

## **Statement of Australian Government priorities Powering Skills Organisation**

This Statement sets out the Australian Government's priorities for **Powering Skills Organisation**.

### **Government policy priorities and objectives for all JSCs**

We expect your organisation to be actively involved in:

- addressing Australia's productivity challenges, including undertaking activity that supports building a skilled, adaptable and inclusive workforce
- working with my department, First Nations peoples, industry (employers and unions) and other JSCs to progress the priority reforms under the Closing the Gap National Agreement
- addressing system inclusivity in gender-segregated industries including by examining education and training pathway choices, and how these intersect with the gender make-up of occupations and industries
- using strategic workforce planning and strong stakeholder engagement to continue building a shared, evidence-based view of the challenges and opportunities for your industries and across JSCs
- reflecting the possible impacts of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and broader digital transformation in workforce planning analysis, particularly emerging and changing skills needs within your industry sectors, and incorporating data, digital and AI learning outcomes into the design and review of qualifications and training products
- ensuring all updates to training products embed Qualification Reform principles to deliver streamlined, relevant, and future-ready qualifications. This includes reducing duplication, aligning with current and emerging workforce needs across jurisdictions, and responding proactively to industry and learner expectations.

### **Government policy priorities and objectives for Powering Skills Organisation**

We acknowledge that Powering Skills Organisation has a significant program of work underway in support of the energy, gas and renewables sectors.

Recognising your existing workplan and government priorities as they relate to your industries, we expect Powering Skills Organisation to also:

- support Australia's goal of reaching net zero by 2050 through contribution to the Future Made in Australia agenda and the Australian Government's Net Zero Plan, with a particular focus on the Electricity and Energy Sector Plan and its interactions with other sectors
- continue developing expertise in Australia's energy skills and workforce needs by providing insights into challenges faced by diverse groups, identifying barriers to entry and retention, and conducting in-depth analysis of skill and training requirements in alignment with the National Skills Agreement priority of supporting the net zero transformation
- work closely with relevant government departments to assist in the development and implementation of the National Energy Workforce Strategy, the First Nations Clean Energy Strategy, the National Energy Transformation Partnership and Australia's National Hydrogen Strategy 2024

- provide energy workforce and skills insights to the Net Zero Economy Authority to ensure the Energy Industry Jobs Plan supports decommissioning regions to transition successfully.

### **Partnering for success**

Success of the JSC Program depends on your organisation working in close partnership with your industries, employers, unions and other stakeholder groups, my department and other government agencies. This includes establishing and strengthening formal partnerships with First Nations peoples, enabling shared decision-making, and supporting projects that empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to determine and drive their own economic development. Our department will support your efforts to bring together industry (employers and unions) and government to shape and drive workforce solutions across the economy, including by providing information and fostering connections across government.