

## 9) BLASTING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

With effect from 01 June 2017, the DMR will commence with the administration of the examinations for blasting certificates. The provisions of Minerals Act regulations 28 and 29 in force in terms of item 4 of schedule 4 of the Mine Health and Safety Act, 1996 (Act 29 of 1996), as amended (MHSA), will be enforced by the DMR when administering the blasting certificate of competency examinations. The MQA will continue issuing the rock breaker or equivalent qualification until the expiry of the qualification.

In terms of schedule 22.4.1(1) 1 of the MHSA, for the purpose of regulation 4.4(1) "competent person" means a person who is in charge of workmen in a working place at the mine and who is the holder of a certificate or qualification recognised by the Department for this purpose, valid for the class of mine to which the mine belongs.

In terms of schedule 22.4.1(1) 1 of the MHSA, the following certificates or qualifications will be recognised by the DMR:

- The blasting certificate issued by the DMR until 30 June 2009;
- Rock breaker or equivalent qualification issued by the MQA from 01 July 2009 to 31 May 2017; and
- Blasting certificate that will be issued by the DMR with effect from 01 June 2017.

With effect from 01 June 2017, any learner entering or completing the rock breaker or equivalent qualification will be required to do the blasting certificate examination in order to be recognized by the DMR.

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All rock breaker or equivalent qualifications issued from 01 June 2017 until the expiry of the MQA rock breaker or equivalent qualification will not be recognized by the DMR. All the holders of the rock breaker or equivalent qualification obtained from 01 June 2017 until the expiry of the MQA rock breaker or equivalent qualification must apply to the DMR to be examined to obtain a DMR blasting certificate.

The employers are requested to submit the names of the nominees who can assist the Department of Mineral Resources in conducting Blasting Examinations.