

## **INQUIRY INTO BENEFICIAL AND PRODUCTIVE POST- MINING LAND USE**

**Organisation:** BCR Training Advisory Body

**Date Received:** 24 June 2024

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### **Submission to Inquiry into beneficial and productive post-mining land use**

- BCRITAB supports the committee's objective of advancing consideration of productive use of post-mining land in NSW, both as a means of establishing new and productive industries and providing a possible transition pathway for workers impacted by the scaling down or closure of mining operations.
- BCRITAB's responsibilities include the resources sector (including open cut and underground mining), and building, construction and infrastructure – meaning it is in a position to comment on those sectors in which it has expertise.
- In a post-mining environment, there are opportunities for the construction sector to play a role, including in providing the workforce that will be needed to develop new industries and communities.
- There may also be a role for building and construction workers to be permanently engaged in activities such as pre-fabricated construction, supporting government ambitions to develop thousands of new and low cost homes.
- While there are many skilled workers in the mining sector, the majority do not have formal qualifications – meaning that any transition to other industries may require training or upskilling.
- Catering to a new workforce with the skills needed would require a significant effort by the vocational education and training (VET) system, via TAFE and private training providers.
- With some of these activities in regional and remote areas, innovative approaches to delivery of training – face-to-face, online and hybrid – may be required.
- It is worth noting that for some workers, training or re-training may be a challenge, since it may be later in their working lives, and a considerable time since they have experienced formal education or training.
- Workers with skills and experience in traditional mining operations would be well suited to the area of critical minerals, which is a priority sector for both the NSW and Commonwealth governments, although this may involve relocation.
- Some workers from mining operations may be suited to construction activities associated with building new homes, facilities or infrastructure, although the skills required are distinct, and gap training would inevitably be needed.

## **About Us**

BCRITAB is one of ten 10 Industry Training Advisory Bodies (ITABs) in NSW, funded through the Department of Education, that provide independent industry advice to the NSW Government. BCRITAB is responsible for the Building, Construction, Resources and Infrastructure sectors. Its role includes:

- identifying industry skill needs
- promoting training to industry
- advising on apprenticeship and traineeships
- advising on school based apprenticeship and traineeships, and VET in schools.

**For more information**, please contact:

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