Mine Surveying Community
 - Consultation with supporting Institutions
 - Investigate best practice both nationally and internationally
- The DMP & the MSB view the profession of Mine Surveying to be in the same “Professional” bracket as Mining Engineers & Mine Geologists.
- The purpose of individuals participating in CPD activities is to:
 - Maintain or increase levels of technical and professional competence;
 - Extend the range of professional skills;
 - Develop new areas of expertise;
 - Promote confidence and pride in their work;
 - Establish links with fellow professionals; and
 - Increase and broaden career options.
- Annual registration is a mechanism that is aimed at ensuring professional standards are maintained by the individual through the completion of yearly CPD requirements. Most state & national jurisdictions have a requirement of obtaining 15 CPD points per year.
- Annual registration would help to delineate WA Mine Surveyors as practicing or non-practicing, thus insuring professional standards are maintained.

- The current WA Mine Survey Authorisation process would not be affected. An authorization is held for life unless the WA Mine Survey board finds good reason to revoke it as per regulations. This is also the case for other states.
 - Mutual Recognition Agreements – in all states there is operating mutual recognition agreements in place for Mine Surveyors. WA reciprocates with all other states. NSW & QLD do not currently reciprocate WA Authorisations due to a lack of CPD & annual registration requirements.
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Further information on other jurisdictions that have CPD & Annual Registration requirements can be found at the following website:

Council of Reciprocating Surveyors Boards of Australia and New Zealand

<http://www.surveyor.asn.au/>

Review of the Mines Safety & Inspection Act 1994

http://www.wairc.wa.gov.au/Files/DiscussionPapers/MI_Act_KennerReview1994.pdf