



Quarter 3 | 2017

Approvals Performance Report September Quarter 2017

Highlights

During the September quarter 2017, the department received 509 mineral Exploration Licence, 349 Prospecting Licence and 70 Mining Lease applications. Ninety-eight per cent of Exploration and Prospecting Licence applications were finalised within 65 business days. Fifty-eight per cent of Mining Lease applications were finalised within 65 business days. This is below the DMIRS approval performance target of finalising more than 80 per cent of applications within the target timeline. Changes to government policy and internal administrative actions relating to the end of the Mine Rehabilitation Fund reporting period affected the department's Mining Lease approval performance.

The number of mineral exploration Programme of Work applications received during the September quarter remained steady at 658. The number of Programme of Work applications received during each quarter was:

- September 2016 Quarter 502
- December 2016 Quarter 421
- March 2017 Quarter 640
- June 2017 Quarter 669
- September 2017 Quarter 658

One-hundred-and-twenty-two petroleum tenure and activity applications were received during the reporting period. Ninety-two per cent of applications were finalised within target timelines.

Trends

The number of mineral exploration Programme of Work applications has increased since the second half of 2016 and remained steady during the first nine months of 2017.

Figure one: Number of mineral exploration Programme of Work applications received during the period 1 July 2016 – 30 September 2017.

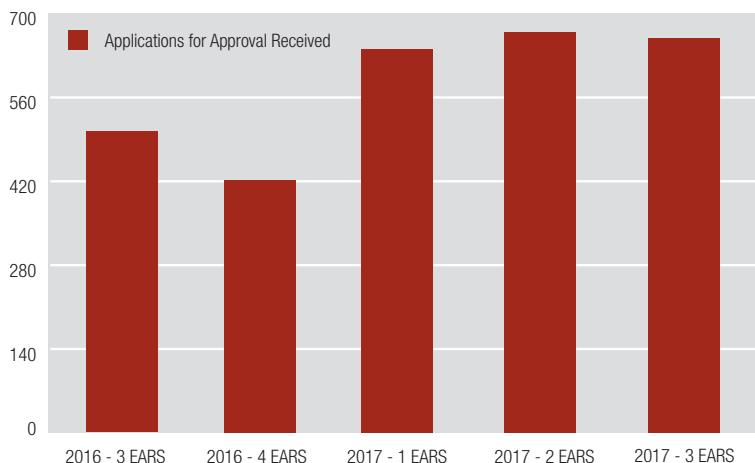


TABLE 1: DMIRS APPROVALS PERFORMANCE SEPTEMBER QUARTER 2017

Minerals Sector								
Timeline target (business days)	No. carried over from previous quarter	No. applications received	Total no. finalised	No. refused, lapsed, rejected or withdrawn	Total no.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	1465	349	545	101	535	98%	1269
– pre 1/1/09*		35		2				33
Exploration Licence	65	1936	509	523	166	512	98%	1922
– pre 1/1/09		46		3				43
Mining Lease	65	251	70	69	7	40	58%	252
– pre 1/1/09		222		17				205
Others (Miscellaneous, General Purpose, Retention Leases)	65	358	47	47	15	41	87%	358
– pre 1/1/09		62		0				62
Exploration and mining applications								
Programme of Work	30	233	658	684	52	677	99%	207
Mining Proposal	30	172	80	112	9	108	96%	140
Native Veg. Clearing Permit	60*	44	41	40	1	37	92%	45
Note: DMIRS assess resource sector native vegetation clearing permit applications via a delegation from the Department of Environment and Conservation. DMIRS's approval performance target is to achieve greater than 80% of applications finalised within 60 calendar days.								
Mine safety applications								
Project Management Plan	30	13	18	17	0	17	100%	14
Radiation Management Plans	30	0	2	0	0	0		2

Petroleum and Geothermal Sector								
Target timeline (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	
Petroleum tenure and activity applications								
A detailed list of application categories is available on the DMIRS approvals / approvals reporting website.								
Compliance Approval	40	46	32	16	8	12	75%	62
Joint Authority Decision	20	53	36	49	6	45	92%	40
Exploration Permit	120	25	1	0	0	0	-	26
Other Title	120	14	1	4	2	4	100%	11
Other Activity	40	3	0	1	1	1	100%	2
Pipeline Licence	90	12	3	0	0	0	-	15
Prod. Licence	120	4	0	0	0	0	-	4
Survey	40	16	3	1	1	1	100%	18
Well	40	19	0	2	0	2	100%	17
Well Activities	30*	3	43	33	0	33	100%	13
Well Applications	40	1	3	0	0	0	-	4
Petroleum environmental and safety applications								
Environment plans incorporate a small number of oil spill contingency plans.								
Environmental Plan	30*	36	92	104	56	102	98%	24
New Safety Case/SMS	90*	0	6	4	1	4	-	2
Revised Safety Case/SMS	30*	5	13	14	0	14	100%	4

Note 1: * Denotes calendar days instead of business days.

Note 2: On 1 July 2017, the former Department of Mines and Petroleum amalgamated with the former Department of Commerce to become the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS).