



# DMPE approvals performance reporting (Mining and Petroleum)

## December quarter 2025

The Department of Mines Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) is committed to transparency in its approval performance, supporting continuous improvement and assisting industry planning.

The Department is pleased to introduce Eligible Mining Activity (EMA) notices and Mining Development and Closure Proposal (MDCP) measurements in this report.

The EMA framework allows tenement holders and authorised third parties to obtain immediate authorisation to undertake a range of common exploration and prospecting activities that meet EMA requirements. Proponents are encouraged to consider EMA notices where they meet the eligibility criteria, instead of applying through the Programmes of Work framework.

Prior to undertaking any activity for the purpose of, or in preparation for, mining operations or carrying out mining operations on a tenement granted under the *Mining Act 1978* (Mining Act), the activities must be included in a MDCP, approved under section 1030(1) of the Mining Act and recorded on an Approvals Statement. As of 9 September 2025, all applications must be submitted in line with the Guideline for Preparing Mining Development and Closure Proposal.

Radiation Management Plans (RMP) are now administered by the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS) and will no longer feature in this report. Readers can contact the WorkSafe Mines Safety area of LGIRS for questions regarding RMP timelines.

Overall during the December 2025 quarter, the mining and petroleum sectors showed varied performance across different approval categories. DMPE acknowledges that while areas such as mining and petroleum tenure and well activity performance remained strong, with excellent performance for the first cohort of MDCPs, other areas faced challenges that affected processing timeliness. DMPE continues to work to align these processing times with target timeframes.

Please note: most mineral and petroleum tenure applications are subject to the requirements of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) (NTA). The requirements of this Act represent the majority of the 'other agencies' time presented in corresponding timeframe charts.

### Chris Shaw

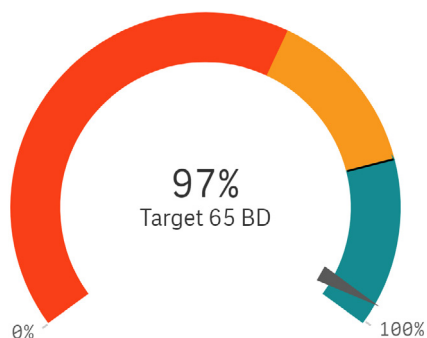
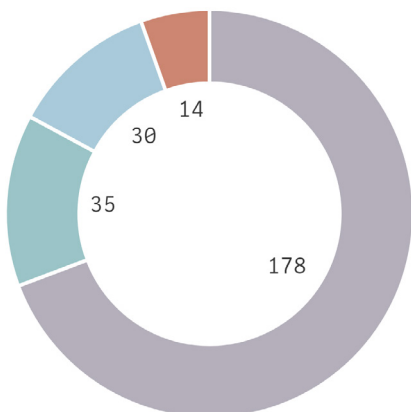
Director General  
Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration

# Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

## Prospecting licence

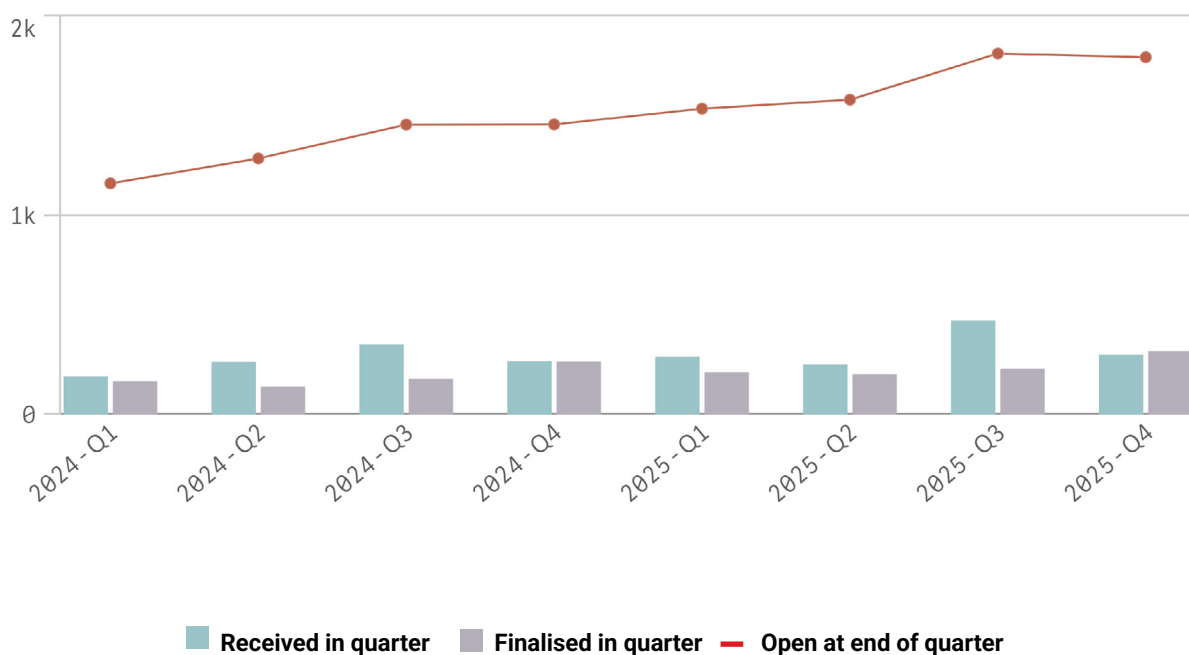
Average **257** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE  
 ■ Proponent  
 ■ Other agencies  
■ Parallel processing

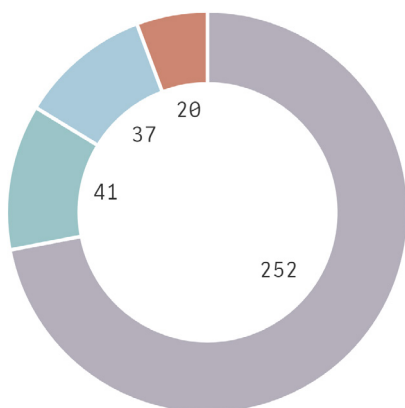
### Trends for received, finalised and open



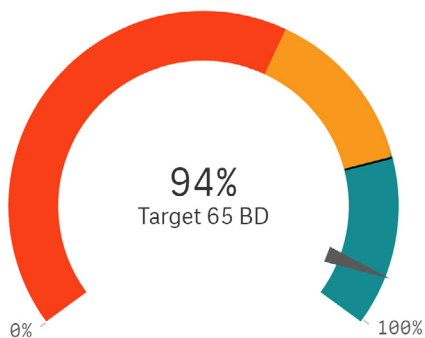
# Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

## Exploration licence

Average **350** days total

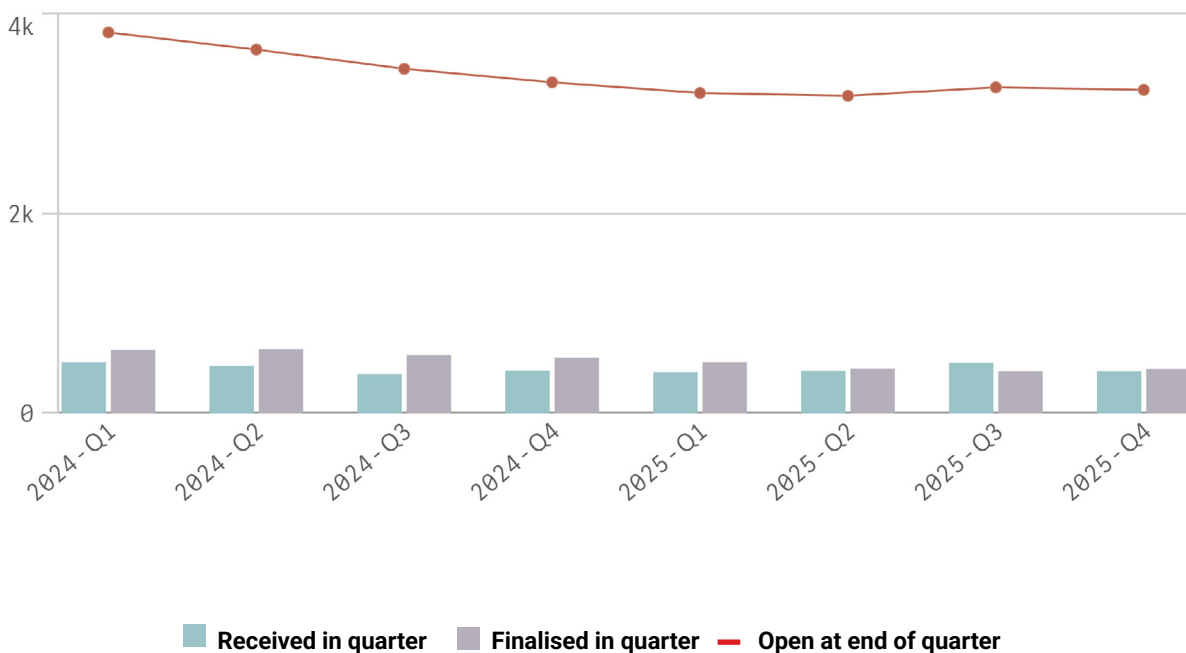


Per cent finalised within target timeline



- DMPE
- Proponent
- Other agencies
- Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

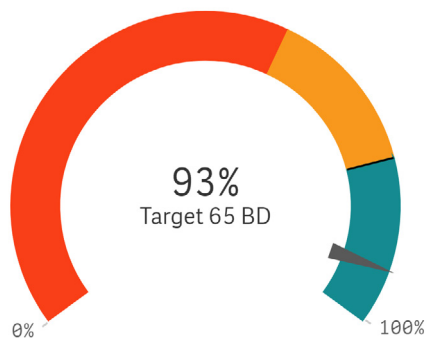
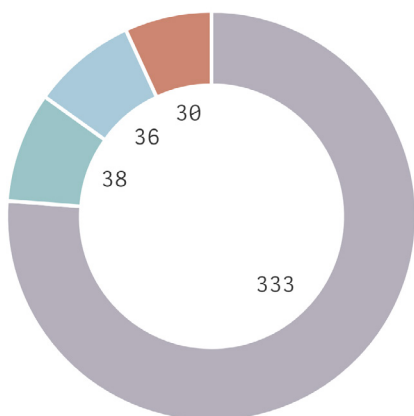


# Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

## Mining lease

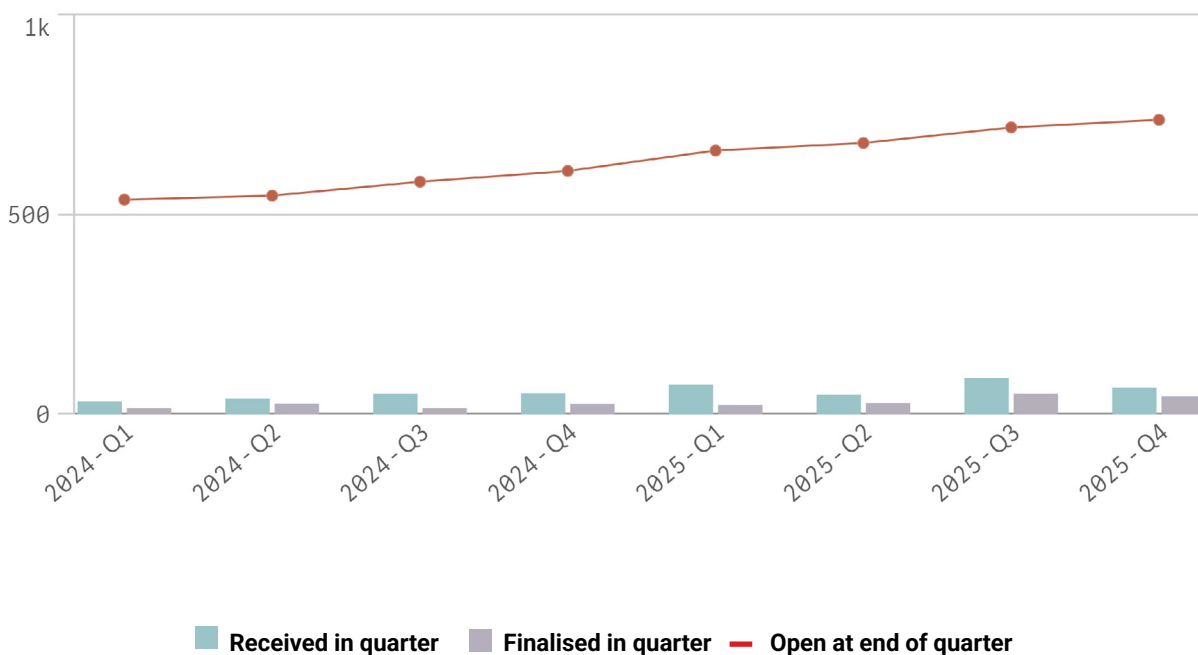
Average **437** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



- DMPE
- Proponent
- Other agencies
- Parallel processing

### Trends for received, finalised and open

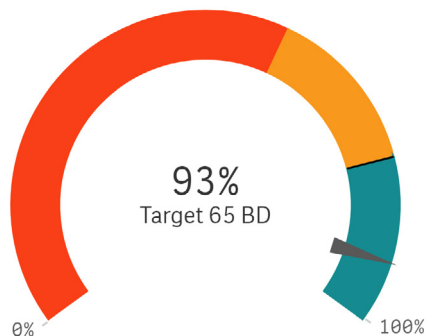
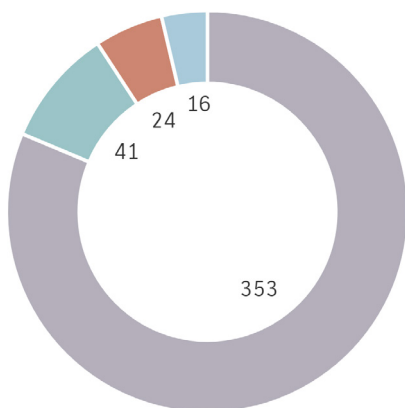


# Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

## Miscellaneous licence and other tenure

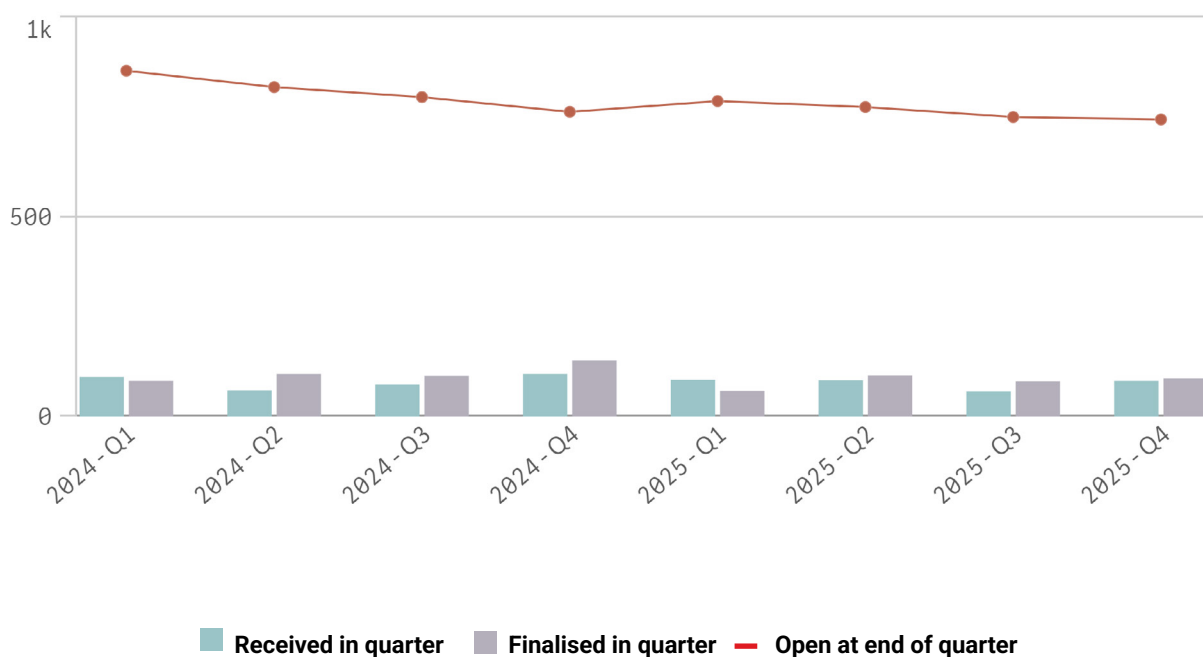
Average **434** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE 
 ■ Proponent 
 ■ Other agencies  
■ Parallel processing

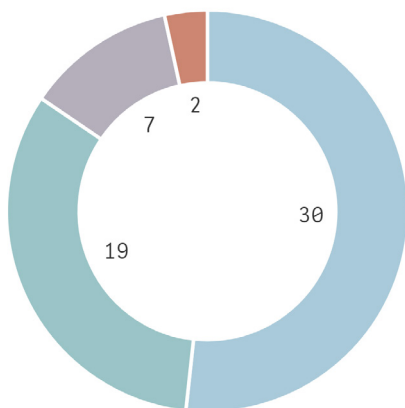
Trends for received, finalised and open



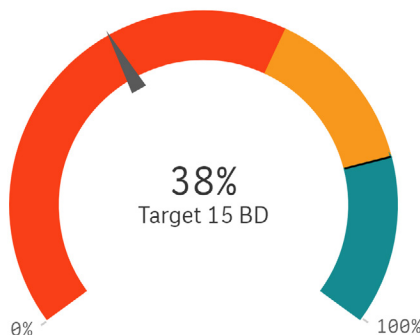
# Mining Act 1978 – Environmental applications

## Programme of Work

Average **58** days total

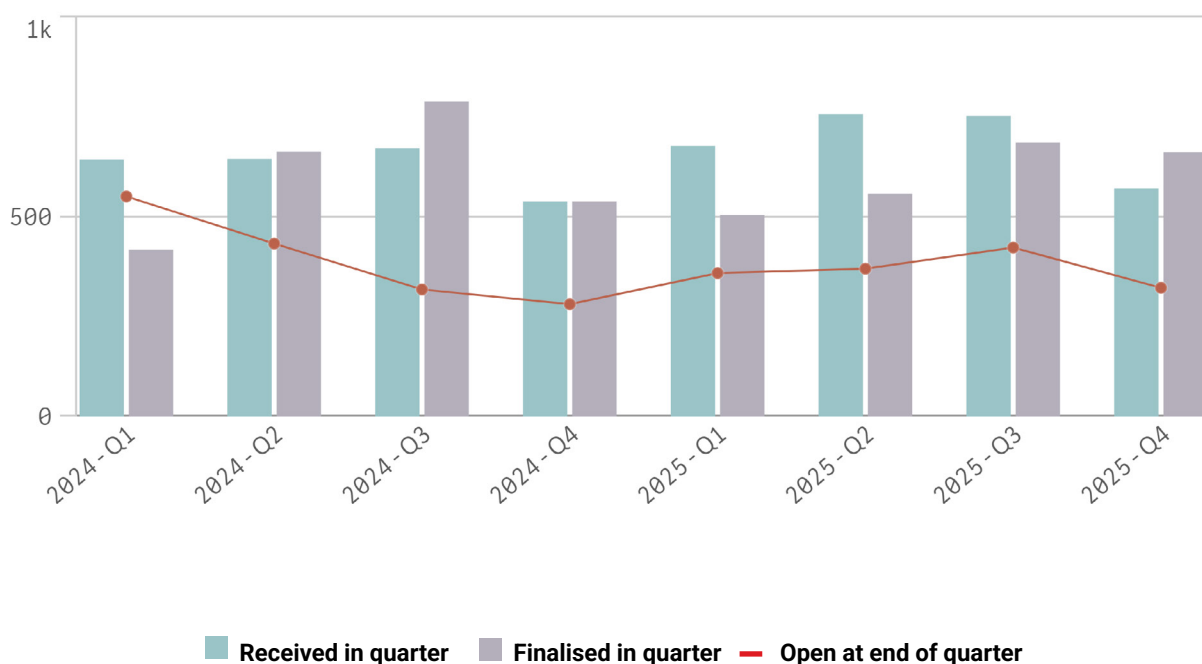


Per cent finalised within target timeline



- DMPE
- Proponent
- Other agencies
- Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

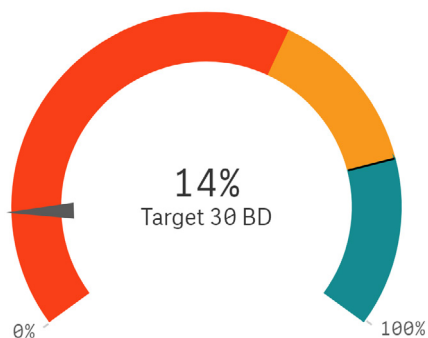
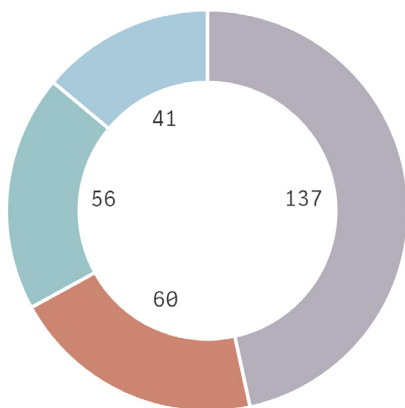


# Mining Act 1978 – Environmental applications

## Mining proposal

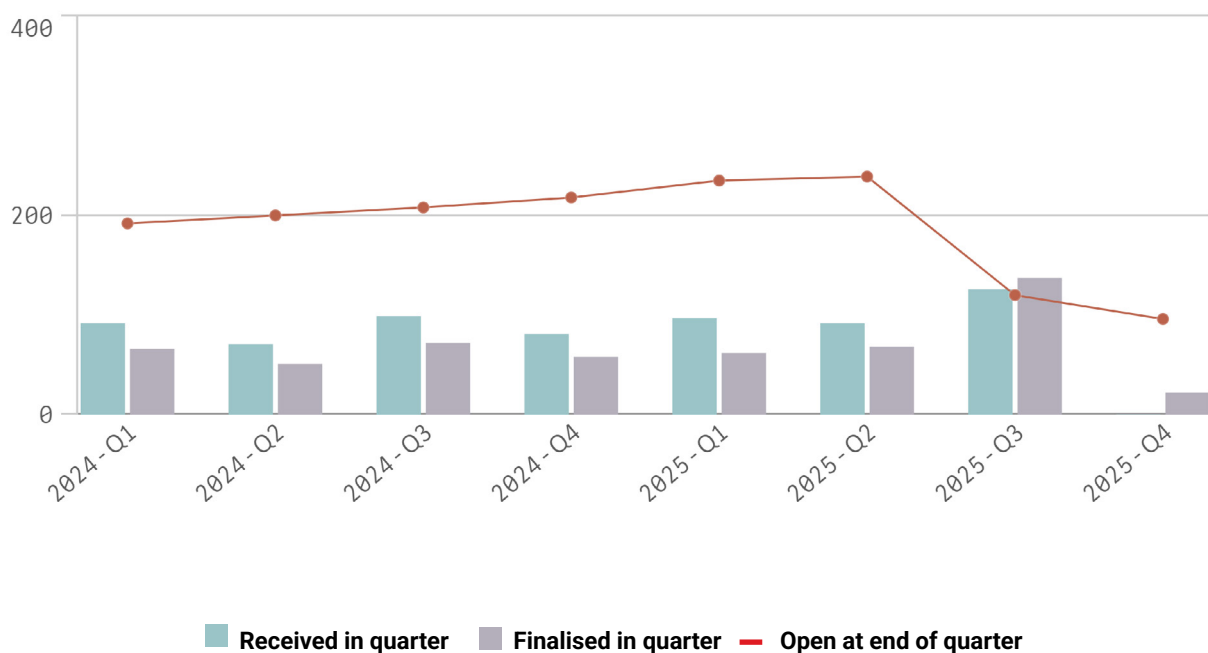
Average **294** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE   
 ■ Proponent   
 ■ Other agencies  
■ Parallel processing

### Trends for received, finalised and open

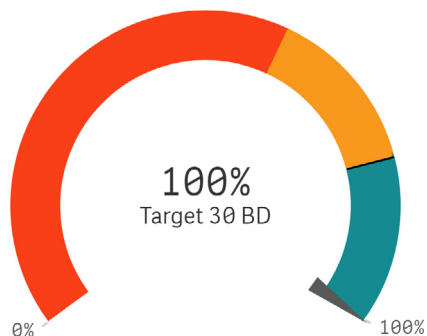
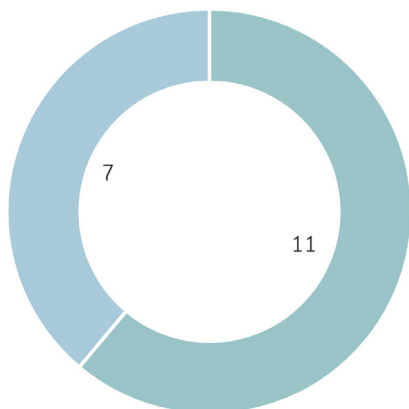


# Mining Act 1978 - Environmental applications

## Mining Development and Closure Proposal

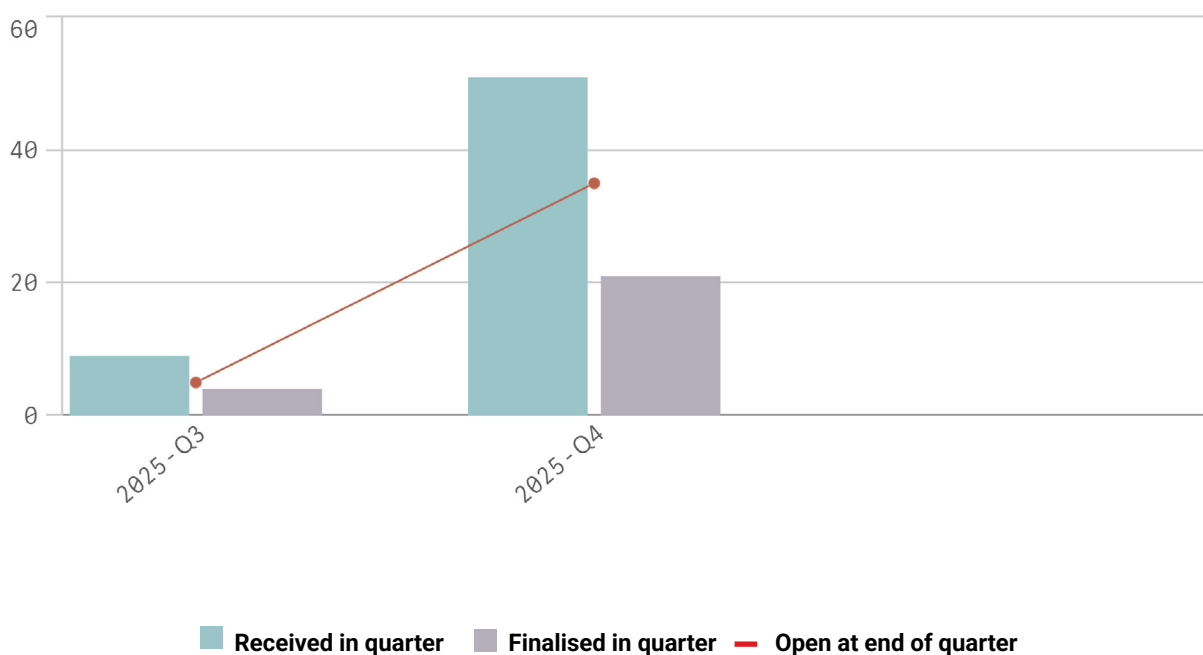
Average **18** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



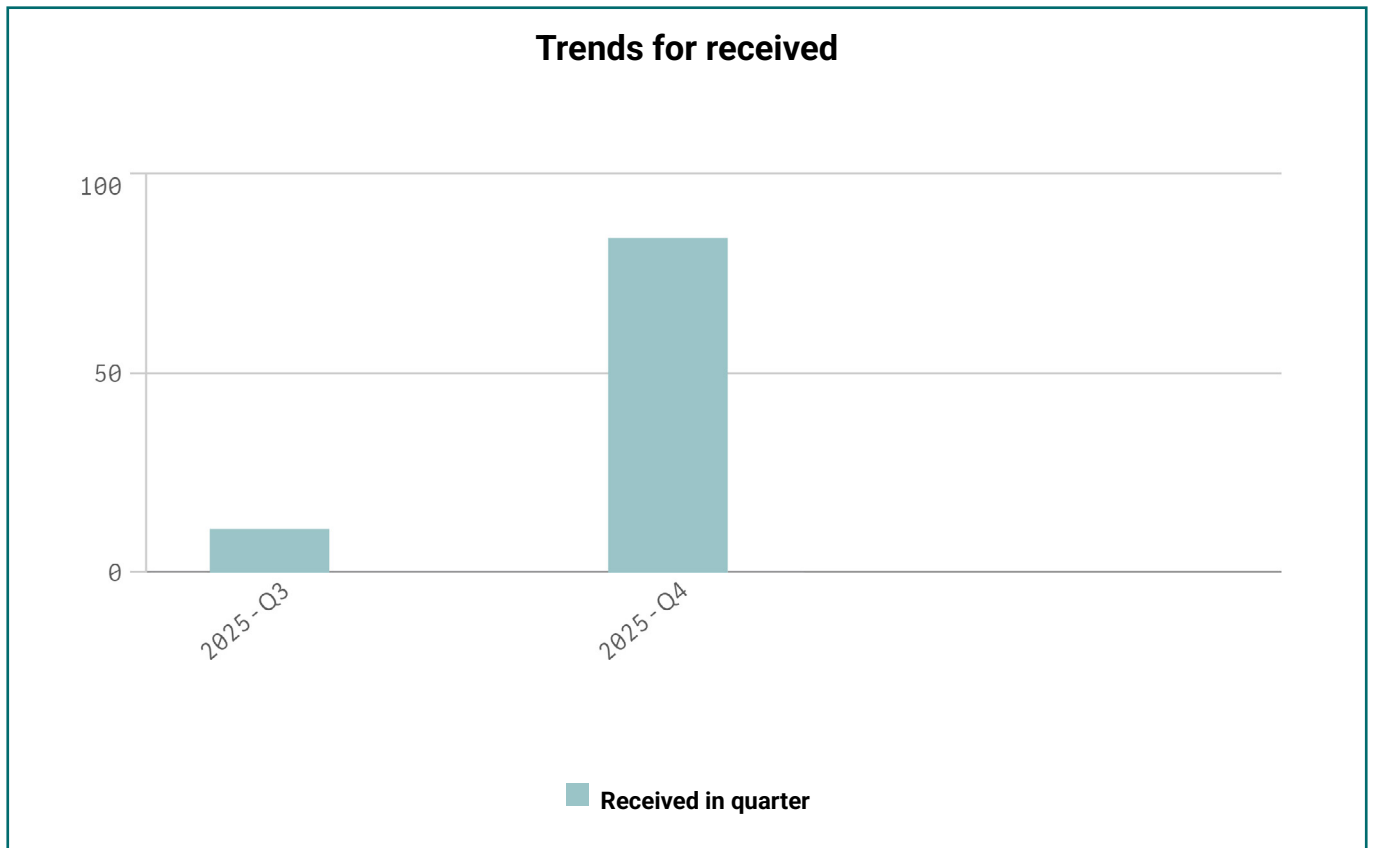
- DMPE
- Proponent
- Other agencies
- Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open



# Mining Act 1978 - Environmental applications

## Eligible mining activity

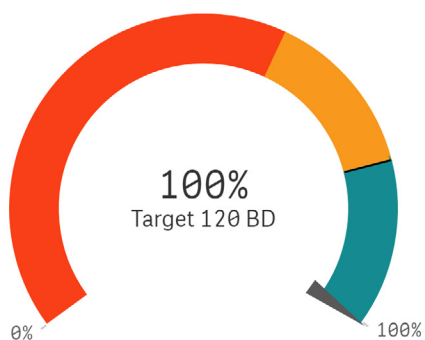
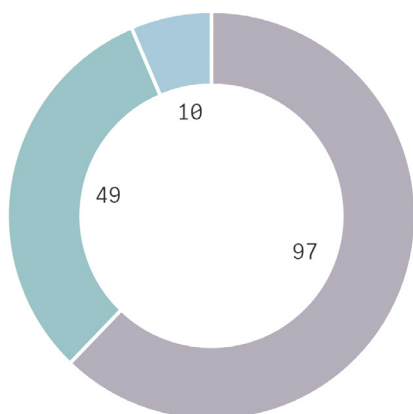


# WA Petroleum Legislation

## Petroleum tenure

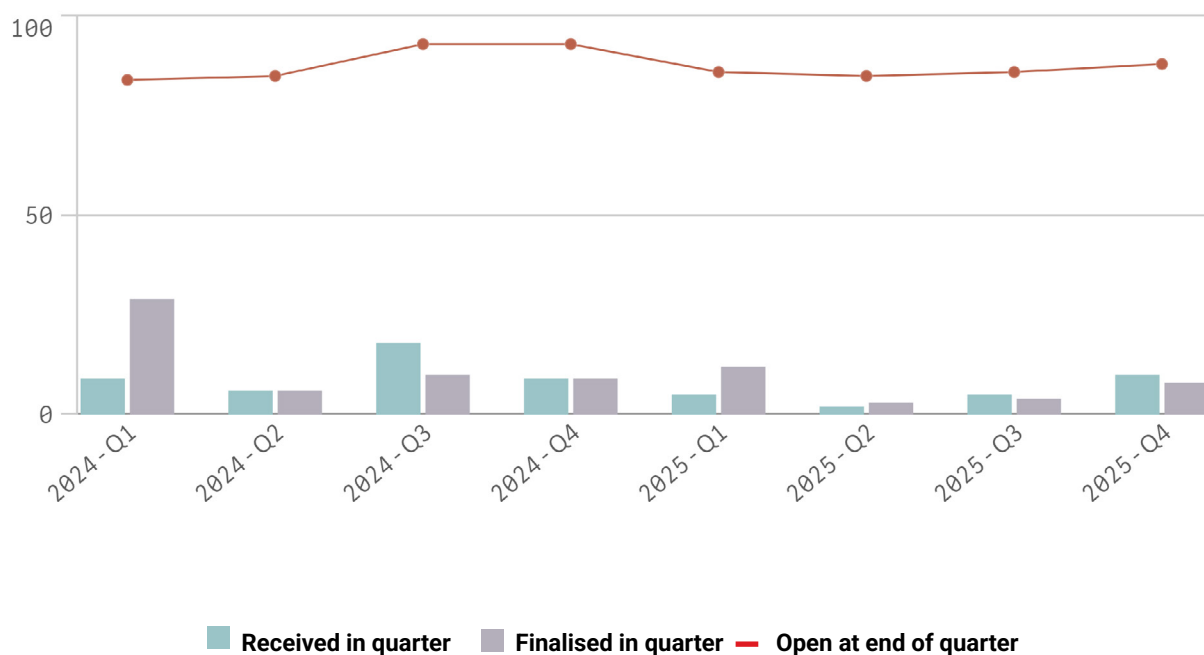
Average **156** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



DMPE Proponent Other agencies

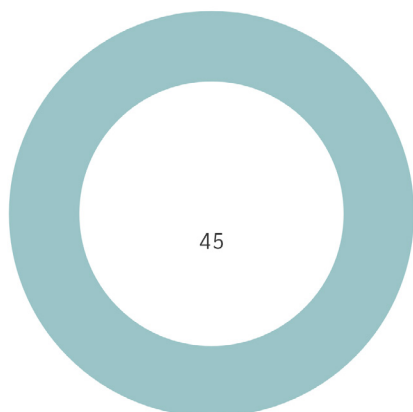
### Trends for received, finalised and open



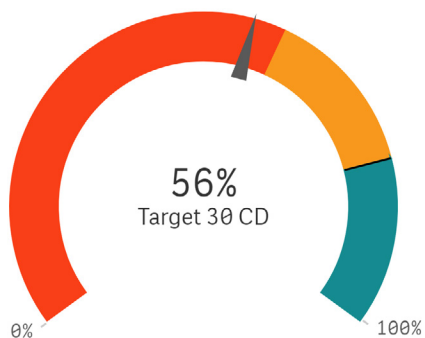
# WA Petroleum Legislation

## Petroleum environment plans

Average **45** days total

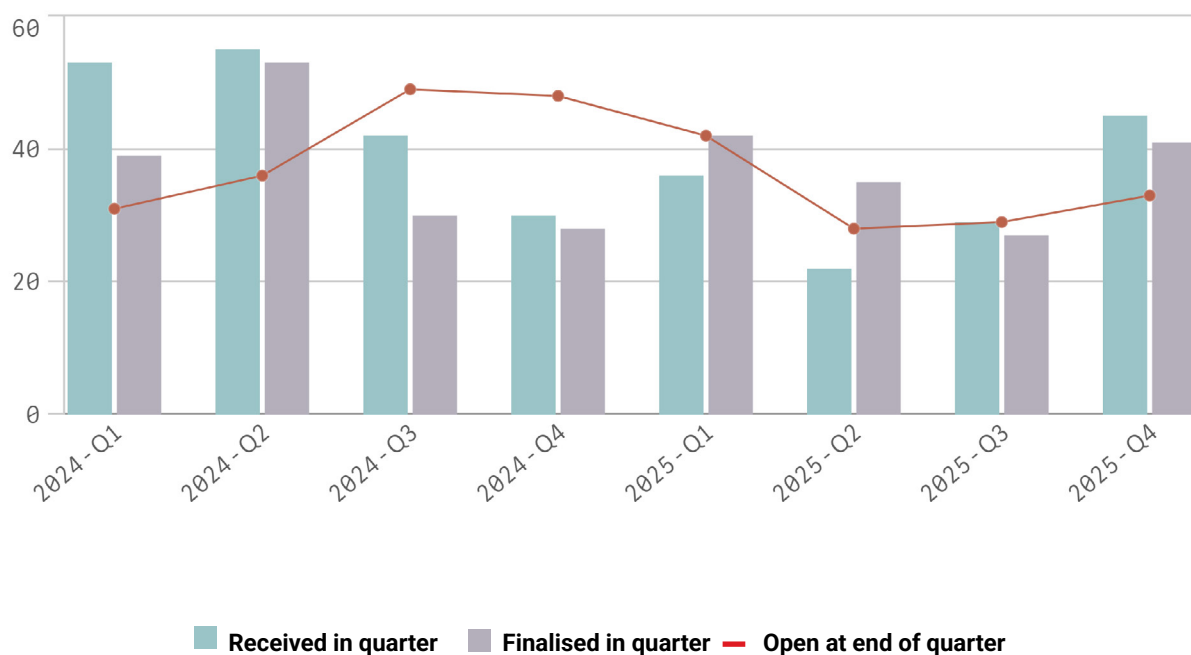


Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE

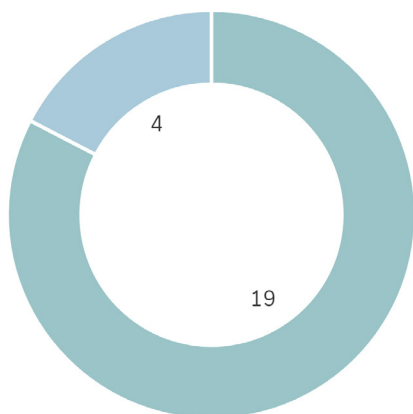
Trends for received, finalised and open



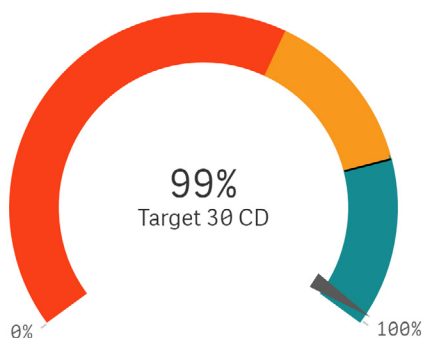
# WA Petroleum Legislation

## Well activities

Average **23** days total

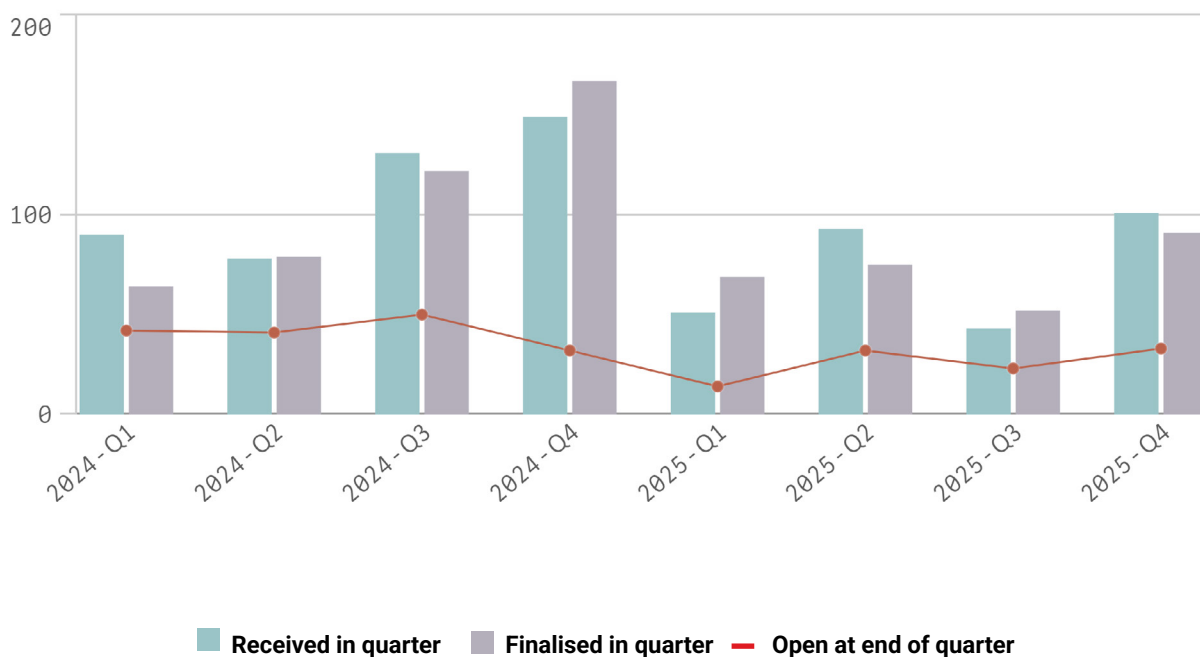


Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE ■ Proponent

Trends for received, finalised and open

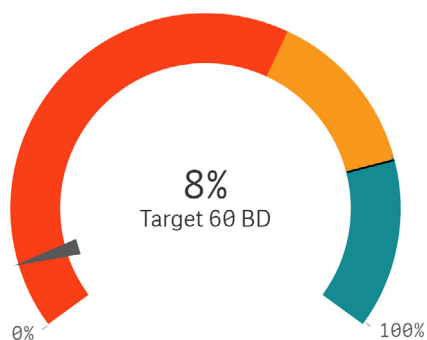
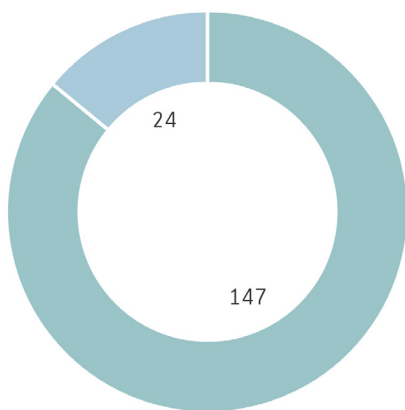


# WA Environmental Protection Act 1986

## Native vegetation clearing permits

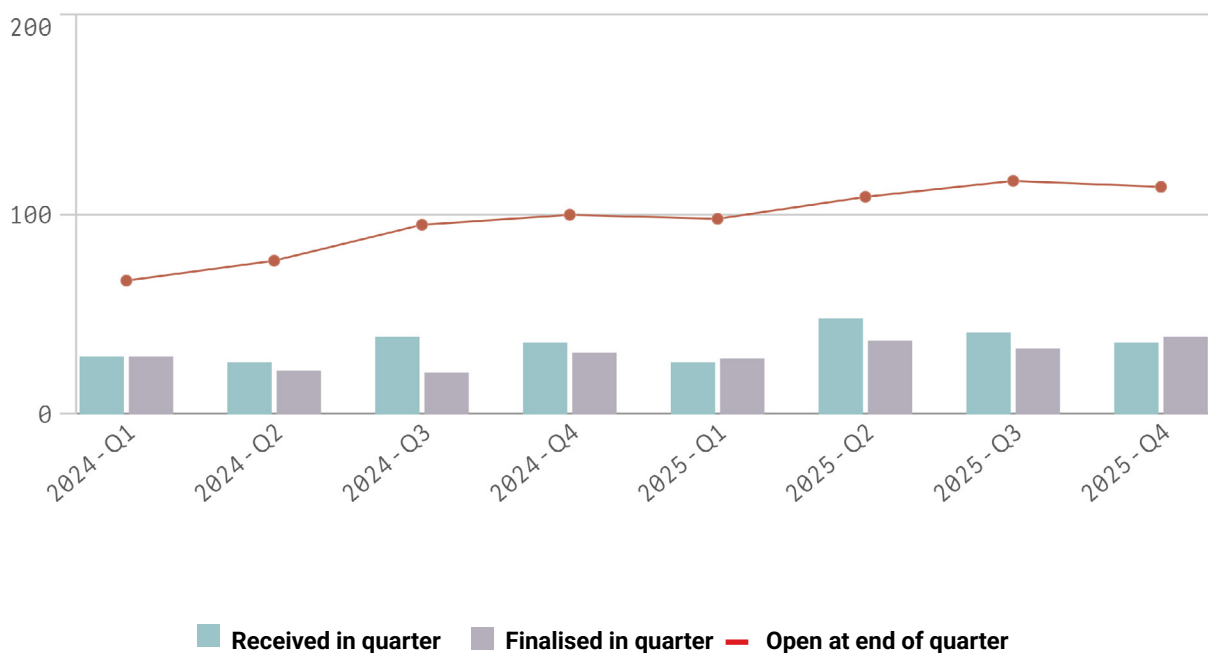
Average **171** days total

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 Development and Closure 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).