

Energy & Environment Awards RPL Guidance for Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Gas) and (Water)

This guidance is underpinned by, and should be read in conjunction with, the **Energy & Environment Awards Recognition of Prior Learning and Recognition of Prior Achievement Policy** (herein referred to as the Energy & Environment Awards RPL and RPA Policy). It provides additional guidance to support the application of the Energy & Environment Awards RPL and RPA Policy specifically for learners wishing to register on the following qualifications:-

- Energy & Environment Awards Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Gas)
 - Main Layer
- Energy & Environment Awards Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Gas) – Service Layer
- Energy & Environment Awards Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Gas) – Escape, Locate and Repair
- Energy & Environment Awards Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Water) – Main Layer
- Energy & Environment Awards Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Water) – Service Layer
- Energy & Environment Awards Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Water) – Repair and Maintenance

Recognition of Prior Learning – Experienced Workers

These qualifications are suitable for both new entrants to the industry and job role, as well as those who are already in post and may be referred to as “experienced workers”. There may be occasions where experienced workers already have prior learning and/or experience which enables the learner to meet the requirements of specific learning outcomes and/or assessment criteria within a qualification unit. This means the learner may not need to undertake the same amount of training / guided learning as other learners completing the same unit. They would, however, still need to complete the unit’s assessment.

In these situations the Centre must collate, record and safely store valid, current, reliable, authentic, sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the learner has already acquired the relevant knowledge, understanding and/or skills to negate the need to complete some, or all, of the learning outcomes and/or assessment criteria within a unit. The Energy & Environment Awards RPL and RPA Policy provides more detailed information about how Centres can generate evidence so that it meets these requirements, along with examples of suitable types of evidence.

Specific examples for the experienced worker accessing the Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Gas) and (Water) qualifications may include, but not be limited to:

- A record of the learner's induction programme or any associated training which they have undertaken recently which clearly identifies specific learning outcomes and/or assessment criteria from a unit within the NCO qualification that the learner has already covered.
- A witness testimony written and signed by an individual who has competence and expertise relevant to the skills, knowledge and understanding requirements of the unit, for example the learner's manager / supervisor or technical advisor. The witness testimony needs to which detail the underpinning knowledge and/or skills which the learner has demonstrated in their work activities, which is clearly linked/mapped to the relevant unit(s) within the NCO qualification.

Recognition of Prior Learning – Street Works Certificates

Energy & Environment Awards have mapped the content of three units within the Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Water) and the Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations (Gas) to the corresponding Street Works Certificates.

Level 2 Diploma in Network Construction Operations Unit:	Street Works Certificate:	Mapping Outcome:
Install equipment for safe working on the highway for utilities network construction	Signing, lighting and guarding	Not fully mapped

Locate and avoid supply apparatus for utilities network construction	Location and avoidance of underground supply apparatus	Not fully mapped
Excavate and maintain holes and trenches for utilities network construction	Excavation in the highway	Not fully mapped

There are a significant number of assessment criteria within each of the Network Construction Operations units which are not covered through achievement of the corresponding Street Works Certificate. However, Energy & Environment Awards recognises that evidence of the learner's achievement of the relevant Street Works Certificate can be used as partial evidence for the Network Construction Operations unit listed above. Learners are therefore required to generate further evidence to demonstrate their competence and underpinning knowledge, which may typically be two further pieces of evidence, one of which should be on a work site. However, as stated in our assessment strategy there may be occasions where one further piece of evidence is sufficient to demonstrate the learner's competence and knowledge; as applied over time.