



DMPE approvals performance reporting (Mining and Petroleum)

June quarter 2025

The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) was formed on 1 July 2025 and is committed to transparency in its approval performance, which helps drive continuous improvement and assists industry planning. During the June 2025 quarter, the mining and petroleum sectors showed varied performance across different approval categories.

Despite high demand, mining and petroleum tenure, Programme of Work and well activity performance remained strong. Petroleum environmental plan, native vegetation clearing permit and mining proposal processing experienced challenges during the quarter. To support the development of a sustainable and responsible resources industry, DMPE is actively pursuing a range of reforms to alleviate pressure on the approval process and enhance processing timeframes for the industry.

Andrew Chaplyn

Acting Director General

Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration

The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) was formed on 1 July 2025. Prior to this date the activities reported in this report were undertaken by the Resource and Environmental Regulation Group within the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.

Performance summary

Key highlights and changes for the percentage of applications finalised within target timelines for the March to June 2025 quarter include:

- mining and petroleum tenure performance ranged from 90 to 100 per cent;
- radiation management plans increased from 50 to 75 per cent; and
- performance of other approvals generally remained stable.

The average total timeline is the time taken in the assessment process by DMPE, the proponent and where applicable, other government agencies. Other agency input may be required for complex applications, particularly if access is required to culturally important or environmentally sensitive areas.

The DMPE performance objective is to finalise 80 per cent of applications within the target timeline. Departmental performance is measured against a range of administrative and statutory targets. For example, the DMPE target for finalising a mineral exploration Programme of Work application is 15 business days (BD). The “speedo” dashboard graphics used in this report represent performance against each approval type for the quarter. The segment titled parallel processing shows the number of overlap days where an application was on hold for both the proponent and another agency.

Most mineral and petroleum tenure applications are subject to the requirements of the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*. These applications include a four-month notification period (around 80 business days) prescribed under S29 of this Act. This period is included as part of the ‘Other agencies’ component for mineral and petroleum tenure applications.

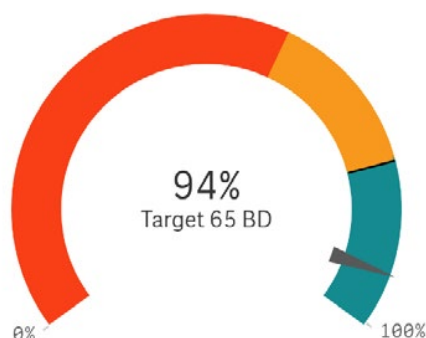
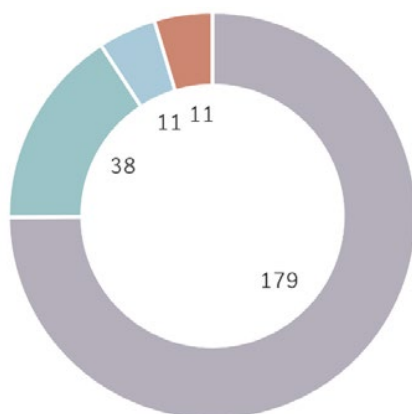
For further explanation of the above, refer to the ‘Exploration licence’ section (page 4). The average total timeline to finalise an exploration licence application is 380 business days (approximately 18 months). This consists of DMPE processing time (45 days), proponent time (35 days) and other agencies (265 days). There were 35 days of parallel processing. Ninety-one per cent of exploration licence applications were finalised within the target for DMPE processing time of 65 business days. The Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993* requirements represent the majority of this timeline (approximately 12 months). This report provides detailed information about the number of received, finalised, and open applications.

Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Prospecting licence

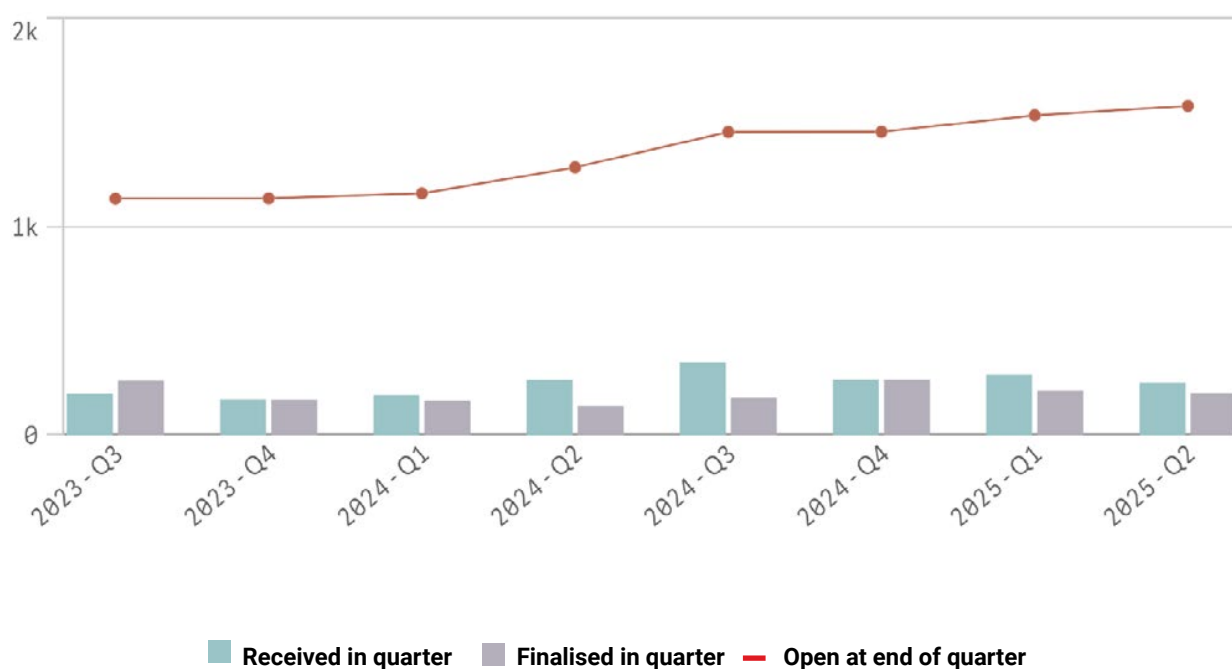
Average **239** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



DMPE Proponent Other agencies
Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

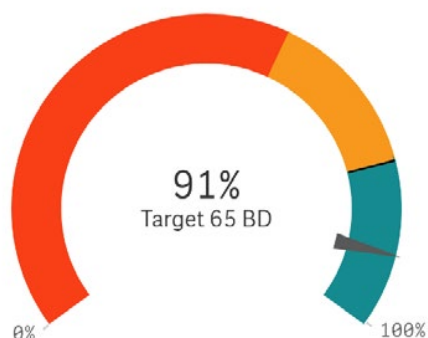
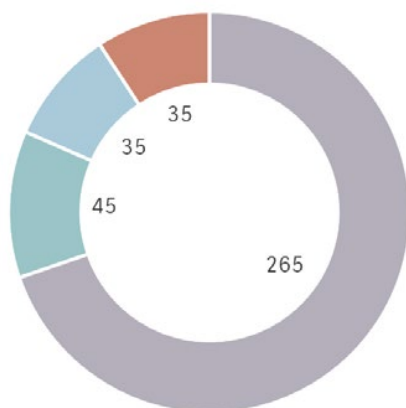


Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Exploration licence

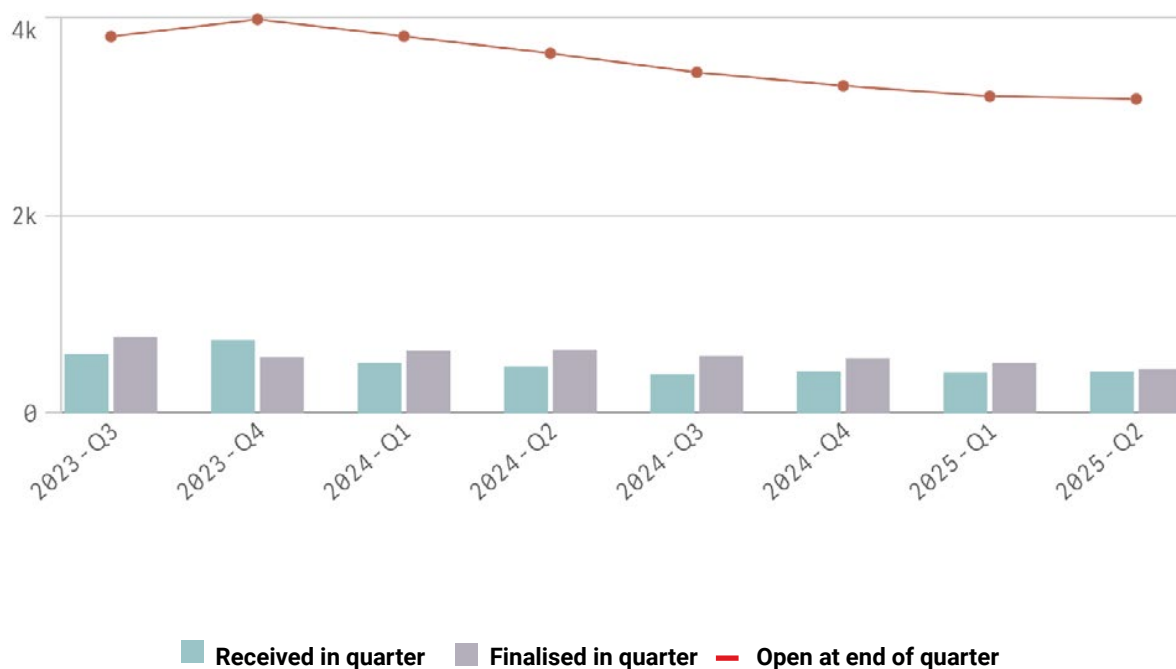
Average **380** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



DMPE Proponent Other agencies
Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

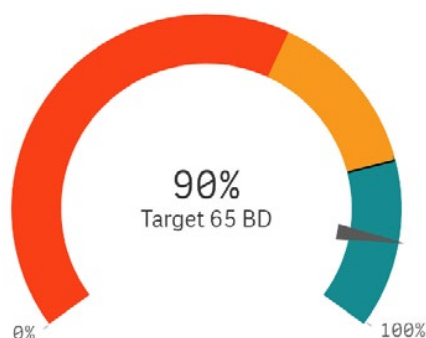
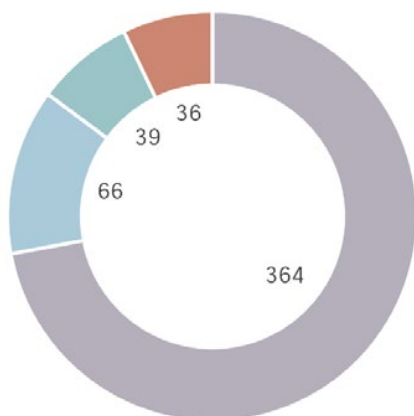


Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Mining lease

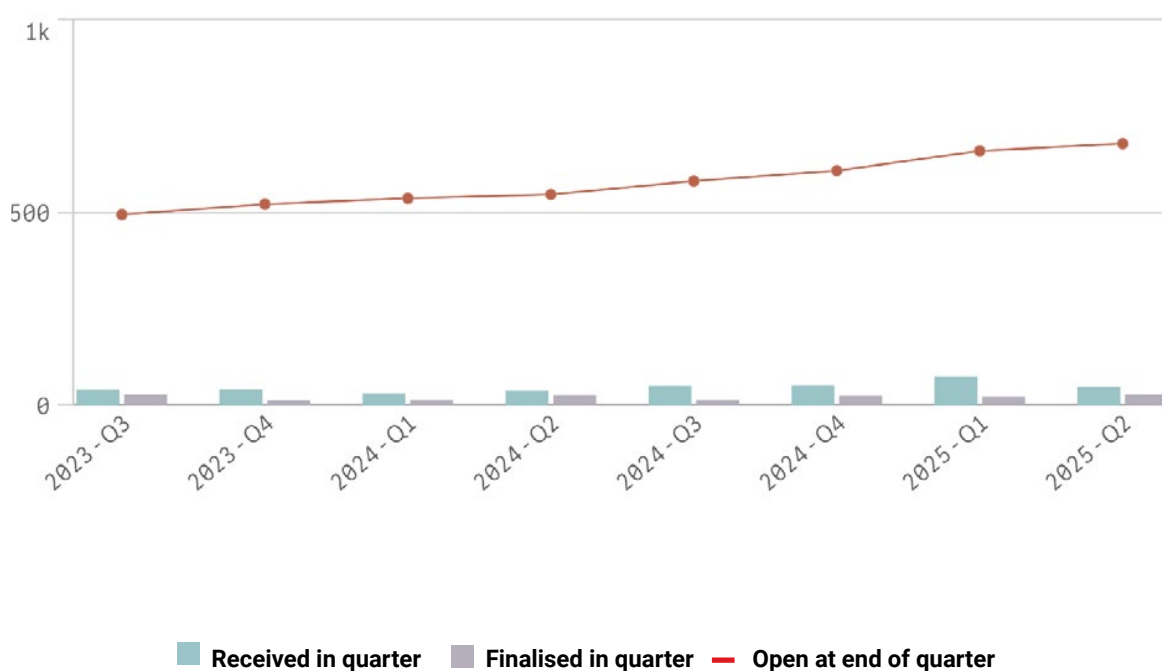
Average **505** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



DMPE Proponent Other agencies
Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

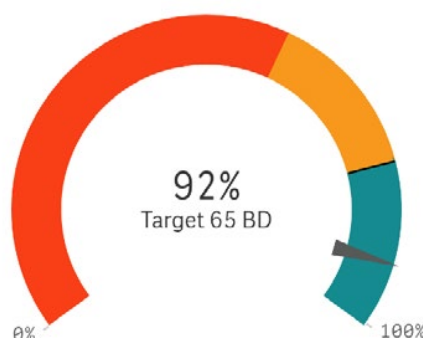
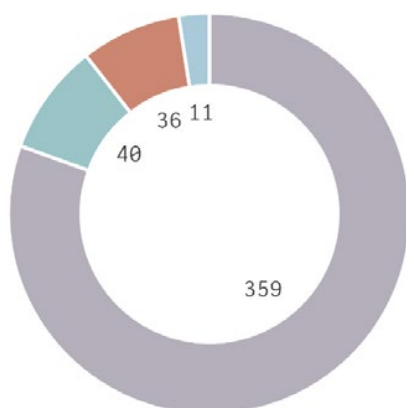


Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Miscellaneous licence and other tenure

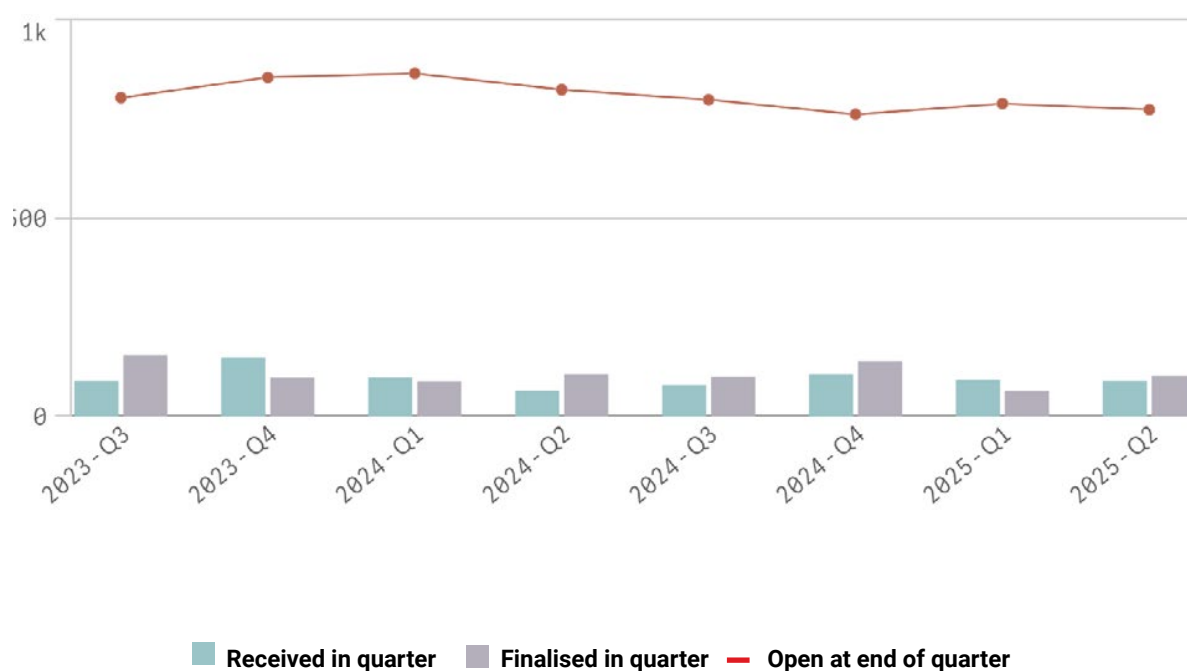
Average **446** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



DMPE Proponent Other agencies
Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

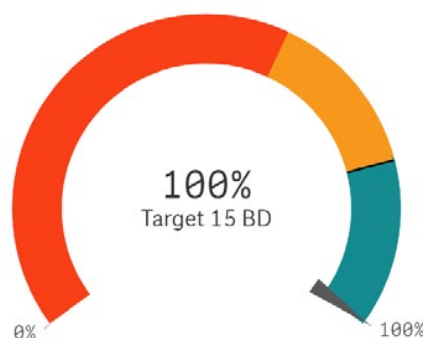
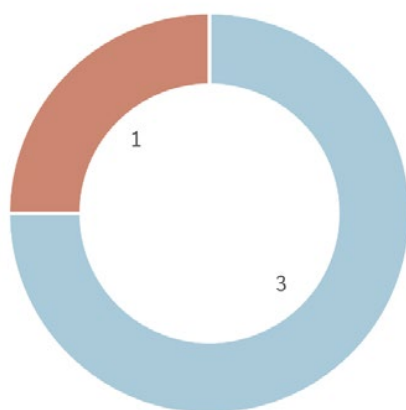


Mining Act 1978 – Environmental applications

Programme of Work

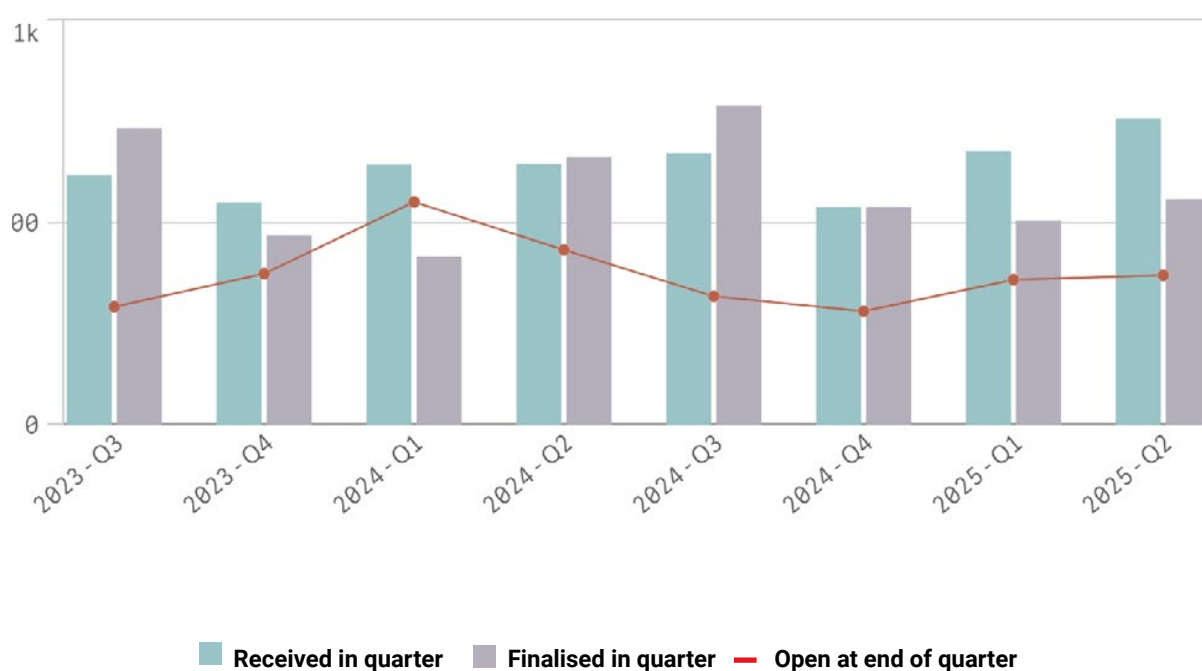
Average 4 days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ Proponent ■ Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

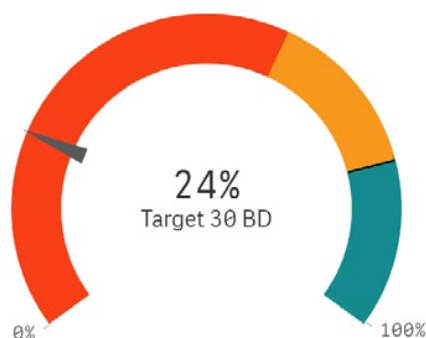
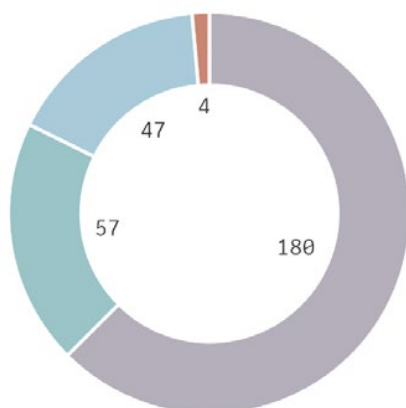


Mining Act 1978 – Environmental applications

Mining proposal

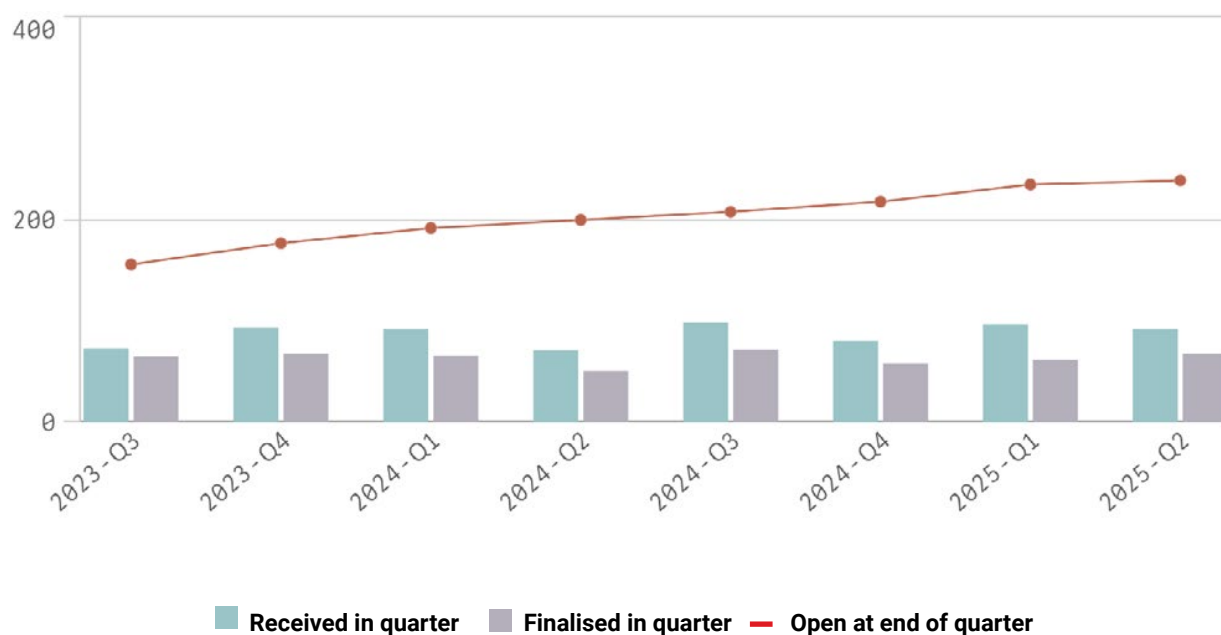
Average **288** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



DMPE Proponent Other agencies
Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

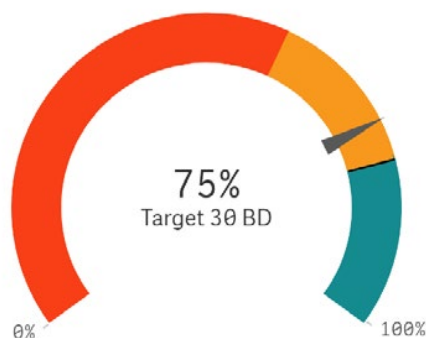
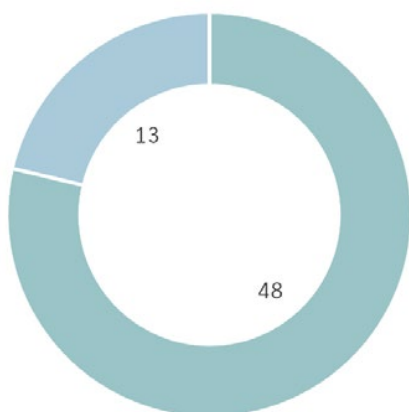


Work Health and Safety (Mines) Regulations 2022

Radiation management plans

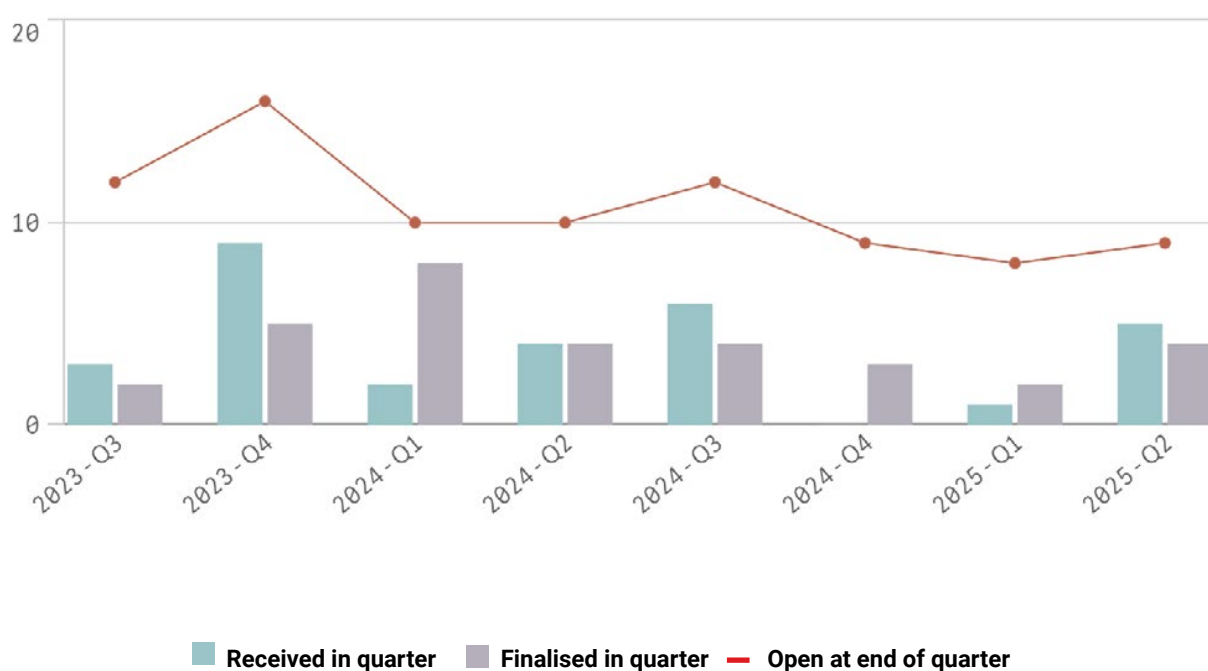
Average **61** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



DMPE Proponent

Trends for received, finalised and open

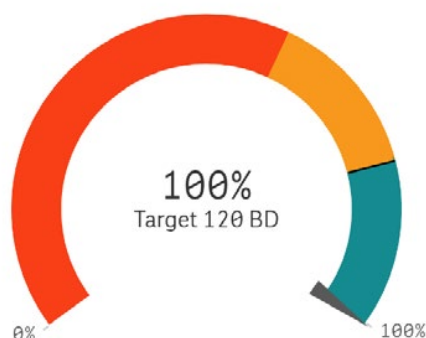
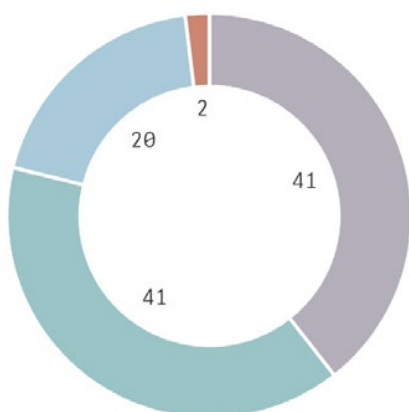


WA Petroleum Legislation

Petroleum tenure

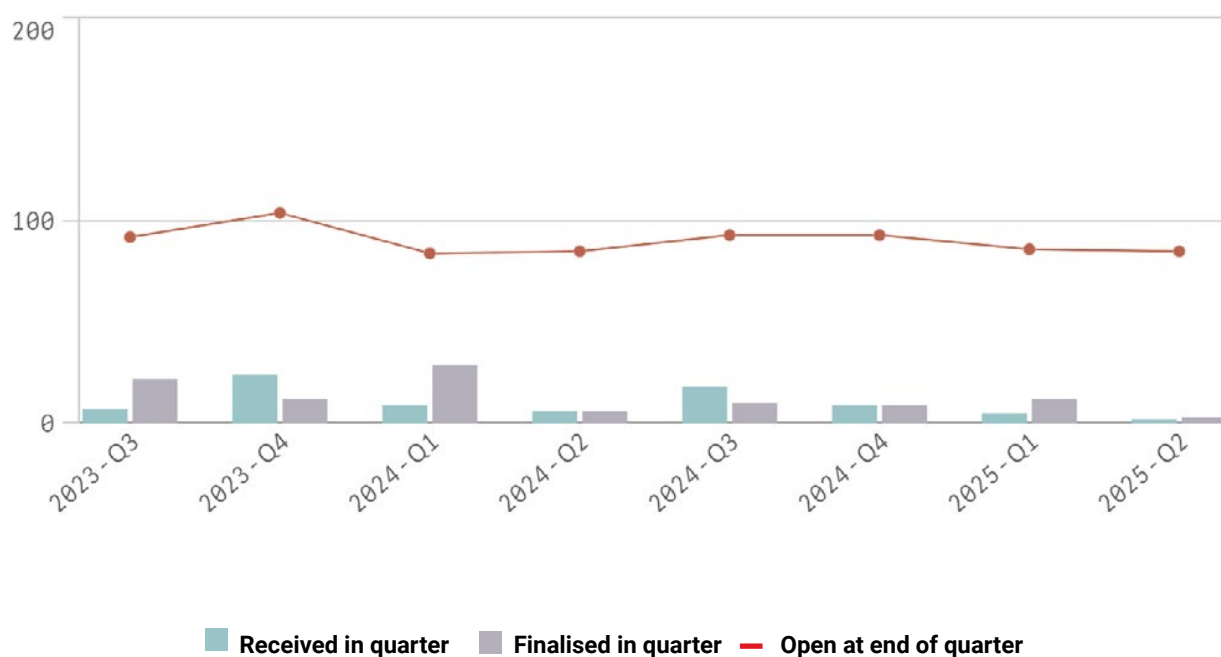
Average **104** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



DMPE Proponent Other agencies
Parallel processing

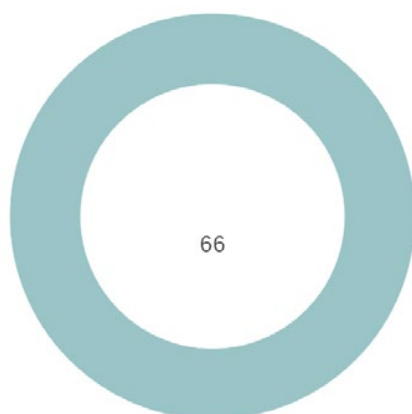
Trends for received, finalised and open



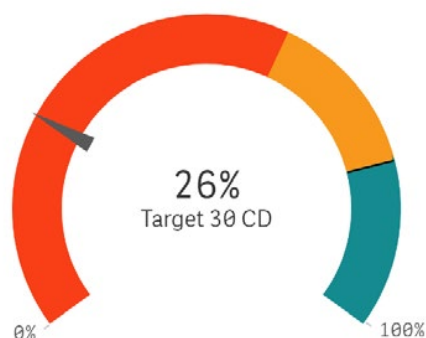
WA Petroleum Legislation

Petroleum environment plans

Average **66** days total

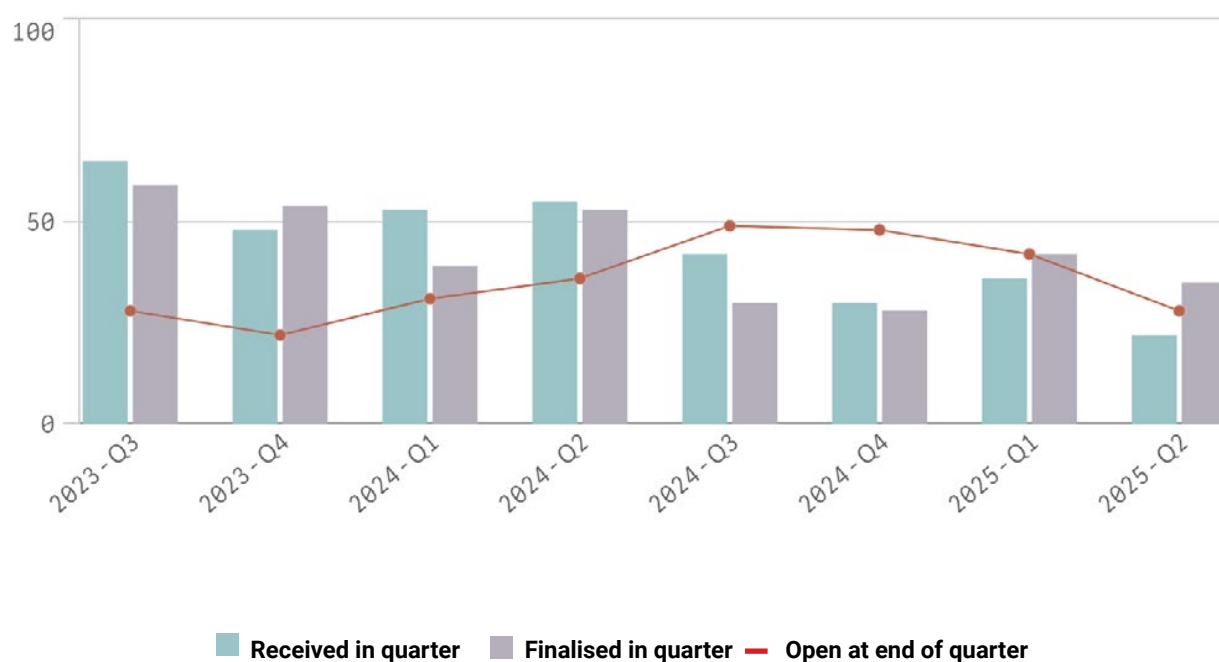


Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE

Trends for received, finalised and open

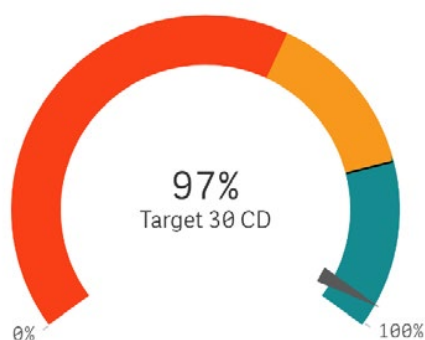
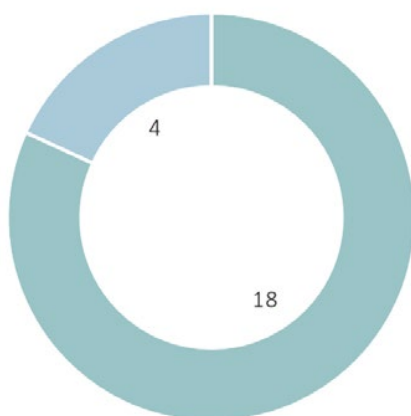


WA Petroleum Legislation

Well activities

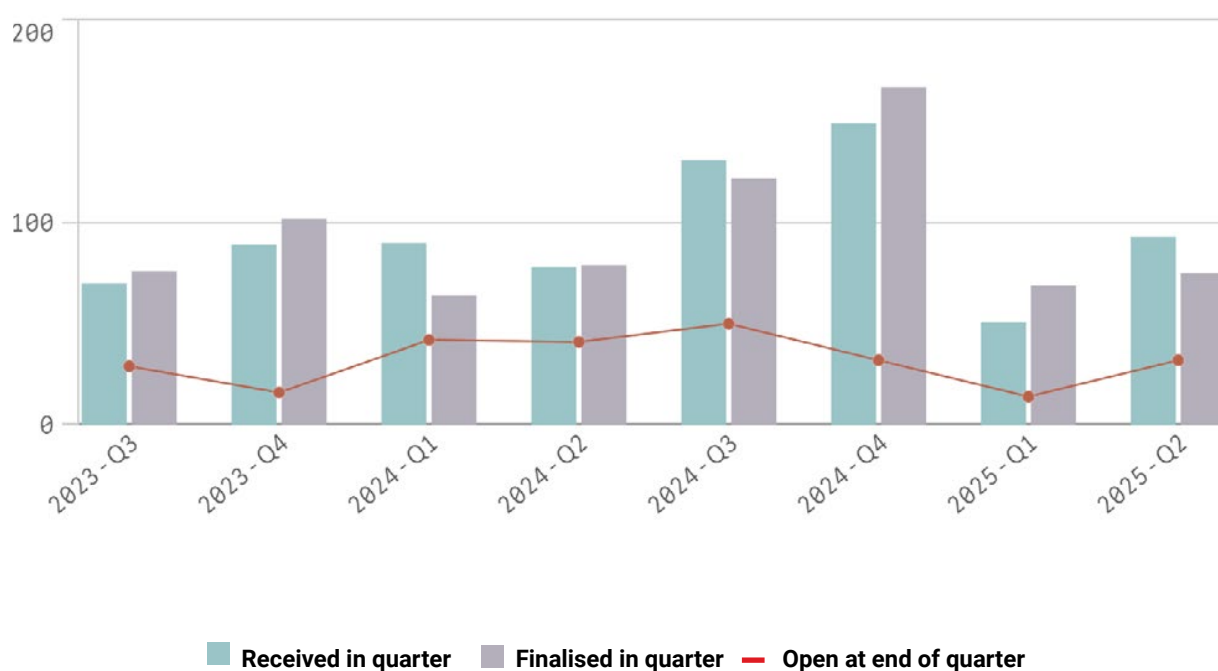
Average **22** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE ■ Proponent

Trends for received, finalised and open

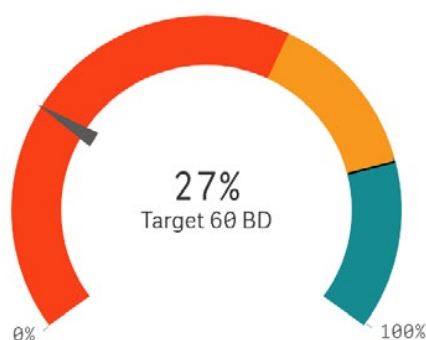
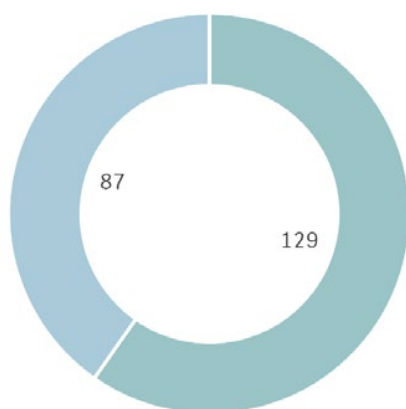


WA Environmental Protection Act 1986

Native vegetation clearing permits

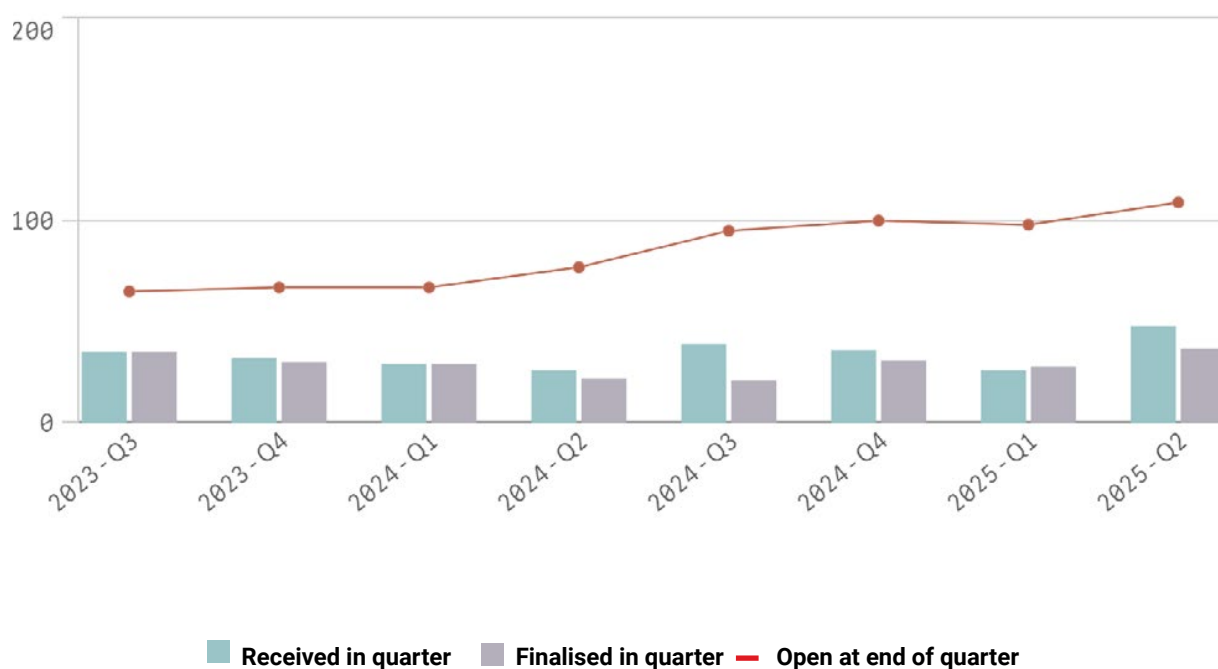
Average **216** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE ■ Proponent

Trends for received, finalised and open



Appendix – DMPE target timeline information

Key approval processes	Target timeline (business days)
Mining tenure	65
Petroleum tenure	120
Petroleum environment plan	21
Mining proposal	30
Programme of Works	15
Radiation management plan	30
Well activities	21
Native vegetation clearing permit	60

Note: Petroleum environment plans and well activities have a statutory target of 30 calendar days (21 business days).