

Want a job in the resources sector?

After Gina Rinehart was allowed to use 1700 '457 visa' workers at Roy Hill, without advertising jobs locally, your unions campaigned for the federal government to set up a Jobs Board and to make sure local workers get offered resource sector jobs first. Now, all jobs must be advertised locally before employers can apply to use guest workers.

visit www.jobsearch.gov.au
& click 'Resource Sector Jobs Board'



AMWU
1300 732 698



THE AUSTRALIAN WORKERS' UNION
1300 885 653



CFMEU
cfmeu.net.au



ETU
Electrical Trades Union
etunational.asn.au



MUA
mua.org.au



ACTU
australian council of trade unions
1300 486 466

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What is an
Enterprise
Migration
Agreement (EMA)?

An Enterprise Migration Agreement (EMA) is an agreement between the project owners of major resource construction projects and the Australian Government. It provides the project owner with up-front approval for an agreed number of temporary 457 visa workers to be employed during the life of the project, in 'semi-skilled' or sub-trades occupations and also in trades occupations with lower English skills than the standard 457 minimum English.

Did unions
support EMAs?

No. Unions were part of the federal government's National Resource Sector Taskforce, but did not support the recommendation to create EMAs. Unions on the Taskforce argued that employers should invest in training more apprentices, and that employers should have to test the market for skilled and semi-skilled Australian workers before being allowed to use guest workers on their projects.

Unions will continue to fight for Australian workers to be given first opportunity to fill all resource sector jobs, and will not support guest workers on any EMA unless satisfied that no qualified Australian workers are available.

Employers should invest in training and apprenticeships, not just import guest workers. For too long, employers in the resource sector have failed to invest properly in training. Now they are complaining that there are no skilled or semi-skilled workers to employ on their projects. They can't have it both ways. The 'skills crisis' is in fact part of a training crisis, which employers have created themselves. They should invest more in training Australians to fix it, not be allowed to make the problem worse by importing skilled and semi-skilled workers on temporary visas.

What jobs are
available and
what qualifications
do I need to work
in the resource
sector?

The resources sector is looking for workers in all sorts of occupations. This includes both skilled trades such as electricians, fitters and mechanics, and semi-skilled occupations such as plant operators, crane operators, scaffolders, riggers and concreters. For some jobs, you will need a trade level qualification. For other jobs, the relevant qualification may take as little as two weeks, such as a rigger's certificate.

You can list your existing skills and qualifications on the Jobs Board, and also let the resources sector companies know you are willing to receive any additional training that is required to do the work.

How can the
Jobs Board
help me?

The Federal Government's Jobs Board will have details of all available jobs. You can register your details so that resource sector companies know you are ready for work and you can also apply for specific vacancies. Just visit www.jobsearch.gov.au and click on the 'Resource Sector Jobs Board' tab. Employers under an EMA project must advertise on the Jobs Board before they can resort to overseas labour.

If you have a problem registering with the website, don't hear back about an application, or have any other complaint, please let your union know via the phone number or website on this leaflet.

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