



Approvals Performance Report First Quarter 2016 (January – March 2016)

The department continued the high level of approval performance in the first quarter 2016 with an average of 96% of all applications finalised with target timelines.

Highlights include:

- 97% of mineral prospecting licence applications (197) were finalised within 65 business days,
- 99% of mineral exploration Programmes of Work applications (393) were finalised within 30 business days; and
- The two petroleum pipeline applications were finalised within 90 business days.

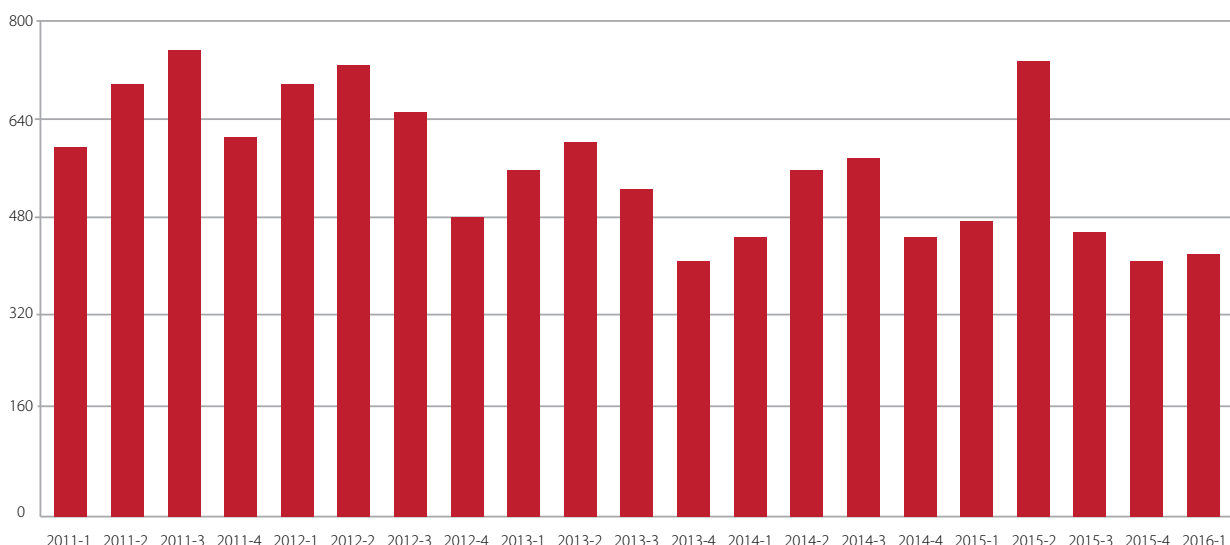
Petroleum compliance approvals (33%) remain well below the target of 80% of applications finalised within 40 business days. A review is underway to identify the problem and make the necessary changes to improve performance.

Approval trends

The number of mineral exploration licence applications in Western Australia (WA) has increased over the same period in 2015. During the 1Q 2015 DMP received 466 exploration licence tenure applications compared to 541 in this quarter. A similar trend can be seen for prospecting licence applications with 293 applications in 1Q 2015 compared to 347 in 1Q 2016. The number of mining lease applications has increased slightly from the same period last year from 26 to 30.

Over the longer term there has been a decreasing trend is evident for Programme of Work applications, decreasing from 600 (1Q 2011) to 416 (1Q 2016). Mineral exploration activity when measured as the number of applications received has decreased by around 25 – 30 per cent over the last five years. The graph below illustrates this decrease in the number of mineral exploration applications since 1 January 2011.

Quarterly Comparison: 2011-1 TO 2016-1
Business Divisions: ENV-M
Approval Types: Programme of Work - Exploration, Programme of Work - Prospecting



EARS Applications for Approval

TABLE 1: DMP APPROVALS PERFORMANCE JANUARY – MARCH QUARTER 2016

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No. carried over from previous quarter	No. applications received	Total No. finalised	No. refused, lapsed, rejected or withdrawn	Total no.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	948	347	204	43	197	97%	1091
- pre 1/1/09*		27		0				27
Exploration Licence	65	1733	541	455	213	453	99%	1819
- pre 1/1/09		89		18				71
Mining Lease	65	187	30	25	3	24	96%	192
- pre 1/1/09		238		4				234
Others (Miscellaneous, General Purpose, Retention Leases)	65	336	24	44	12	42	95%	316
- pre 1/1/09		69		1				68
Exploration and mining applications								
Programme of Work	30	111	416	397	24	393	99%	130
Mining Proposal	30	145	66	71	9	64	90%	140
Native Veg. Clearing Permit	60*	47	51	43	0	39	91%	55
Note: DMP assess resource sector native vegetation clearing permit applications via a delegation from the Department of Environment Regulation. 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	15	15	1	15	100%	13
Radiation Management Plans	30	3	4	7	1	7	100%	0

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 # Note 2								
A detailed list of application categories is available on the DMP approvals / approvals reporting website.								
Compliance Approval	40	42	9	24	7	8	33%	27
Joint Authority Decision	20	37	39	31	2	30	97%	45
Exploration Permit	120	57	2	5	3	5	100%	54
Other Title	120	1	1	0	0	0	-	2
Other Activity	40	1	2	3	0	3	100%	0
Pipeline Licence	90	4	1	2	0	2	100%	3
Prod. Licence	120	5	0	0	0	0	-	5
Retention Lease	90	0	1	0	0	0	-	1
Survey	40	1	1	0	0	0	-	2
Well	40	50	92	71	2	67	94%	71
Petroleum environmental and safety applications								
Environment plans incorporate a small number of oil spill contingency plans.								
Environmental Plan	30*	21	65	60	31	59	98%	26
New Safety Case/SMS	90*	0	5	4	0	4	100%	1
Revised Safety Case/SMS	30*	0	8	5	0	5	100%	3

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