



Approvals Performance Report (October – December 2014)

The approval performance target for the department is to achieve greater than 80 per cent of applications finalised within the target timeline.

December quarter 2014

During the December quarter 2014, the Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) received a total of 882 mineral tenure applications. Ninety seven per cent of applications were finalised within the target timeline of 65 working days. DMP received 548 mining environment and safety applications. Ninety six per cent of applications were finalised within the timeline target of 30 business days. The department received 241 petroleum tenure, environment and safety applications. Eighty two per cent were finalised within the target timelines. In particular, petroleum exploration permit applications (78%) showed significant improvement.

Calendar year 2014 summary

During 2014, the department received 3359 mining tenement applications. Ninety six of these applications were finalised within the target timeline of 65 business days. The department received 2294 mineral exploration and mining environmental applications. Ninety five per cent of these were finalised within the target timeline of 30 business days. Ninety eight per cent of the 78 resource safety applications received during 2014 were finalised within target timelines. During 2014, the department received 415 petroleum applications and 76 per cent of these were finalised within the target timelines. Ninety per cent of the 392 petroleum environment applications were finalised within the statutory timeline of 30 calendar days.

Five year mineral exploration trends

The December quarter 2014 completes 5 years of approval performance reporting by DMP. The graph below shows the number of mineral exploration “Programme of Work” applications received by the department from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2014. A seasonal trend is evident with a significant reduction in the number of exploration applications during the 4th quarter each year. Following the global financial crisis, a change in government late 2008 and the subsequent removal of a uranium mining ban, higher numbers of mineral exploration applications were received during 2009 – 2012. Since 2012, a declining trend is evident reflecting a period of mine expansion and, more recently, lower commodity prices.



