



DMPE approvals performance reporting (Mining and Petroleum)

March quarter 2026

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

Overall, during the March 2026 quarter, the mining and petroleum sectors showed strong performance across most approval categories. DMPE acknowledges that petroleum environmental plan and native vegetation clearing permits faced challenges that affected processing timeliness. DMPE continues to work to align these processing times with target timeframes and encourages proponents to engage with their designated contact when approvals are becoming time-critical for operations.

Well activity performance has been temporarily affected due to a surge in activity within particular geographic hubs, with performance expected to return to normal levels in coming months.

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.

We are reviewing the content and layout of the information presented and welcome any feedback to inform the next report.

Chris Shaw

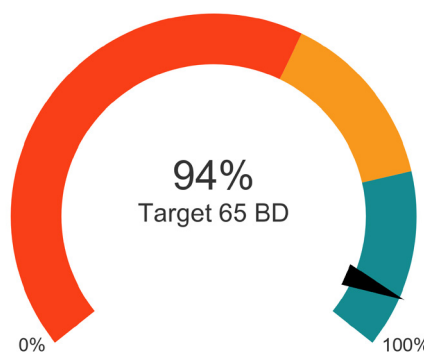
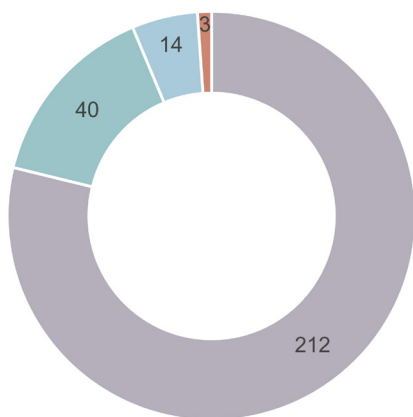
Director General
Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration

Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Prospecting licence

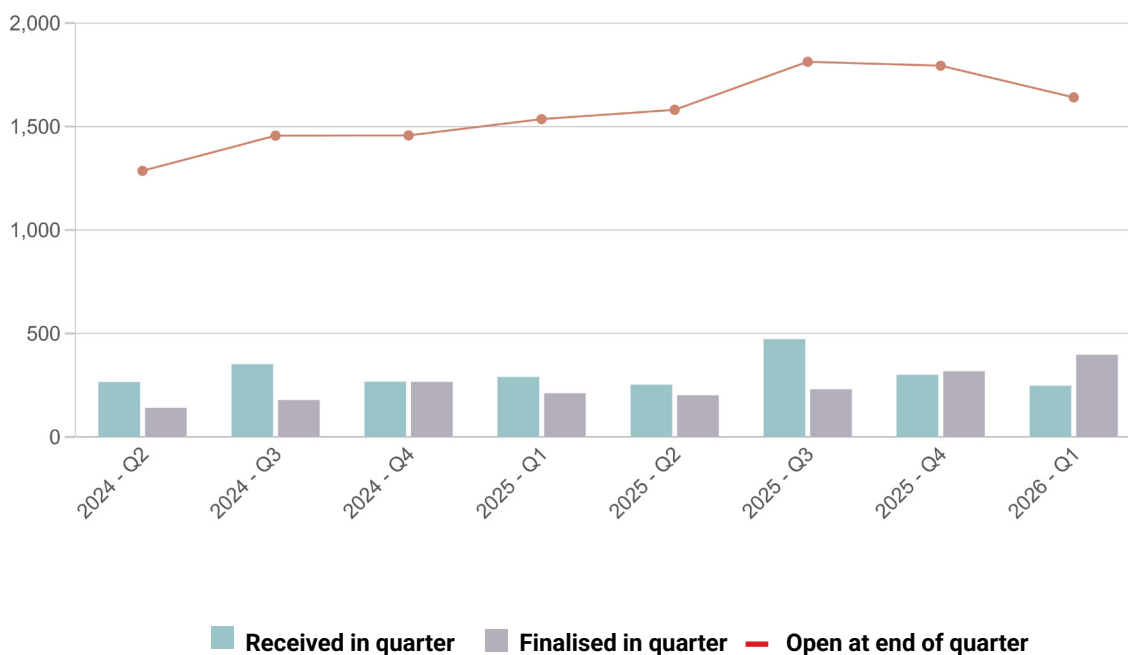
Average **269** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE
 ■ Proponent
 ■ Other agencies
■ Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

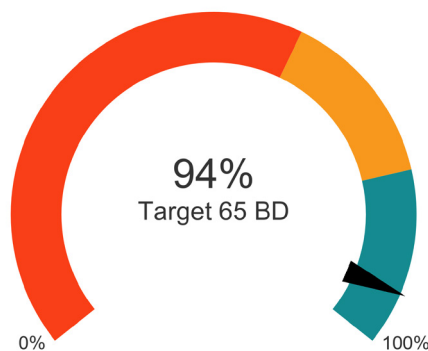
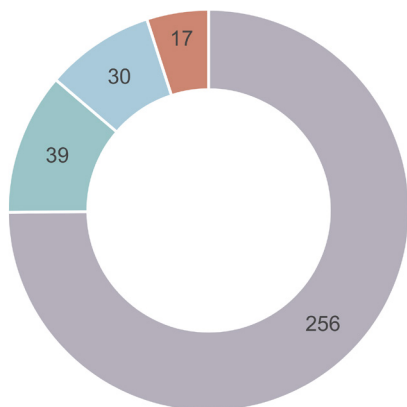


Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Exploration licence

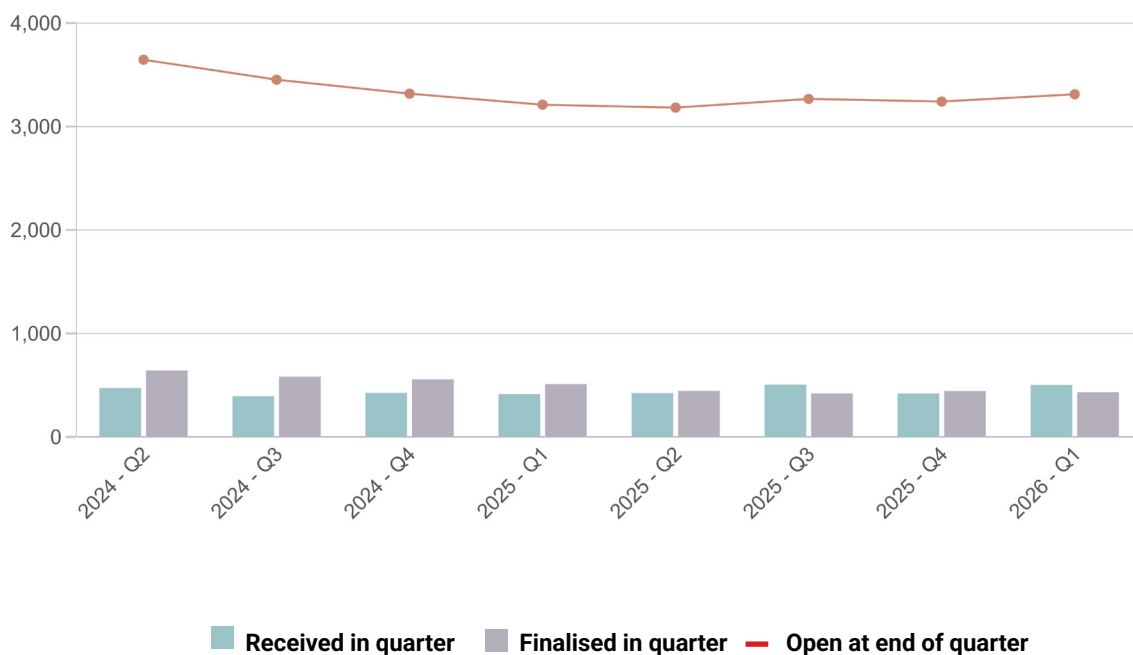
Average **342** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE
 ■ Proponent
 ■ Other agencies
■ Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

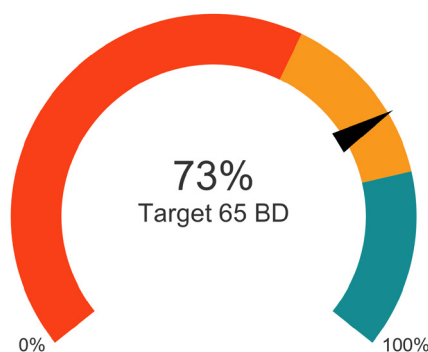
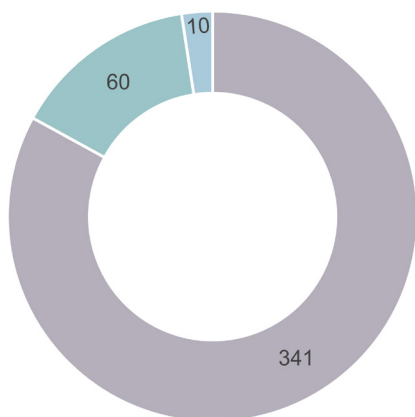


Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Mining lease

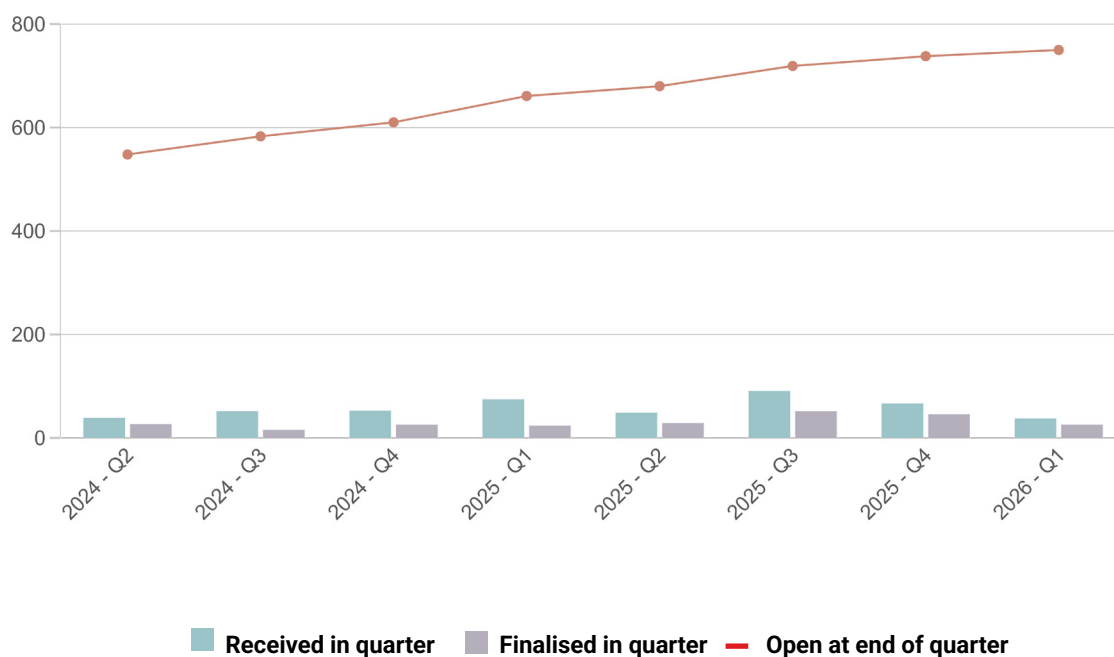
Average **411** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE
 ■ Proponent
 ■ Other agencies
■ Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

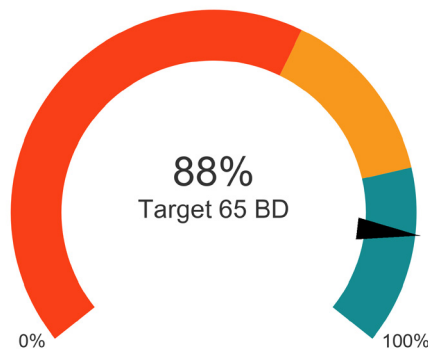
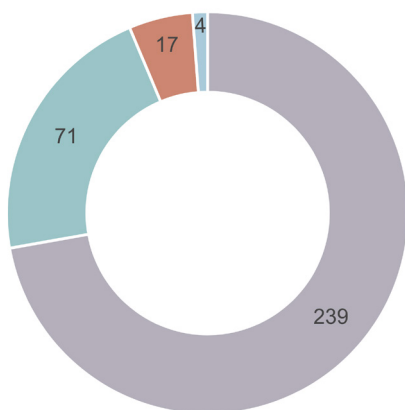


Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Miscellaneous licence and other tenure

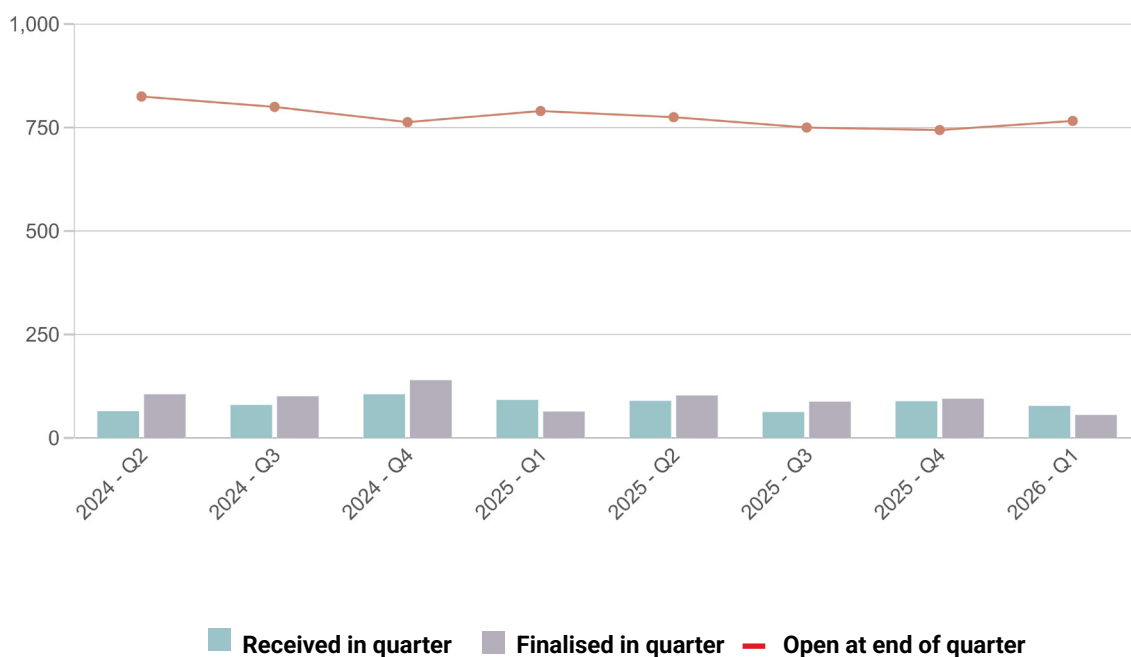
Average **331** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE
 ■ Proponent
 ■ Other agencies
■ Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

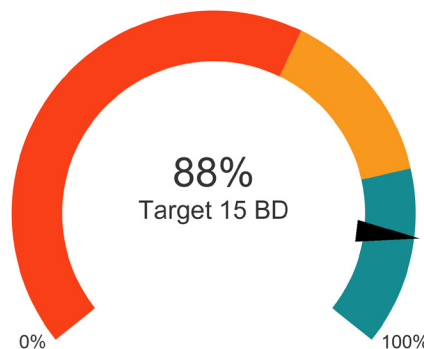
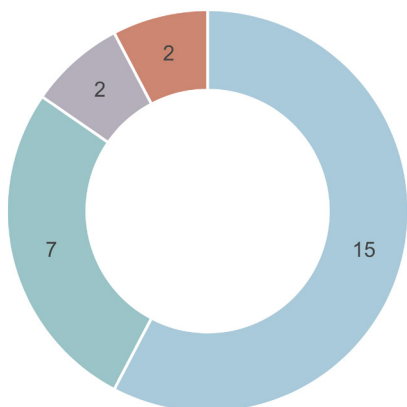


Mining Act 1978 – Environmental applications

Programme of Work

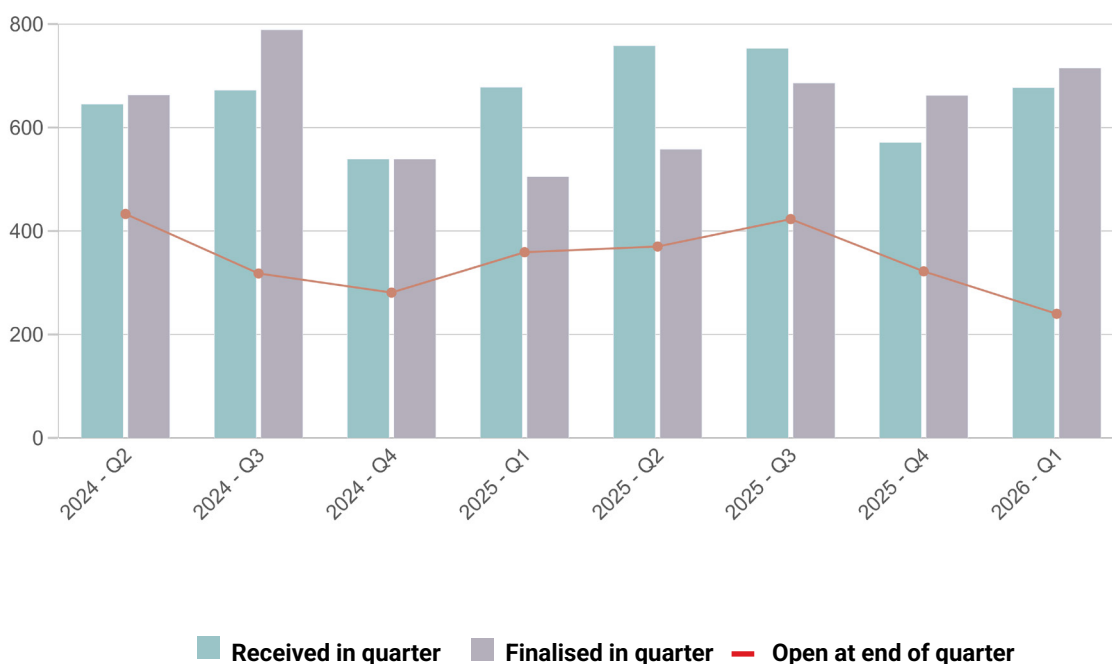
Average **26** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE
 ■ Proponent
 ■ Other agencies
■ Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

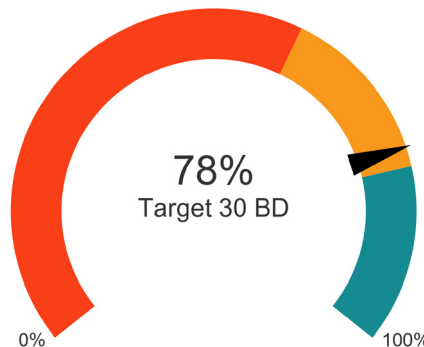
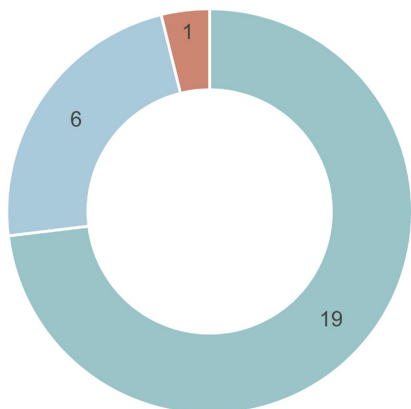


Mining Act 1978 - Environmental applications

Mining Development and Closure Proposal

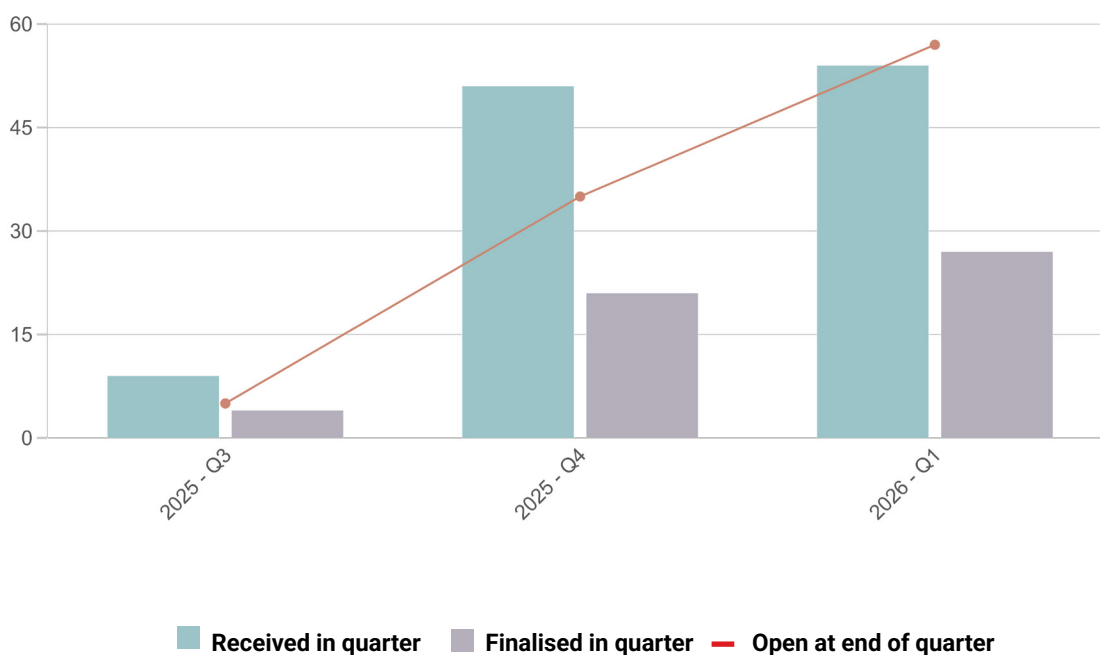
Average **26** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



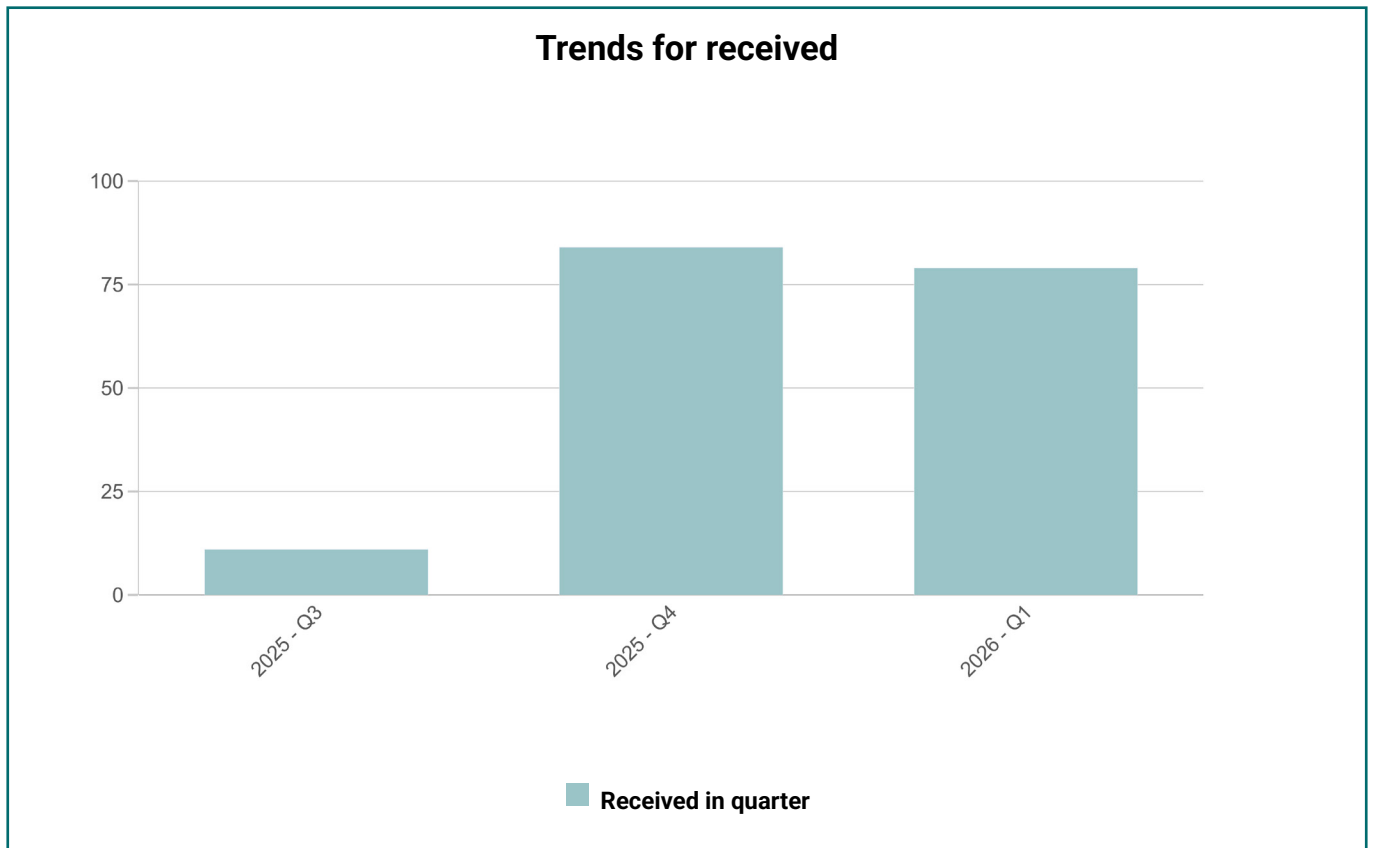
DMPE Proponent Parallel processing

Trends for received, finalised and open



Mining Act 1978 - Environmental applications

Eligible mining activity

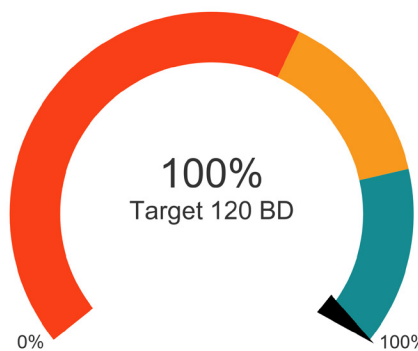
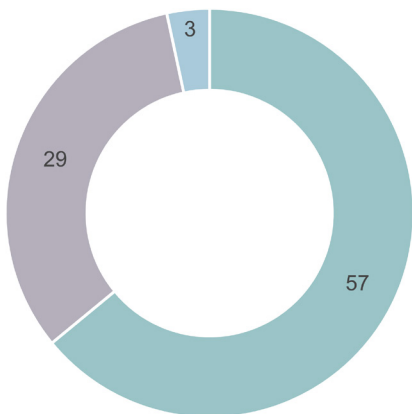


WA Petroleum Legislation

Petroleum tenure

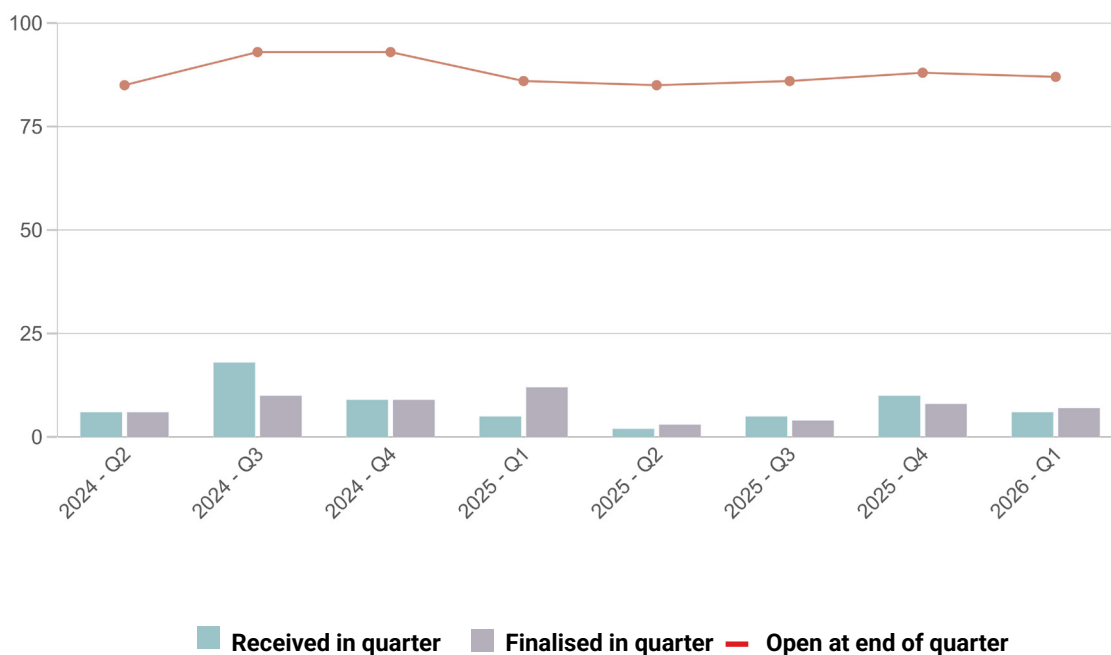
Average **89** days total

Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE ■ Proponent ■ Other agencies

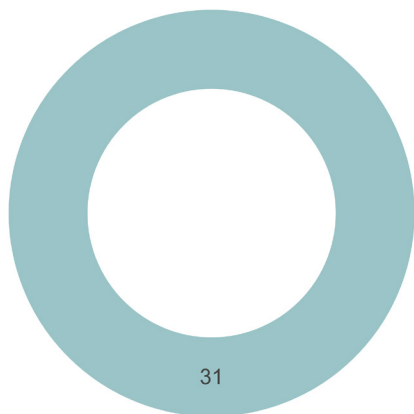
Trends for received, finalised and open



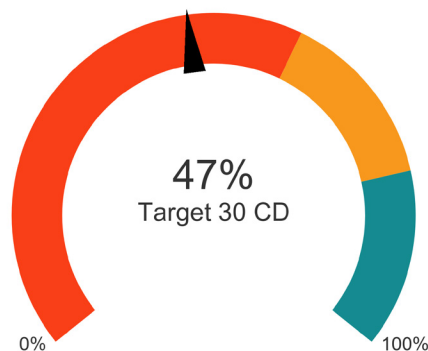
WA Petroleum Legislation

Petroleum environment plans

Average **31** days total

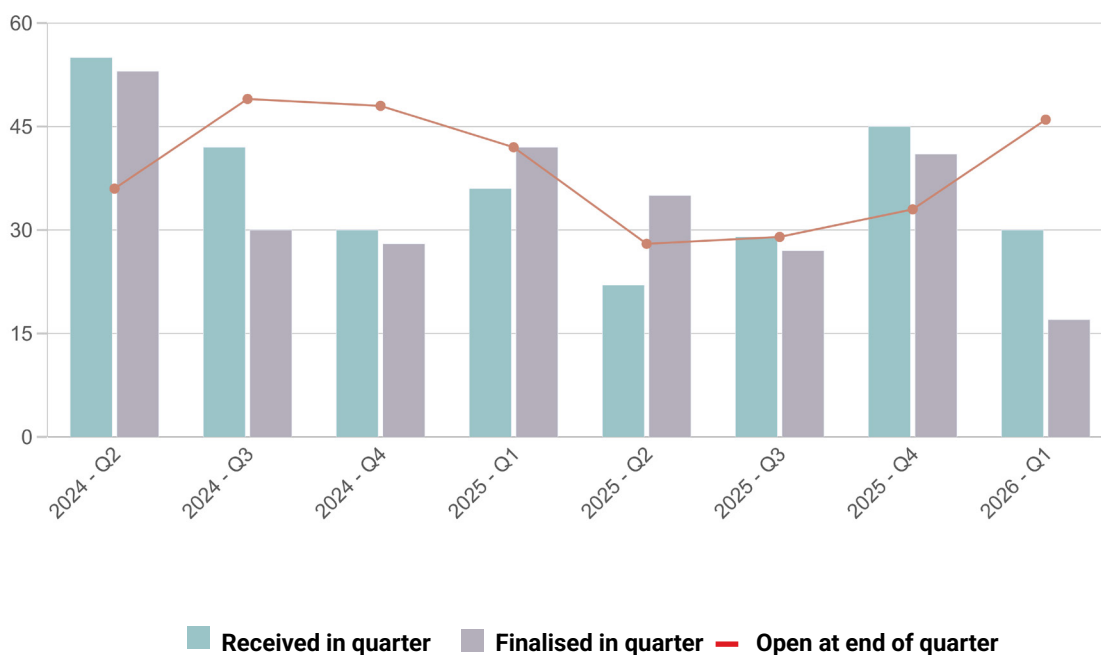


Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE

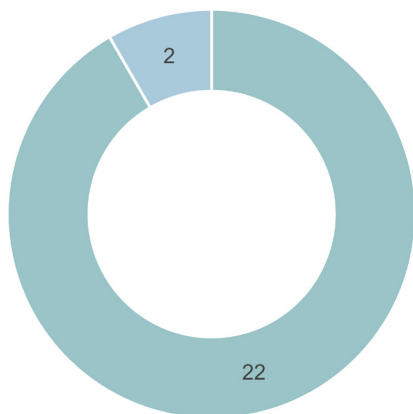
Trends for received, finalised and open



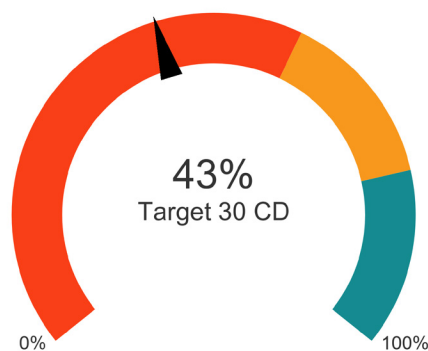
WA Petroleum Legislation

Well activities

Average **24** days total

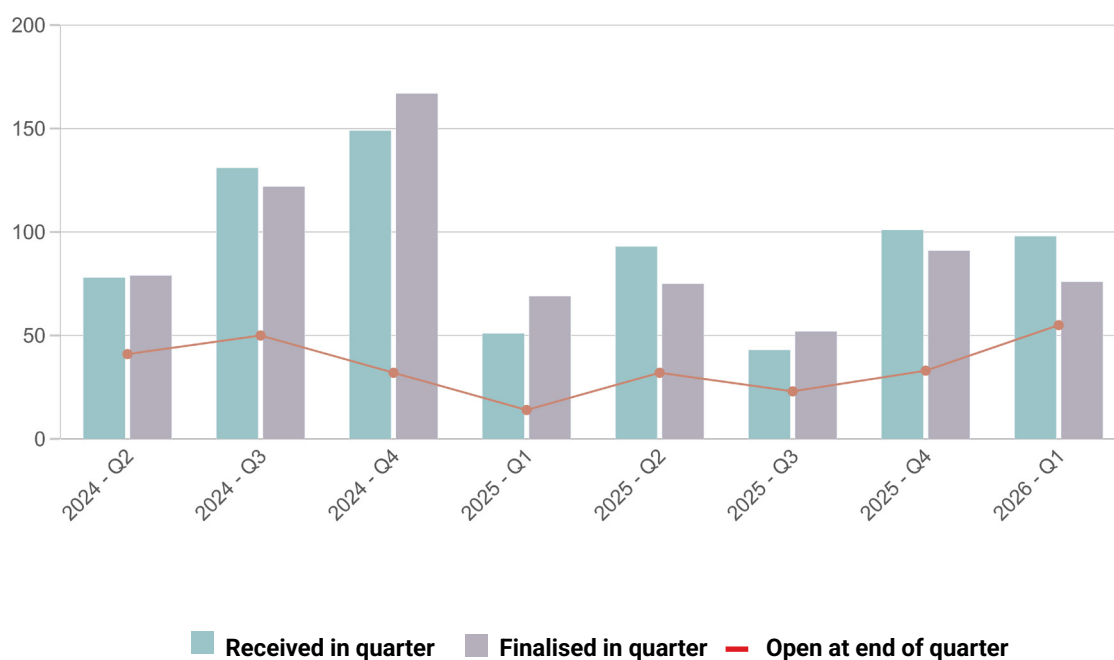


Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ DMPE ■ Proponent

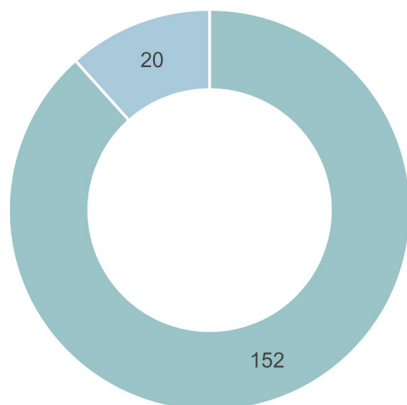
Trends for received, finalised and open



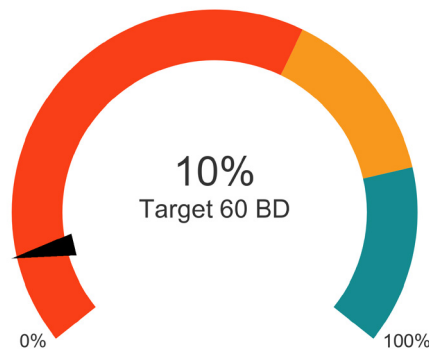
WA Environmental Protection Act 1986

Native vegetation clearing permits

Average **172** days total

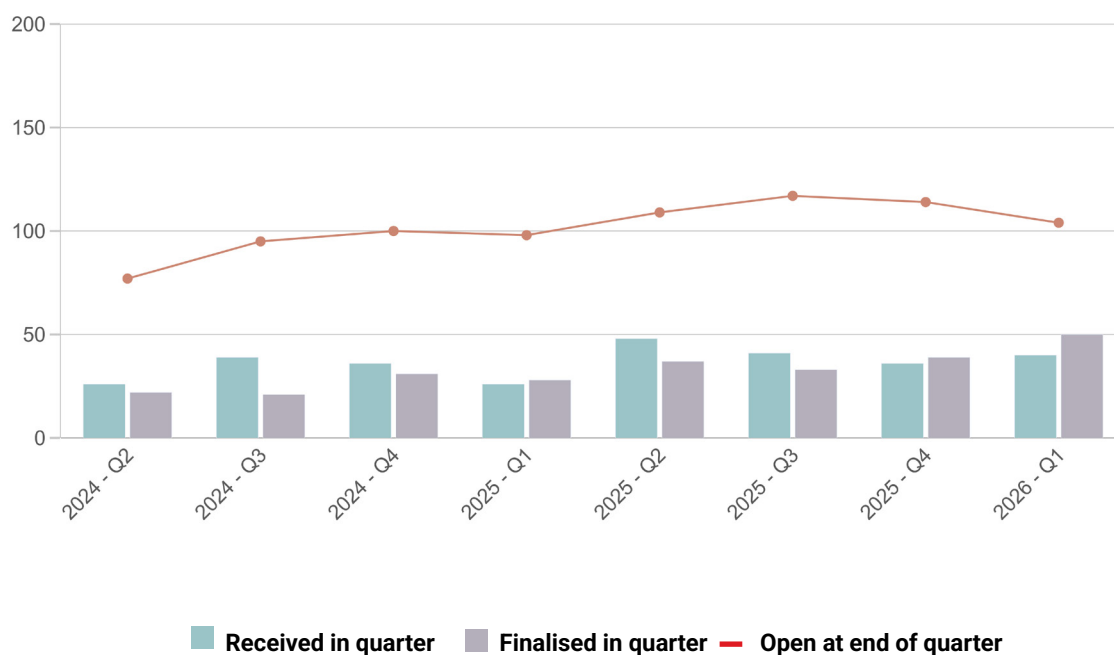


Per cent finalised within target timeline



■ 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
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).