



Department of **Mines,**
Petroleum and Exploration

Guideline

Resource report and supporting statement for a mining lease application

Updated in November 2025

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Pursuant to the *Mining Act 1978* Section 74(1) (ca), all mining lease applications will be accompanied by one of the following types of documentation:

- Section 74(1)(ca)(i) – a **mining development and closure proposal** (see separate Guidelines for ‘Mining Development and Closure Proposals’) **or**
- Section 74(1)(ca)(ii) – a statement in accordance with subsection (1a) and a **mineralisation report** prepared by a qualified person (see separate Guidelines for mining lease applications using a Mineralisation Report); **or**
- Section 74(1)(ca)(iii) – a statement in accordance with subsection (1a) and a **resource report** under these Guidelines.

These guidelines are in respect to mining lease applications accompanied by a statement and resource report – pursuant to section 74(1)(ca)(iii).

General information

1. The purpose of these guidelines is to specify the format, content, and standards required in a resource report and the information required in the separate supporting statement under Section 74(1)(ca)(iii).
2. Prior to applying for a mining lease, the applicant must determine the most appropriate route.
It is not possible to change from a resource report to a mineralisation report route or to a mining proposal route (in any order), once the application has been submitted.
3. If the purpose of the mining lease application is to either extract Basic Raw Materials (rock, sand or gravel) or to conduct a small-scale mining operation, and there are insufficient “exploration results” to demonstrate significant mineralisation, the recommended application route is via mining proposal – Section 74(1)(ca)(i). “Exploration results” must be obtained prior to lodging all other mining lease applications.
4. The resource report application will contain all relevant information that is to be assessed by the Director, Geological Survey. The report and the supporting statement will be made available to the public on submission to the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE).
5. The resource report and the supporting statement should be submitted as two separate documents, at the same time, and must be compliant with the *Mining Act 1978*. Both documents should be submitted in digital format as PDF files, with a high enough resolution that ensures all information presented (including within images) is clearly legible.
6. In cases where the applicant submits multiple mining lease applications, a separate resource report and supporting statement will be provided for each application.
7. The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) can be contacted by applicants to discuss their application prior to lodgement (see website for contact details).

Supporting statement

Note that if the information from a supporting statement is incomplete or does not satisfy the strict compliance requirements, the application is deemed invalid, and the resource report **cannot** be assessed.

Required content of supporting statement

As required under Section 74(1a) the statement referred to in subsection (1)(ca)(iii) that accompanies the resource report and mining lease application shall set out information about the mining operations that are likely to be carried out in, on or under the land to which the application relates, including information as to:

- a. when mining is likely to commence,
- b. the most likely method of mining, and
- c. the location, and the area, of land that is likely to be required for the operation of plant, machinery and equipment.

Recommended content of supporting statement

1. A section outlining when mining is likely to commence.

Section 74(7) defines 'likely' to mean reasonably likely having regard to the information available to the applicant when the application is made. A statement providing a timeframe for the likely commencement of mining (i.e. the year(s) mining is expected to likely commence) is enough detail to satisfy this requirement. A statement to the effect that mining will commence once feasibility studies are finalised is not definitive enough to meet the required content of the supporting statement. Failure to meet this likely date will not result in forfeiture of the tenement, but failure to define this aspect could result in issues of strict compliance.

2. A section outlining the most likely method of mining. This should include how ore is going to be mined and processed.
3. A plan showing the location, and the area, of land that is likely to be required for the operation of plant, machinery and equipment (infrastructure) and for other activities associated with those mining operations, in relation to the identified resource and the mining lease boundary. If processing is to occur offsite, a statement to that effect must be made and include the location of where processing is to be conducted.

Resource report

The resource report must contain all the relevant information and data to determine Joint Ore Reserves Committee (JORC) 2012 compliance; a completed Table 1 (Section 1, Section 2 and Section 3) of the JORC 2012 code, which also includes maps, figures, cross-sections for the relevant deposit. The report must have been released to the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX).

Required content of resource report

A **resource report** is defined in section 74 of the *Mining Act 1978* as a report:

- a. that sets out details of the mineral resources located in, on or under the land to which the application relates; and
- b. that complies with the JORC Code; and
- c. that has been made to the Australian Securities Exchange Limited.

Resource report key points

1. The Director Geological Survey can provide advice to the Director Mineral Titles on whether the resource report submitted with the Mining Lease application satisfies subsection 74(1)(ca)(iii) of the *Mining Act 1978*. Note that the *Mining Act 1978* does not oblige the involvement of the Director Geological Survey. This contrasts to the situation involving mineralisation reports, where the Director's determination of whether 'significant mineralisation' is present has considerable weight.
2. The resource report must have detailed information of **the mineral resource located within the bounds of the Mining Lease application**.
3. The Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves ('the JORC Code') is a professional code of practice that sets minimum standards for public reporting of exploration results, mineral resources and ore reserves, according to the levels of confidence in geological knowledge and technical and economic considerations in public reports.
4. If an entity has determined, for reasons of materiality under JORC, that it is not required to publicly release details of its resources and hence has not released such details, then the option to lodge a Mining Lease application accompanied by a resource report is no longer available.
5. The resource report must satisfy the current JORC Code as amended from time to time. Until updated, reporting under the 2012 JORC Code is mandatory for both the ASX and DMPE.
6. Historic resource estimates, which either predate the JORC Code or were not publicly reported according to the Code, are not acceptable for use in a resource report.
7. The resource report must be publicly available on the ASX Announcements platform and must accompany the Mining Lease application. In situations where the maiden resource was announced to the ASX followed by additional periodic updates over time, it is recommended to include all relevant announcements with the Mining Lease application.
8. There is no provision in the *Mining Act 1978* for recognition of reporting of resource estimates to another securities exchange. Hence, reporting by use of the JORC Code but solely to an overseas securities exchange is interpreted as failing to satisfy the requirements of Section 74 of the *Mining Act 1978*.
9. There is no provision in the *Mining Act 1978* for reporting to any other resource code (for example NI43-1-1) even if it is regarded as a comparable or superior standard. Hence, reporting by use of an internationally recognised foreign Code to an overseas securities exchange does not satisfy the requirements of Section 74 when it comes to a Mining Lease application under the *Mining Act 1978*.
10. While many prospectors and non-ASX-listed entities are ordinarily unable to apply for a Mining Lease via lodgement of a resource report, where they are in a joint venture with an ASX-listed entity, the joint venture partner may announce the mineral resource that (complies with the JORC Code) to the ASX, thereby enabling the application for a Mining Lease by the prospector or the non-ASX-listed entity via resource report route to satisfy the requirements of Section 74.

Government of Western Australia

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8.30am – 4.30pm

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