Information sheet
Mining

Role of Government in mining

This information sheet outlines the comparative roles of the administering authority\(^1\) and the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy regarding mining activities.

What is the role of the administering authority\(^1\)?

- Assesses any submitted environmental impact statement (EIS) or environmental management plan (EM Plan), and determines the application for an environmental authority (mining activities) (except for prospecting permits and mining claims).
- Issues and regulates environmental authorities for mining activities on mining tenures.
- Considers plans of operations and sets the amount of financial assurance that the applicant for or holder of an environmental authority must lodge and decides any applications for the discharge of financial assurance, either during the mine life or at the end of the mine life.
- Conducts site inspections of mining projects to assess compliance with environmental conditions.
- Assesses applications for the amendment, transfer or surrender of environmental authorities.
- Assesses the final rehabilitation report submitted with all applications to surrender an environmental authority to determine whether or not rehabilitation has been carried out to the satisfaction of the administering authority.
- Conducts and/or facilitates environmental audits of mining projects.
- Provides assistance and advice to the mining industry on aspects of carrying out mining activities in accordance with the conditions of their environmental authority so as to achieve compliance with their authority.

What is the role of the Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy?

- Accepts all applications for mining tenements and environmental authorities.
- Determines applications for mining tenements.
- Grants and regulates mining tenements.
- Determines applications for the transfer or surrender of mining tenements.
- Provides advice on preparing combined applications.
- Assesses and determines applications for environmental authorities for prospecting permits and mining claims (where there is no application for additional conditions).
- Is responsible for the management and rehabilitation of abandoned mines.
- Provides help in preparing environmental and tenement applications for mining projects.

\(^1\)The Department of Environment and Science is the administering authority under the Environmental Protection Act 1994.
Further information

Advice and support are available:

- through a statewide network of regional offices of the administering authority and Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy;
- on the administering authority’s website at [www.des.qld.gov.au](http://www.des.qld.gov.au);
- alternatively telephone Permit and Licence Management (within the administering authority) on 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

**Approved:**

22 August 2012

**Enquiries:**

Permit and Licence Management

Ph. 1300 130 372 (select option 4)

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Fax. (07) 3330 5875

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**Version History**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Effective date</th>
<th>Description of changes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>22 August 2012</td>
<td>First published version of the guideline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>13 June 2018</td>
<td>The document template, header and footer have been updated to reflect current Queensland Government corporate identity requirements and comply with the Policy Register.</td>
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