

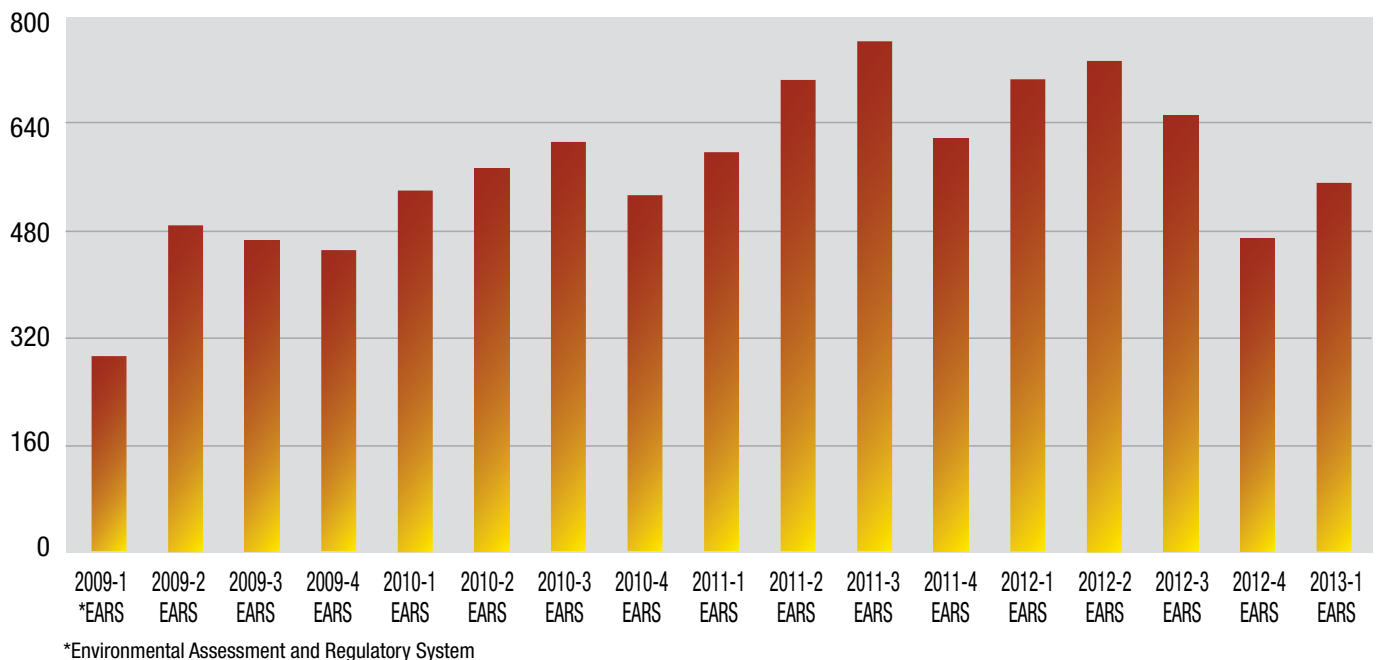


Approvals Performance Report

During the March 2013 quarter, the department's electronic information systems showed it received a total of 1004 mineral tenure applications comprising 676 exploration licences, 243 prospecting licences, 45 miscellaneous licences, 33 mining leases, five general purpose leases and two retention licences. This is slightly less than the number of applications received (1023) in the previous quarter. The department finalised 98 per cent of exploration licence applications within the target of 65 business days. 557 Programme of Work applications and 64 mining proposals were received during this quarter. 92 per cent of Programme of Work applications and 76 per cent of Mining Proposals were finalised within the target of 30 business days.

The number of mineral prospecting and exploration applications (Programmes of Work) increased from 472 in the previous quarter to 557 in the March quarter. This first quarter "bounce" is consistent with other first quarter trends over the last four years, although still well below the first quarter 2012 706 applications received. The graph below illustrates the number of programmes of work received by the department from first quarter 2009 – first quarter 2013.

**MINERAL EXPLORATION – PROGRAMMES OF WORK
1Q 2009 – 1Q 2013**



The department received 57 native vegetation clearing permit applications during this quarter. Only 51 per cent of native vegetation clearing permit applications were finalised within the target timeline of 60 calendar days. This is below the DMP performance target of more than 80 per cent of clearing permits finalised within 60 calendar days. The restructure of the Environment Division and the subsequent merging of the Native Vegetation Clearing Branch with the Mineral Environmental Branch will be managed closely to ensure an improvement in this unacceptable level of performance.

The department received 14 petroleum applications and renewals. 67 per cent of petroleum well applications were finalised within 40 working days. A total of 57 petroleum environment plans, bridging documents and oil spill contingency plans were received for planned petroleum activities in the State. 98 per cent of petroleum environmental plans were finalised within the target of 30 business days.

The Department received 20 mine safety Project Management Plans and eight Radiation Management Plans (RMPs) during the March quarter. 94 per cent of Project Management Plans and 80 per cent of RMPs were finalised within the target of 30 business days.

Online Lodgement

During the March quarter, 32 per cent of petroleum environmental applications and 100 per cent of resource safety Project Management Plans were lodged online. 66 per cent of all mineral exploration licence applications and 65 per cent of mining proposals were lodged online. Online lodgement provides more certainty and reduces approval timelines for proponents and reduces administrative handling and costs for government.

The focus for 2013 will be on identifying glitches while adding additional automation in the electronic systems. DMP will also be extending online services for reports required as conditions of approval, improving the useability of DMP's website and increasing the transparency of key approval processes.

Annual Environmental Reports Online

From 1 July 2013, DMP will require Annual Environmental Reports (AER) to be lodged online. AER paper submissions will not be accepted by DMP after 1 July 2013. Online submission of AER's became available in December 2012.

The online system provides industry with the ability to track the progress of their AER and it provides increased transparency for the public to see how resource companies are responding to their environmental responsibilities such as rehabilitation progress of disturbed areas.

DMP APPROVALS PERFORMANCE – FIRST QUARTER 2013

The below table provides information regarding the number of mining and petroleum applications received by the department during the specified period. DMP timeline target, approval performance measures and number of applications carried over to the next quarter are provided for key approval processes. The timeline target applies to processes completed by DMP and does not include, for example, the time taken for assessment by other government agencies or where the assessment process is put on hold while additional information is being sought from applicants.

Minerals Sector								
	Timeline target (business days)	No. carried over from previous quarter	No. applications received	Total No. finalised	No. refused, rejected or withdrawn	Total no. finalised within timeline target	% finalised within timeline target	No. carried over to next quarter
Tenure applications								
Data used to assess performance against the timeline target only applies to applications received since 1 January 2009 (when the tracking of applications commenced). The total number of applications in the system have been separated into two categories – those received since 1/1/2009 and those received prior.								
Prospecting Licence	65	1376	243	350	59	336	96%	1269
- pre 1/1/09		150		20				130
Exploration Licence	65	2541	676	481	234	474	98%	2736
- pre 1/1/09		440		50				390
Mining Lease	65	193	33	19	9	15	79%	207
- pre 1/1/09		560		90				470
Others (Miscellaneous, General Purpose, Retention Licence)	65	548	52	94	39	91	97%	506
- pre 1/1/09		151		15				136
Exploration and mining applications								
Programme of Work	30	327	557	381	33	354	93%	503
Mining Proposal	30	188	64	62	15	46	74%	190
Native Veg. Clearing Permit	60 calendar days*	43	57	43	1	22	51%	57
Note: DMP assess resource sector native vegetation clearing permit applications via a delegation from Department of Environment and Conservation. *DMP's approval performance target is to achieve greater than 80 per cent of applications finalised within 60 calendar days.								
Mine safety applications								
Project Management Plan	30	13	20	18	0	17	94%	15
Radiation Mngt. Plans	30	1	8	5	2	4	80%	4

Petroleum and Geothermal Sector								
	Target Timeline (business days)	No. carried over from previous quarter	No. applications received	Total number finalised	No. refused, rejected or withdrawn	Total no. finalised within timeline target	% finalised within timeline target	No. carried over to next quarter
Petroleum tenure and activity applications								
These applications include the grant or renewal of titles for Exploration Permits, Production Licences, Retention Leases, Pipeline Licences, Infrastructure Licences, Special Prospecting Authorities and Access Authorities. Key approval processes under "Surveys" include operational activities for special prospecting /access authorities, scientific investigations and survey applications								
Exploration Permits	120	57	3	5	1	0	0%	55
Production Licence Retention Leases	90	21	2	0	0	0	–	23
Pipeline Licences	90	19	0	1	0	1	100%	18
Wells	40	20	5	3	2	2	67%	22
Surveys	40	45	4	4	0	3	75%	45
Petroleum environmental applications								
Incorporates environmental management plans, bridging documents and oil spill contingency plans.								
Environmental Plans	30	60	57	57	41	56	98%	60