



Quarter 4 | 2017

Approvals Performance Report December Quarter 2017

Highlights

During the December quarter 2017, the department received 737 mineral exploration licence, 368 prospecting licence and 65 mining lease applications. Officers finalised 98 per cent of exploration licence applications and 100 per cent of mining lease applications within 65 business days.

The department received 95 petroleum tenure and activity applications during the fourth quarter. Officers finalised 89 per cent of applications within target timelines.

The number of mineral exploration Programme of Work applications received during the December quarter remained steady at 608. The number of Programme of Work applications received each quarter during 2017 was:

- March Quarter 640
- June Quarter 669
- September Quarter 658
- December Quarter 608

2017 Calendar Year

During the 2017 calendar year, the department received 2575 Programme of Work applications compared to 1799 the previous year. This upturn is a result of increased interest in gold and lithium. The table below provides information for the period 1 January 2012 – 31 December 2017

TABLE 1: NUMBER OF PROGRAMME OF WORK APPLICATIONS 2012 – 2017

Calendar Year	Number of Programme of Work mineral exploration applications received
2017	2575
2016	1799
2015	2068
2014	2021
2013	2091
2012	2565

TABLE 2: DMIRS APPROVALS PERFORMANCE DECEMBER 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 finalised	No. refused, lapsed, rejected or withdrawn	Total no.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).								
Prospecting Licence	65	1269	368	298	67	296	99%	1339
Exploration Licence	65	1918	737	562	238	554	98%	2093
Mining Lease	65	207	65	23	9	23	100%	249
Others (Miscellaneous, General Purpose, Retention Leases)	65	358	61	65	4	65	100%	354
Exploration and mining applications								
Programme of Work	30	207	608	624	92	618	99%	191
Mining Proposal	30	137	94	71	9	62	87%	160
Native Veg. Clearing Permit	60*	45	45	41	9	33	80%	49
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	14	23	18	2	18	100%	19
Radiation Management Plans	30	3	3	2	0	1	50%	4

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	52	16	8	2	6	75%	60
Joint Authority Decision	20	42	19	27	5	21	78%	34
Exploration Permit	120	26	0	1	0	0	-	25
Other Title	120	11	7	0	0	0	-	18
Other Activity	40	2	1	2	0	2	100%	1
Pipeline Licence	90	15	3	7	0	7	100%	11
Prod. Licence	120	4	0	0	0	0	-	4
Survey	40	16	7	1	0	1	100%	22
Well	40	17	0	0	0	0	-	17
Well Activity	30*	13	42	34	15	34	100%	21
Well Application	40	4	0	2	0	2	100%	2
Petroleum environmental and safety applications								
Environment plans incorporate a small number of oil spill contingency plans.								
Environment Plan	30*	24	73	73	37	69	94%	24
New Safety Case/SMS	90*	2	0	2	0	2	100%	0
Revised Safety Case/SMS	30*	4	12	15	0	15	100%	1

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).