



Quarterly performance report

Environmental Protection Act 1986

1 April 2013 to 30 June 2013

As part of the changes to machinery of government, the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) was divided on 1 July 2013 into two agencies: the Department of Environment Regulation (DER) and the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW).

This report relates to activities under the former DEC for the period 1 April 2013 to 30 June 2013. Quarterly reporting from 1 July 2013 will relate to the Department of Environment Regulation.

Industry Regulation

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Department of Environment Regulation

168 St Georges Terrace

Perth WA 6000

Phone: +61-8-6467 5000

Fax: +61-8-6467 5562

www.der.wa.gov.au

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Questions regarding this report should be directed to:

Tony Wynne

Manager

Industry Regulation Licensing Branch

Department of Environment Regulation

Locked Bag 33

Cloisters Square 6850

Phone: +61-8-6467 5233

Email: tony.wynne@DER.wa.gov.au

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Works approvals and licence performance reporting fourth quarter 2012–13

On 1 July 2013, the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) was divided into two agencies: the Department of Environment Regulation (DER) and the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW). From this date the newly formed DER has responsibility to issue works approvals and licences to regulate prescribed activities, as authorised under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

Major resource projects

DEC has tracked and reported its performance in issuing major resource project approvals since quarter 1, 2006. For major resource project approvals, DEC set a target to issue 100 per cent of licence and works approval applications within 60 working days.

The quarterly figures for major resource project works approval and licence applications are summarised in tables 1 and 2. DEC continued to receive a high number of applications. During quarter 4 2012–13, 40 new works approval applications were submitted and 29 works approvals were issued.

DEC granted 100 per cent of new works approval applications in quarter 4 2012–13 within the target timeframe. This is an improvement from 83 per cent in the last quarter and the highest percentage since quarter 1 2010–11. The average processing time for works approval applications has dropped from 49 to 42 days in quarter 4 2012–13.

Thirteen new licence applications were received in quarter 4 2012–13 and five licences were issued. DEC granted 100 per cent of new licence applications in quarter 4, 2012–13 within the target timeframe. This is an improvement on last quarter where 89 per cent of licences were issued within the target timeframe.

A summary of all major resource projects granted by DEC since quarter 1, 2006 and the average time taken to grant applications is attached (see figures 3 and 4). The graphs show a number of approvals exceeded the target timeframe; however, DEC continues to approve applications on average within the 60-working day target timeframe.

DER is well advanced in introducing further licensing reform in its Part V approvals process that should result in a more streamlined and timely approvals process and certainty of outcome. Reform initiatives include the REFIRE program and improvements to application processes.

Table 1. Major resource project works approvals, 2007–2013

Quarter	Applications carried over from previous quarter	New applications submitted	Applications granted	Applications awaiting Part V action	Applications refused	Applications withdrawn	Applications open at end of quarter	Percentage of applications issued meeting target timeframe*	Average time to issue an application (working days)
Quarter 3 07–08	14	17	16	-	0	0	15	94%	36
Quarter 4 07–08	15	9	8	-	0	1	19	75%	49
Quarter 1 08–09	19	15	16	-	0	0	18	63%	65
Quarter 2 08–09	18	18	20	4	0	2	14	85%	60
Quarter 3 08–09	14	4	3	4	0	2	13	100%	49
Quarter 4 08–09	13	12	9	6	0	1	15	100%	54
Quarter 1 09–10	15	11	14	8	0	1	11	100%	55
Quarter 2 09–10	11	28	18	17	0	1	19	100%	49
Quarter 3 09–10	19	21	21	14	0	1	18	100%	38
Quarter 4 09–10	18	24	18	17	0	0	24	100%	43
Quarter 1 10–11	24	31	26	24	0	0	29	100%	45
Quarter 2 10–11	29	55	36	32	0	1	47	97%	45
Quarter 3 10–11	47	45	47	30	0	0	45	98%	37
Quarter 4 10–11	45	44	42	31	0	2	45	95%	40
Quarter 1 11–12	45	42	46	26	0	2	39	96%	43
Quarter 2 11–12	39	31	33	25	0	1	36	88%	48
Quarter 3 11–12	36	29	30	19	0	2	33	90%	51
Quarter 4 11–12	33	42	39	24	0	0	36	95%	47
Quarter 1 12–13	36	34	36	22	0	3	31	83%	52
Quarter 2 12–13	31	36	40	20	0	0	27	88%	49
Quarter 3 12–13	27	46	35	21	0	2	36	83%	49
Quarter 4 12–13	36	40	29	32	0	3	44	100%	42

*Target timeframe = 100% of applications issued in 60 working days

Table 2. Major resource project licences, 2007–2013

Quarter	Applications carried over from previous quarter	New applications submitted	Applications granted	Applications awaiting Part V action	Applications refused	Applications withdrawn	Applications open at end of quarter	Percentage of applications issued meeting target timeframe*	Average time to issue an application (working days)
Quarter 3 07–08	4	6	4	-	0	1	5	75%	34
Quarter 4 07–08	5	8	3	-	0	0	10	100%	13
Quarter 1 08–09	10	3	6	-	0	1	6	83%	46
Quarter 2 08–09	6	15	4	-	0	2	15	75%	49
Quarter 3 08–09	15	3	6	0	0	2	10	83%	44
Quarter 4 08–09	10	4	5	3	0	0	9	60%	60
Quarter 1 09–10	9	4	1	2	0	2	10	100%	59
Quarter 2 09–10	10	4	4	2	0	3	7	100%	48
Quarter 3 09–10	7	11	9	5	0	2	7	100%	43
Quarter 4 09–10	7	6	3	2	0	0	10	100%	27
Quarter 1 10–11	10	6	5	4	0	0	10	100%	49
Quarter 2 10–11	10	8	8	12	0	1	9	100%	34
Quarter 3 10–11	9	3	3	4	0	0	9	100%	29
Quarter 4 10–11	9	6	4	4	0	0	11	100%	27
Quarter 1 11–12	11	7	6	5	0	0	12	83%	37
Quarter 2 11–12	12	9	4	4	0	0	17	50%	58
Quarter 3 11–12	17	2	8	0	0	1	10	88%	51
Quarter 4 11–12	10	10	4	4	0	0	16	100%	33
Quarter 1 12–13	16	15	10	11	0	2	19	70%	48
Quarter 2 12–13	19	16	14	7	0	0	21	86%	48
Quarter 3 12–13	21	7	9	4	0	0	19	89%	48
Quarter 4 12–13	19	13	5	7	0	2	27	100%	48
Target timeframe = 100% of applications issued in 60 working days									

Figure 1. Major resource projects works approvals history, 2007–08 to 2012–13

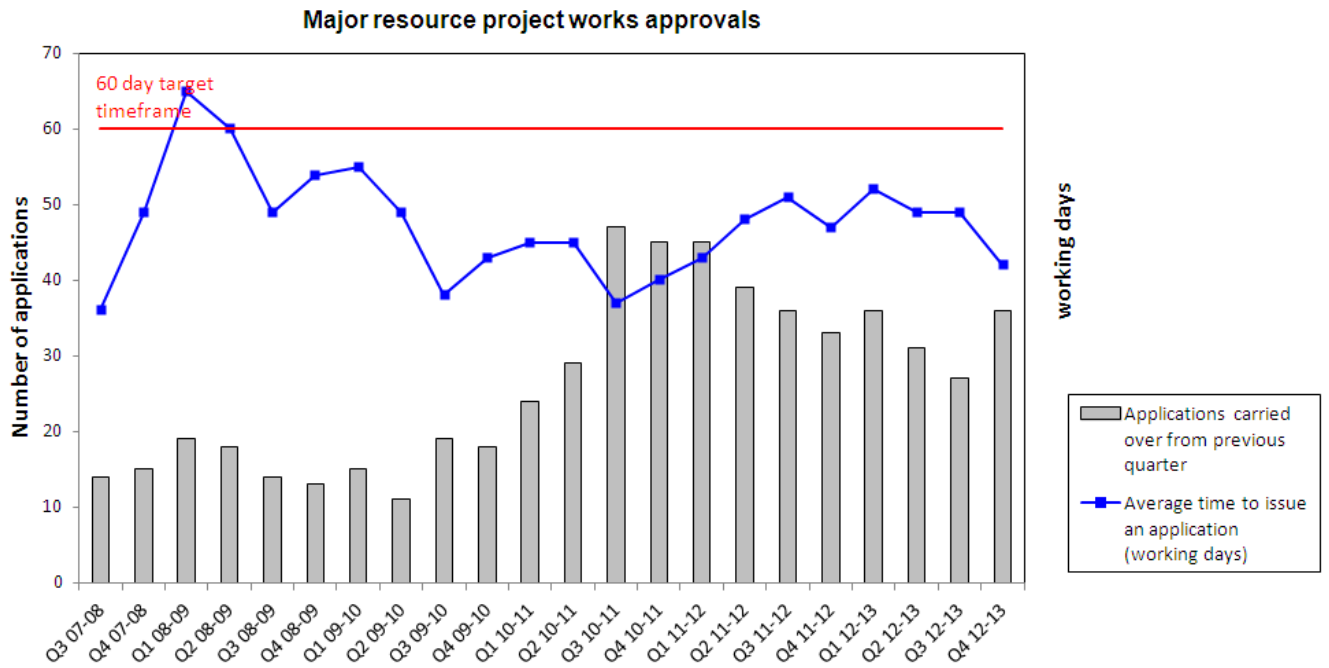


Figure 2. Major resource projects licence history, 2007–08 to 2012–13

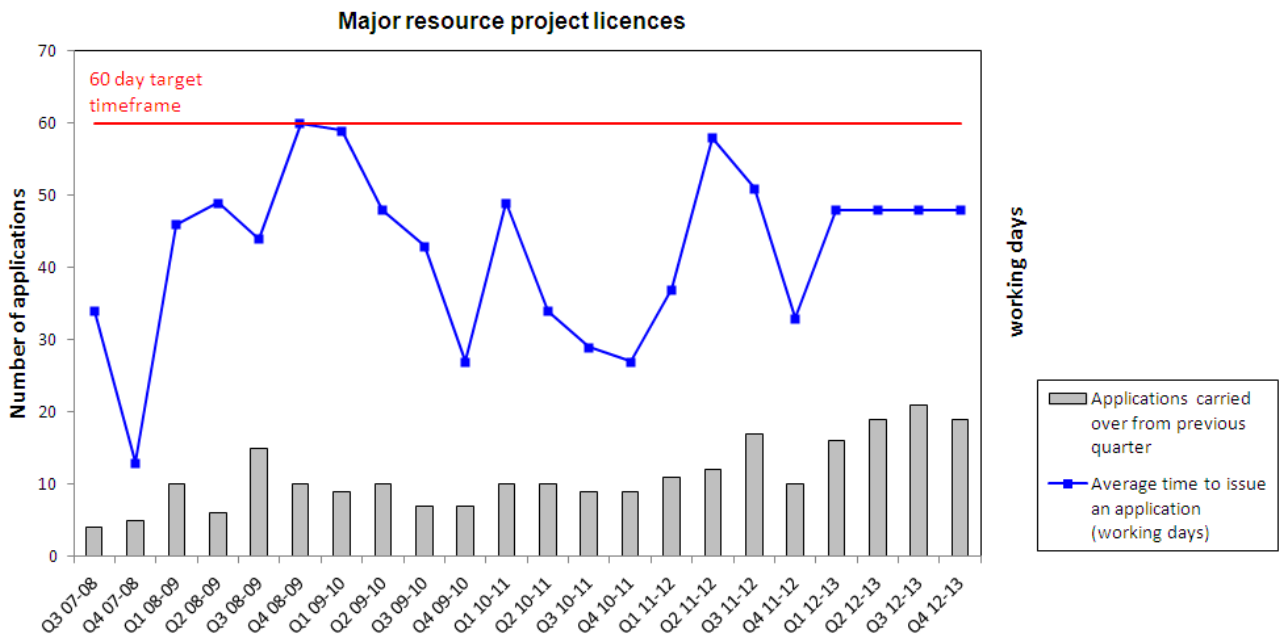


Figure 3. Major resource projects approvals granted by DEC, 2005–06 to 2012–13

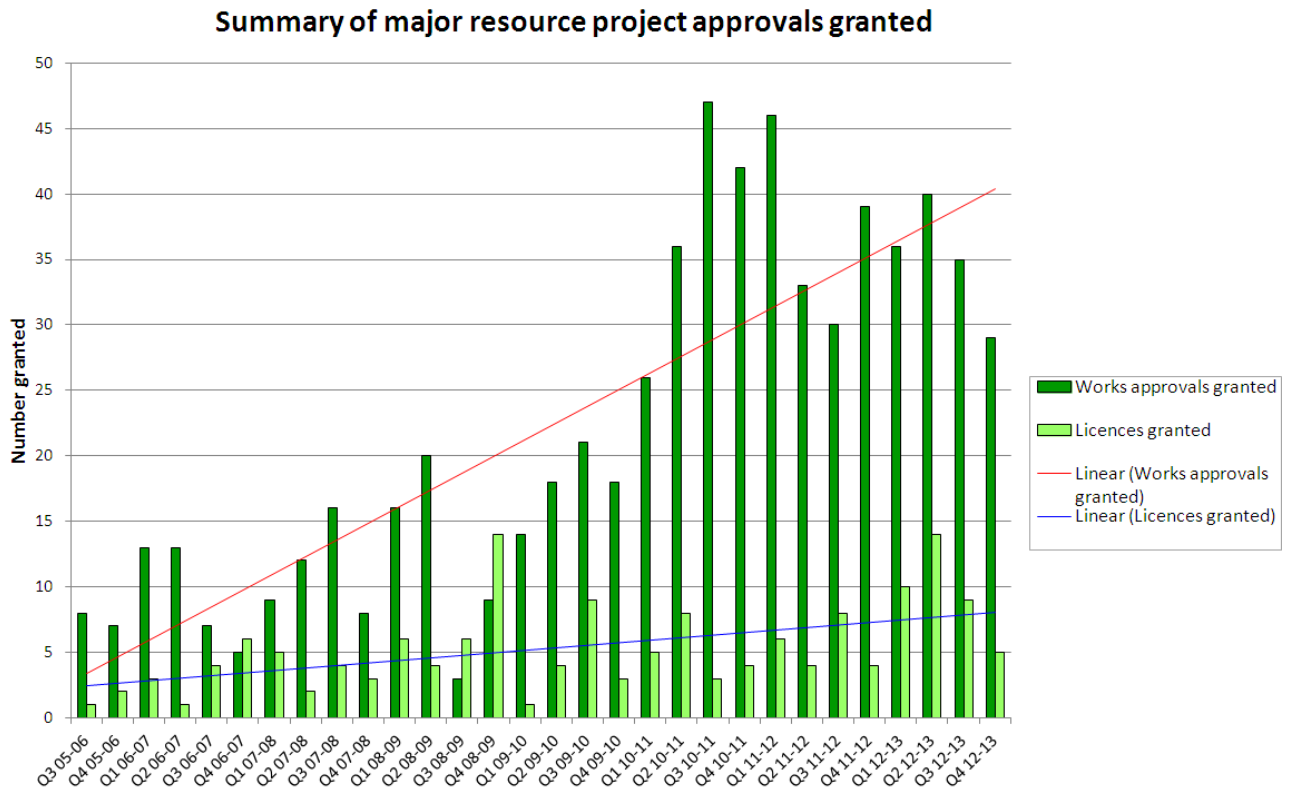
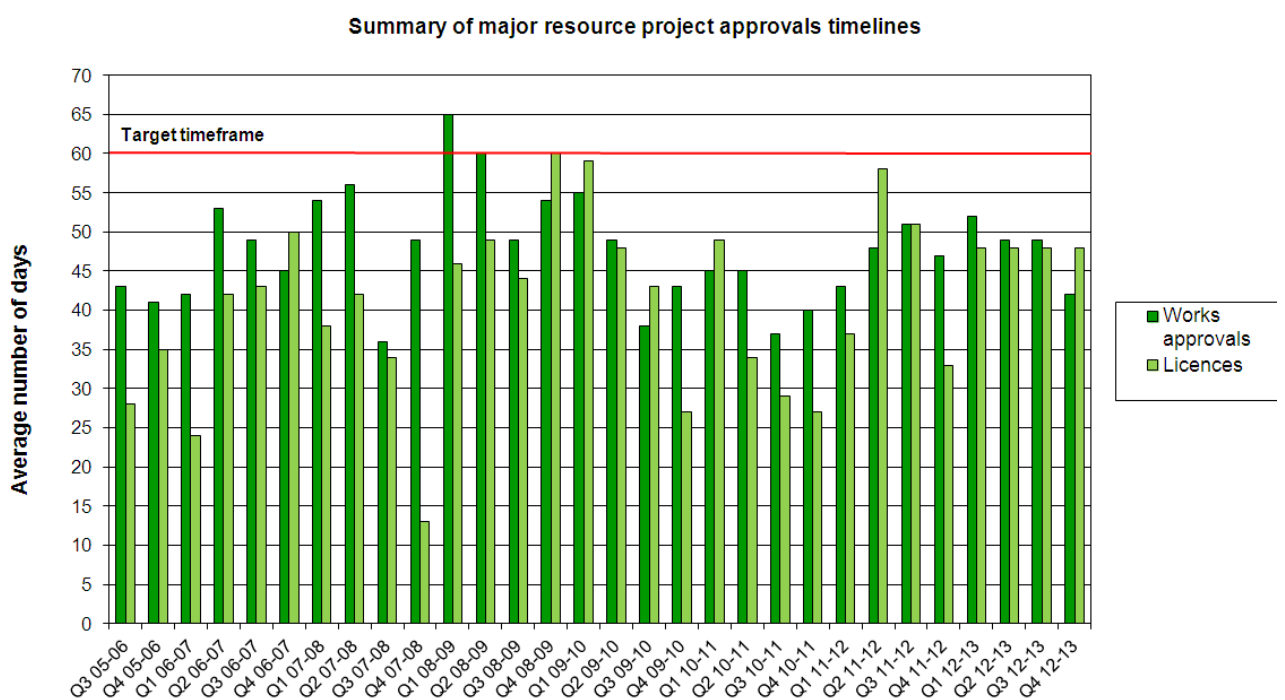


Figure 4. Average time taken to issue major resource approvals, 2005–06 to 2012–13



Other projects

For non-major resource project (other project) approvals, DEC set a target to issue 80 per cent of licence and works approval applications within a 60-working day timeframe.

In January 2010, tracking mechanisms were put in place to regularly monitor the progress of applications to improve DEC's performance in meeting the target timeframe for all works approvals and licences. The number of other project works approval applications granted by DEC in quarter 4 2012–13 remains high, with 28 approvals being issued. This is the second highest number of other project works approvals issued since quarter 4 2008–09. DEC issued 68 per cent of these new works approvals within the target timeframe. This is an improvement from 54 per cent last quarter. The average processing time for other project works approval applications decreased this quarter to 53 days, a drop from 61 days the previous quarter.

Eleven other project licences were granted by DEC in quarter 4 2012–13. Sixty-four per cent of other project licence applications were granted within the target timeframe in quarter 4 2012–13. This is down from 75 per cent in the previous quarter. The average processing time for new licence applications in quarter 4 2012–13 was 56 days.

The quarterly figures for other project works approval and licence applications are summarised in tables 3 and 4 and figures 5 and 6.

Table 3. Other project works approvals, 2008–2013

Quarter	Applications carried over from previous quarter	New applications submitted	Applications granted	Applications awaiting Part V action	Applications refused	Applications withdrawn	Applications open at end of quarter	Percentage of applications issued meeting target timeframe*	Average time to issue an application (working days)
Quarter 4 08–09	6	15	10	U	U	0	11	40%	131
Quarter 1 09–10	11	11	11	U	U	1	10	56%	75
Quarter 2 09–10	10	11	16	U	U	0	14	25%	93
Quarter 3 09–10	14	24	11	19	1	1	25	64%	58
Quarter 4 09–10	25	29	25	18	0	3	26	88%	49
Quarter 1 10–11	26	17	20	11	0	2	21	96%	40
Quarter 2 10–11	21	33	27	17	0	1	26	93%	40
Quarter 3 10–11	26	17	19	12	0	1	23	89%	36
Quarter 4 10–11	23	19	16	16	0	0	26	81%	45
Quarter 1 11–12	26	37	26	20	0	0	37	77%	45
Quarter 2 11–12	37	20	17	22	0	4	36	82%	56
Quarter 3 11–12	36	13	23	12	0	1	25	44%	70
Quarter 4 11–12	25	19	20	11	0	0	24	50%	64
Quarter 1 12–13	24	18	17	11	0	0	25	64%	71
Quarter 2 12–13	25	31	15	24	0	1	40	80%	47
Quarter 3 12–13	40	29	35	17	0	2	32	54%	61
Quarter 4 12–13	32	24	28	15	0	1	27	68%	53
*Target timeframe = 80% of applications issued in 60 working days									
U = data not available									

Table 4. Other project licences, 2008–2013

Quarter	Applications carried over from previous quarter	New applications submitted	Applications granted	Applications awaiting Part V action	Applications refused	Applications withdrawn	Applications open at end of quarter	Percentage of applications issued meeting target timeframe*	Average time to issue an application (working days)
Quarter 4 08–09	26	15	15	U	U	0	26	75%	44
Quarter 1 09–10	26	9	10	U	U	0	25	63%	110
Quarter 2 09–10	25	8	9	U	U	0	17	22%	154
Quarter 3 09–10	9	15	5	11	0	1	18	80%	47
Quarter 4 09–10	18	8	8	3	0	4	14	63%	84
Quarter 1 10–11	14	10	9	4	0	0	15	83%	57
Quarter 2 10–11	15	19	5	14	1	1	27	100%	43
Quarter 3 10–11	27	12	9	28	0	2	28	89%	40
Quarter 4 10–11	28	14	8	13	0	4	30	87%	46
Quarter 1 11–12	30	12	13	5	0	0	29	85%	49
Quarter 2 11–12	29	7	10	6	0	0	26	60%	74
Quarter 3 11–12	26	14	11	11	0	5	24	64%	52
Quarter 4 11–12	24	10	17	6	0	1	16	41%	70
Quarter 1 12–13	16	11	9	10	0	0	18	77%	40
Quarter 2 12–13	18	17	13	12	0	1	21	85%	46
Quarter 3 12–13	21	11	10	7	0	1	21	75%	53
Quarter 4 12–13	21	11	11	7	0	2	19	64%	56
*Target timeframe = 80% of applications issued in 60 working days									
U = data not available									

Figure 5. Other project works approval history, 2008–2013

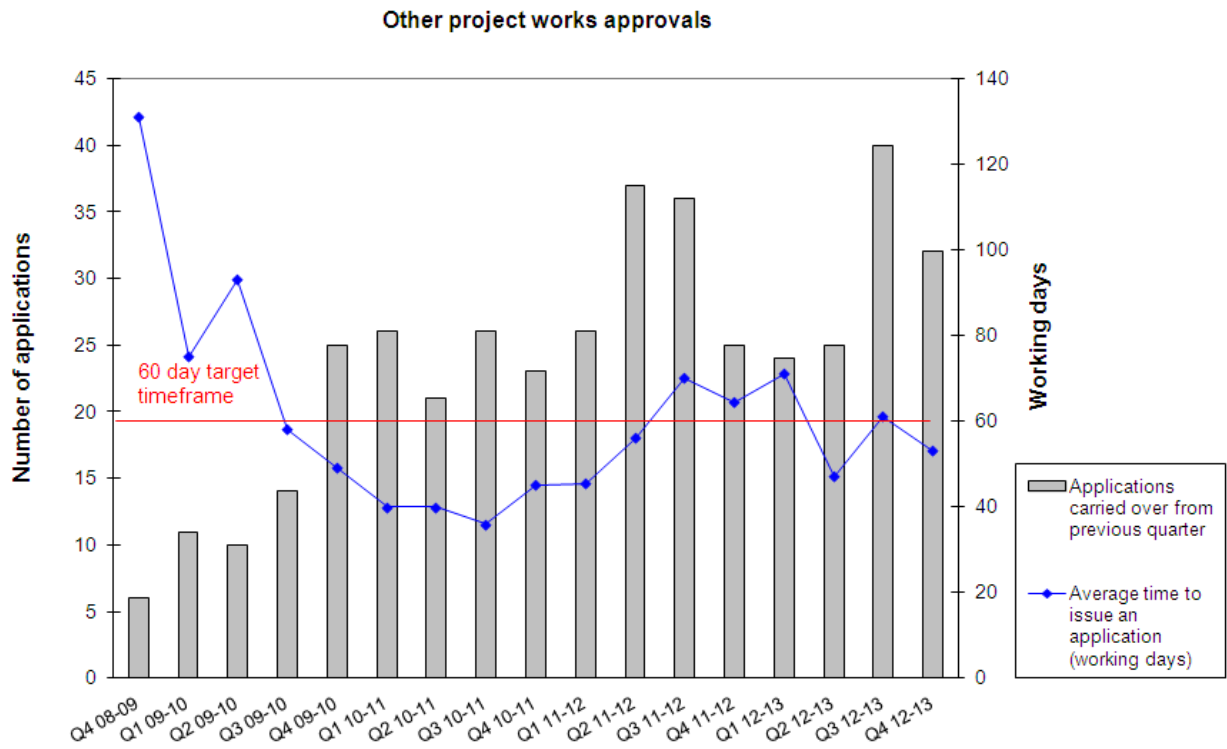
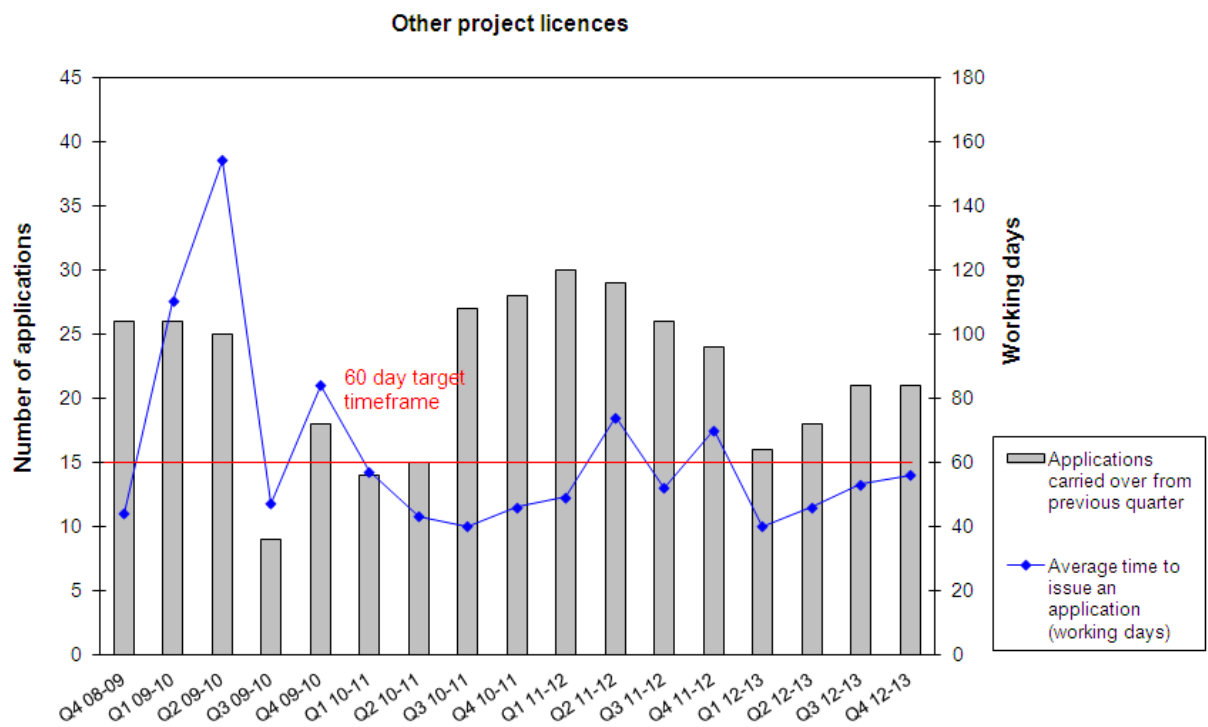


Figure 6. Other project licence history, 2008–2009



Controlled waste regulation

DER assesses applications for and issues new controlled waste carrier, vehicle and driver licences. Figure 7 demonstrates the quarterly number of new licence applications issued by DEC since the third quarter of 2009–10.

DEC set an operational target to issue 90 per cent of all new licence applications within its 30 day statutory timeframe.

The trend set in earlier periods has continued with the fourth quarter of 2012–13, seeing 100 per cent of the 174 applications being completed within the statutory timeframe.

Figure 7. **Controlled waste licence quarterly approvals, 2009–2013**

