



Department of Mines,
Petroleum and Exploration

CO-FUNDED GOVERNMENT – INDUSTRY DRILLING PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF MINES, PETROLEUM AND EXPLORATION,
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Guidelines for Submission of Applications – Round 34

December 2026 – November 2027 program

CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION3
- 2. DEFINITIONS3
- 3. TIMELINES AND IMPORTANT DATES FOR ROUND 34 CO-FUNDING4
- 4. HOW TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING6
- 5. APPLICATION ASSESSMENT6
- 6. IMPORTANT FUNDING INFORMATION7
 - 6a. Prospector Grants.....8
 - 6b. Mobilization costs – zone dependent.....9
 - 6c. Downhole survey costs11
 - 6d. Core tray costs – diamond drilling.....12
 - 6e. Co-funded drilling and Plan for Our Parks.14
- 7. DOCUMENT GUIDELINES AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA15
- 8. LEGAL PARAMETERS OF PROPOSALS16
- 9. CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS17
- 10. FINAL REPORT SUBMISSION AND FURTHER INFORMATION18
- 11. DIRECT DRILLING COSTS19
 - Stand-by19
 - Active Stand-by19
 - Non-active (e.g., passive/inactive/non-billable) Stand-by20
 - Moving between holes on the project site/tramming20
 - Cartage of water20
 - Metre rate down hole.....20
 - Drilling of water bores.....20
 - Diesel.....21
 - Lighting tower for night drilling.....21
 - Temporary above ground sump/solid returns unit (SRU) for diamond drilling.21
- 12. ITEMS THAT ARE NOT DIRECT DRILLING COSTS21
- 13. APPENDICES 1 to 4.....22
 - APPENDIX 122
 - Environmental guidelines (petroleum and mineral exploration)22
 - APPENDIX 222
 - Drill core guidelines (includes core submission form)22
 - APPENDIX 322
 - Guidelines for mineral exploration reports22
 - APPENDIX 422
 - Guidelines for petroleum and geothermal exploration reports22

*Please refer to the website of the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration for the **latest information** on the Co-funded Government – Industry Drilling Program.*
Homepage: <http://www.DMPE.wa.gov.au/>

1. INTRODUCTION

The Co-funded Government - Industry Drilling Program is being funded by the Western Australian State Government, to provide a stimulus to geoscience exploration and contribute to the economic development of regional areas of Western Australia. The program is administered by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE).

Geoscience exploration includes mineral, oil and gas, geothermal and hydrogen/helium exploration with drilling to be undertaken in underexplored areas.

The Department is now seeking proposals from applicants to undertake exploration drilling projects jointly funded by the successful applicants and the Department.

2. DEFINITIONS

“Director General” means the Director General of the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration.

“Minister” means the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.

“Applicant” means the company, institution or individual submitting a proposal.

“Funding Agreement” means the agreement of conditions of funding grant between the parties. These Guidelines form part of the Funding Agreement.

“Proposal” means the documentation prepared and submitted to the Director General in an application for Government - Industry Drilling Co-funding.

“Project” means the work undertaken by the successful Applicant in accordance with the Proposal.

“Prospector” means an individual who holds and explores on a single or small group of granted tenement/s with no public company ownership.

“Prospector Grant” means a grant made to a prospector and is capped at \$40,000 per grant. Only one application may be submitted per tenement or combined reporting group.

“Closing Date” means 4 pm WST on the 28 August 2026. This is the last day to submit a proposal. The online submission of the application must be completed at this time.

“Completion Date” means the date of submission of final report including core. This must not be later than 5 pm, 28 February 2028 (finalisation of the project), unless otherwise agreed with DMPE.

“Drilling Co-funding” means monies distributed to successful applicants on completion of projects.

“Mining Tenement” means the area (or part thereof) outlined in the Proponent’s licence or lease granted under the *Mining Act 1978 (WA)*.

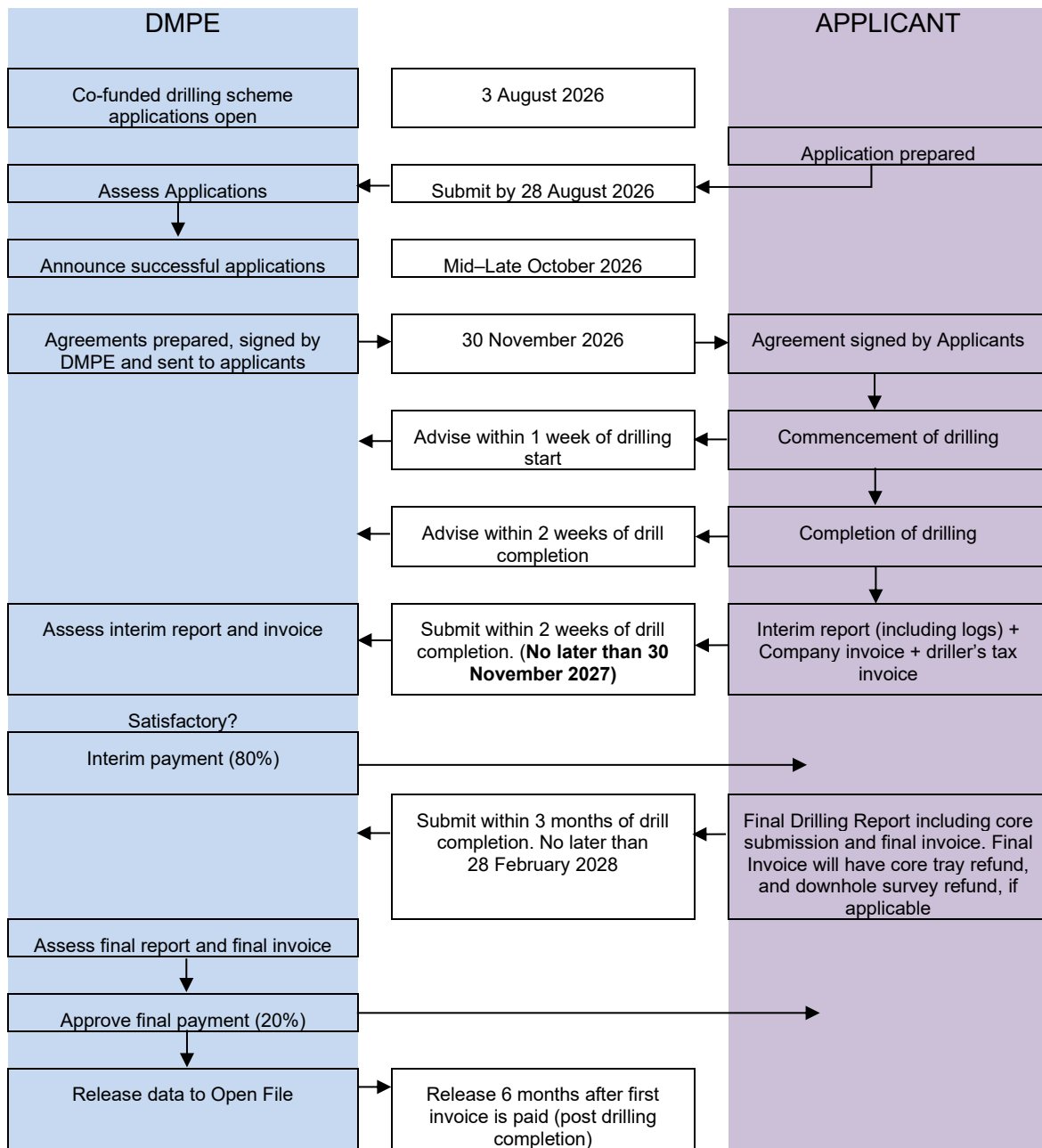
“Petroleum Title” means the area (or part thereof) outlined in the Proponent’s licence, lease or permit granted under the *Petroleum, Geothermal Energy and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 1967*.

“Geothermal Title” means the area (or part thereof) outlined in the Proponent’s licence, lease or permit granted under the *Petroleum, Geothermal Energy and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 1967*.

3. TIMELINES AND IMPORTANT DATES FOR ROUND 34 CO-FUNDING

Important dates for the Co-funded Drilling Program:

| | |
|--|---|
| 3 August 2026 | Online applications open |
| 28 August 2026 | Online applications close (4 pm WST deadline) |
| Mid-Late October 2026 | Planned announcement of successful Proposals |
| By 30 November 2026 | Agreements signed by Applicants and DMPE |
| 1 December 2026* – 30 November 2027 | Term of Funding Agreement for 2027 Co-funded Drilling where * is the date of DMPE acknowledgement of receipt of fully executed Funding Agreement or 1 December 2026, whichever is earlier |
| 30 November 2027 | Last date for acceptance of Interim Reports and invoices and drillers receipts for Round 34, 2027 drilling projects (5 pm WST deadline). (Note: failure to meet this deadline means that the Funding Agreement is terminated) |
| 28 February 2028 | Last date for submission of Final Report (including core) for 2027 drilling projects (5 pm WST deadline). |



It is the Applicants' responsibility to ensure the Proposal is lodged by the specified closing date and time. All applications will be acknowledged using the contact details provided on the Application.

Projects must be completed and an interim geological project report, together with company invoice attaching the driller's tax invoice, delivered to the EIS Team, Geological Survey of Western Australia, Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration by **30 November 2027. No extension beyond this date is allowable.**

Final Reports and core must be submitted within 3 months of end of drilling and in all cases no later than 28 February 2028 (unless otherwise negotiated with DMPE).

4. HOW TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING

Complete the online project **Application** through the link on the website of the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration. The Department subscribes to a web-based application system called SmartyGrants

Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration website: www.DMPE.wa.gov.au
EIS Drilling homepage: www.dmp.wa.gov.au/EISdrilling

Applicants may submit more than one application but second and subsequent applications will be subject to handicapping.

Furthermore, for the purposes of applying a handicap, where it is identified that two or more applicants may have different names and ABNs, are in fact related parties, a five-point deduction will be applied.

For the purposes of the co-funding programs, related parties are where:

- a) There is a parent company with the same name, business address and ABN, and/or
- b) The registered business address is the same on the applications, and/or
- c) Proposed projects in the applications are located on the same entity/parent home website.

Only one application will be eligible for consideration per tenement or combined reporting group, per drilling round.

Each online application will require:

- a) Administrative information about the applicant and the project including;
 - Complete Applicant contact details;
 - Number of holes planned;
 - Estimated number of metres to be drilled and drilling methods;
 - A realistic estimate of the total cost of the drilling;
 - The funding requested for the Project;
- b) A **Project Description** which addresses the Technical Assessment Criteria within the online application. All associated figures, tables and maps in this section should be easily legible and reproducible (printed/copied).

5. APPLICATION ASSESSMENT

All Applications will be assessed by an expert panel of officers and moderated by independent industry representatives nominated by the Director General, Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration.

The panel will use the predefined assessment criteria specified in the online application.

On completion of the assessment process all Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application via email, immediately after the Minister for Mines and Petroleum releases a media statement of the successful applicants. Successful Applicants will be formally notified in writing and of the date of the compulsory briefing.

There will be no right of appeal.

6. IMPORTANT FUNDING INFORMATION

Co-funding is only supplied for direct drilling costs which does not include administration and program management costs and costs associated with legal or ground access costs, geological, geophysical, geochemical (except for Prospectors only grants), laboratory analysis or specific geoscientific analysis other than down hole position surveys. For more information on eligible and ineligible direct drilling costs see Section 11 of this document.

Mobilisation costs are considered as part of the direct drilling costs. Details are provided in section 6b. Government co-funding offered to successful Applicants shall not exceed 50% of the total proposed direct drilling costs, or up to the capped values in all cases.

Downhole survey and core tray refunds are considered **ADDITIONAL** to the co-funding offer for direct drilling costs.

Funding will only be offered to those Applicants holding, or having access to, a granted mining tenement, petroleum title or geothermal title. However, consideration will be given to those Proposals where it is considered by the panel that an application for a mining tenement, petroleum title, or geothermal title is likely to be granted within a reasonable time frame (i.e., within 3 months from proposal submission) and that other approvals (native vegetation clearance etc.) will be completed shortly thereafter.

If the Applicant is not the holder of the mining tenement, petroleum title or geothermal title on which drilling is planned, then a letter of agreement (to the Co-funded drilling application and conditions associated with Co-funding) is required from the tenement holder.

The maximum possible allocation for any one mineral or energy project funded by the Department will be up to the value of:

- \$AUD 220,000 (ex GST) for a **Deep Drill Program**, defined as a project with the following specifications:
 - Mineral exploration:
 - 1 or 2 drill holes (max)
 - Each hole must have a planned end of hole depth of 600 m or greater
 - Drill type **MUST** be diamond drilling
 - The hole/s may include a precollar (e.g., RC or similar).
 - Petroleum or geothermal exploration:
 - 1 or 2 drill holes (max)
 - Each hole must have a planned end of hole depth of 600 m or greater
 - Drilling may be of any type (e.g., mud rotary, diamond.)
 - The hole/s may include a precollar (e.g., RC or similar).

PLEASE NOTE: Projects that propose more than 2 drill holes will automatically fall into the **Universal Program** (see below) **REGARDLESS** of the drilling type and end of hole depths proposed.

- \$AUD 180,000 (ex GST) for a **Universal Drill Program**, defined as a project with the following specifications:
 - Mineral and petroleum exploration:
 - 1 or more drill holes
 - Any type of drilling, or combination of drilling types may be undertaken
 - Drill hole depths are unrestricted
 - Any project that does not meet the exact Deep Drill Program criteria
- \$AUD 40,000 (ex GST) for a **“Prospector” Program** (see 6a).

6a. Prospector Grants

A separate pool of funds is set aside for bona fide prospectors. The grants made from this “Prospector Only” pool of funds will be capped at \$40,000 per grant. In order to ensure that the Department has good data return for its EIS co-funded drilling investment, prospectors will be required to submit geochemical analyses to the department if non-cored drilling is undertaken. In this case it is expected that an equivalent of about 25% of direct drilling costs is spent on analyses. The EIS grant will co-fund these analyses up to a maximum of \$10,000 (for projects where drilling is co-funded to the maximum \$30,000). The proportion of co-funding will be \$1 for analyses for every \$3 for drilling up to a total maximum of \$40,000. This requirement does not apply when full core is supplied to the Department.

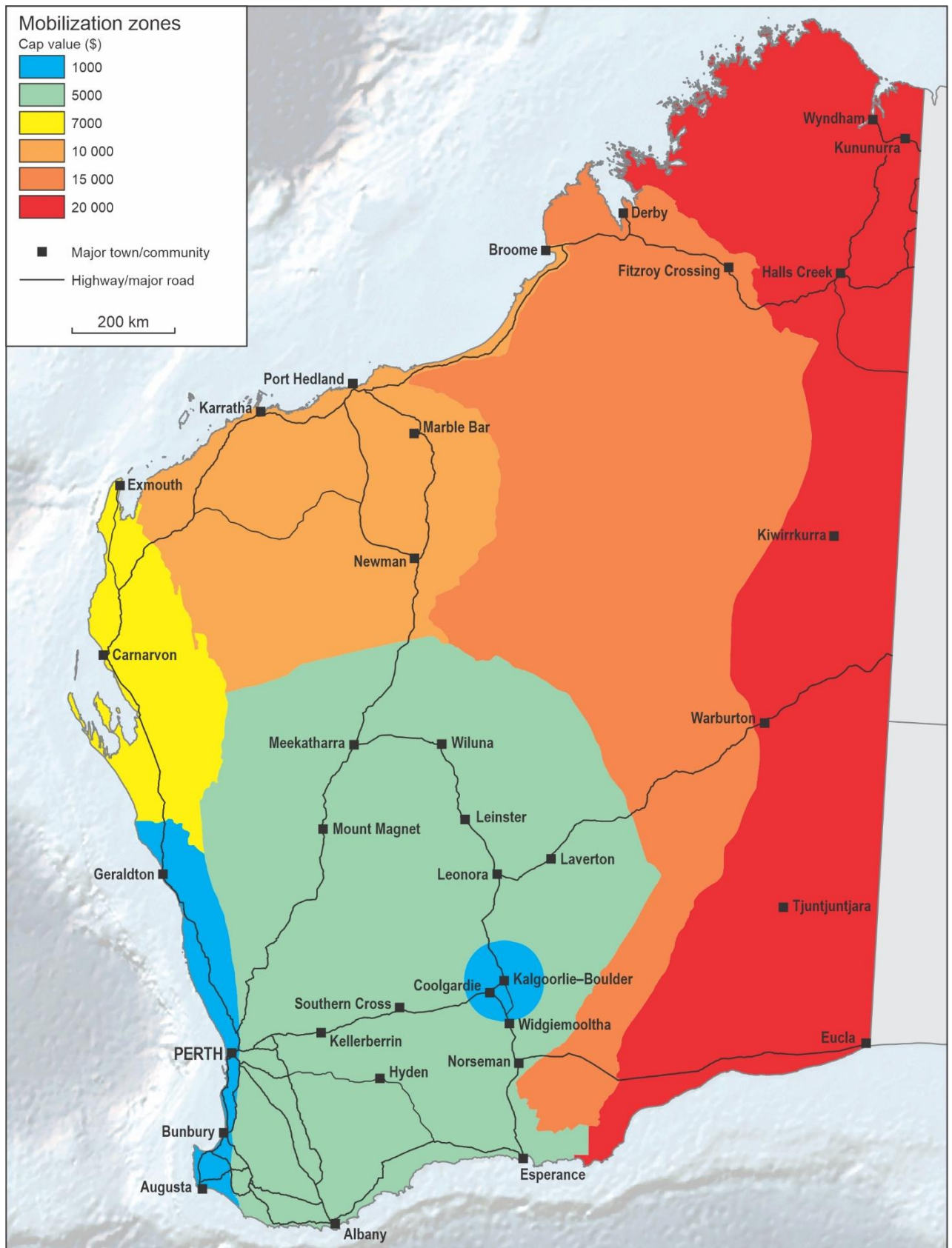
Prospectors may engage a geological consultant/contract geologist write and submit an application on behalf of a bona fide prospector. The prospector can then be refunded up to a maximum of \$1000 for the service. The cost of a geological consultant/contract geologist will be in addition to the requested co-funding offer, e.g., Offer of \$40,000 plus \$1000. Full requirements are as follows:

- Only successful applications where drilling is completed within the specified 12 months will be eligible for the refund. Where a Prospector engages a third party to write the application and the application is deemed unsuccessful, all associated costs are the responsibility of the applicant/prospector. Similarly, if a successful application/project is not drilled the refund is not eligible.
- The maximum refund is \$1000 (ex GST). Where a fee is less than \$1000, the refund will be the lesser value.
- Payment of the refund is only on submission of a copy of a tax invoice from the geoscientific consultant, or contract geologist. The invoice must show:
 - Contact details and address for the place of business
 - An Australian Business Number (ABN), and
 - A description of the work (e.g., Compilation of a Prospectors EIS co-funded drilling application (*insert application number e.g., R34DAP000X2027*), Round 34).
- The refund will be paid at the time DMPE receives the first invoice from the successful applicant, which will itemise both the drilling refund and the written application refund.

6b. Mobilization costs – zone dependent

Applicants will be able to include estimated mobilization costs as part of the co-funding calculations (direct drilling costs). As with the drilling costs, the refund is 50% but no more than capped values which are zone-dependent. Applicants should refer to the map 1 (below) to determine which zone their project lies within to determine the capped value. Full details of the mobilization are as follows:

- A mobilization refund will only be eligible to projects that:
 - are announced as successful, and
 - complete drilling within the specified drilling co-funding period of that round.
- Mobilization costs can include mobilization (travel to a project site) and demobilization (travel from a project site after EIS drilling is completed) and must be itemised on a drilling invoice(s).
- The mobilization amount offered to applicants shall be the lesser of:
 - 50% of mobilisation costs as itemised on the drillers invoices (ex GST), or
 - the capped zone-dependent value.
- The capped mobilization value for each successful project will be specified in the *Letter of Offer* (Schedule 2).
- Zone-dependent capped values are shown below on map 1. Remote areas, with poor and/or limited access, have higher capped values reflecting the EIS focus to promote greenfields exploration.
- A centroid (easting, northing, zone, or latitude-longitude) to the proposed collar locations will, in the first instance, provide the location to determine the zone and maximum capped value for the mobilization amount.
- The centroid will be the submitted coordinates in the application (Schedule 1). For a multi-hole program a full proposed list of planned collars must be attached and may be used to confirm the centroid by the EIS Team.
- Where a project and/or centroid straddles two zones, the maximum capped value will be at the discretion of the EIS Team.
- The drilling company(s) must be a third party, such that a successful applicant cannot use and operate their own rigs on the project.
- If the EIS drill program is part of a larger drilling program, the mobilization refund will be percentage-based. For example, if the total mob/demob cost is \$10,000 (ex GST) and the 4 EIS holes are part of a 10 hole program, the EIS refund component will be \$2000 (50% of \$4000 [assuming the capped zone is \$5000]).



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Map 1. Map of Western Australia with zones colour coded according to capped mobilization costs. GIS layers of the zones are available for download from the DMPE website →Online Systems →Data and Software centre, under Special Category Lands. The value of the zones is the capped value at 50%.

6c. Downhole survey costs

A refund is claimable on downhole surveys (see below) completed on EIS holes drilled under the concurrent EIS drilling round they are successful in.

The refund will be external to the calculation of direct drilling cost for a co-funded drilling application and based according to the following:

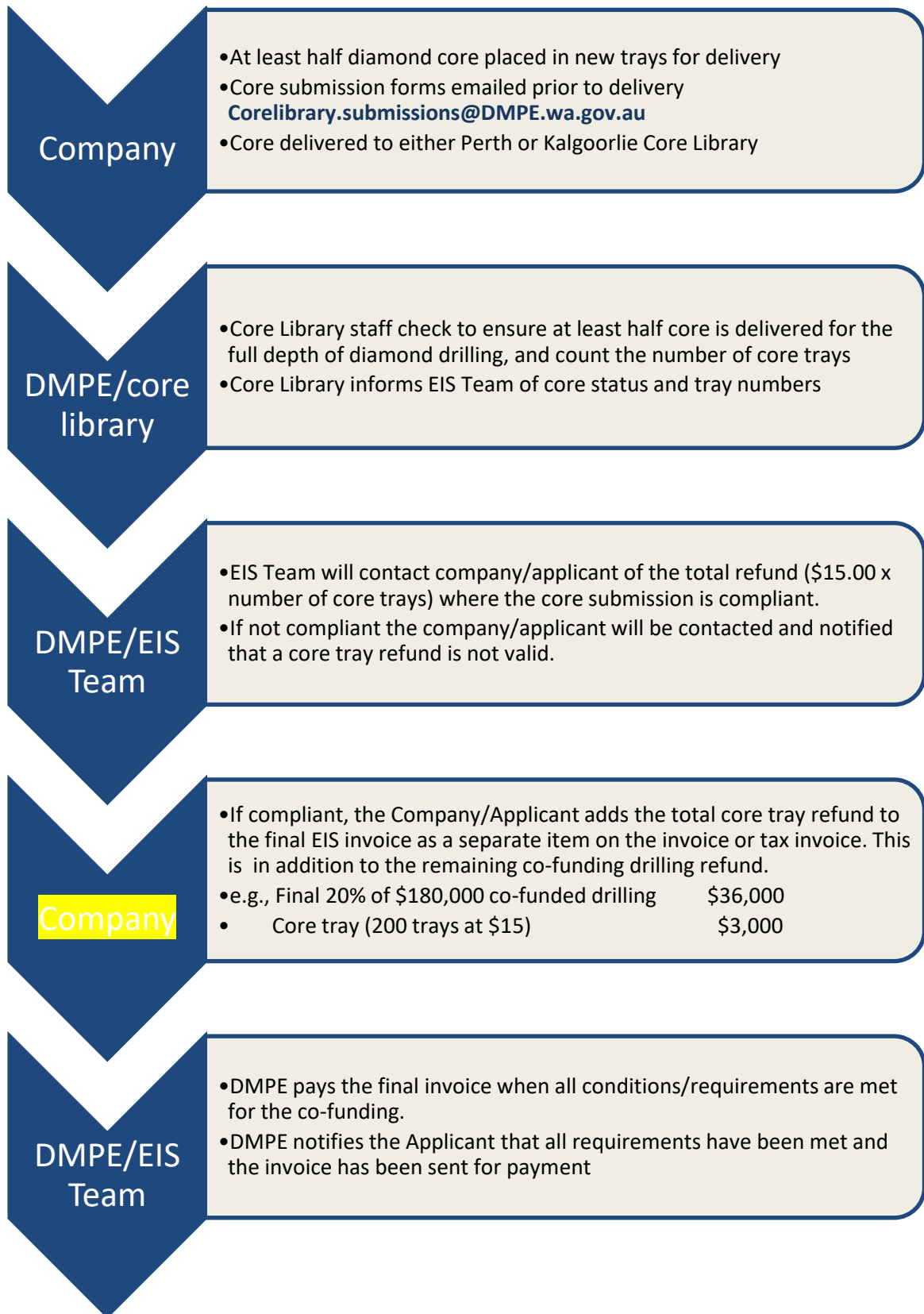
- A refund can be claimed for the following types of downhole surveys ONLY;
 - Downhole electromagnetics – Fixed Loop Electromagnetics FLEM
 - Downhole electrical petrophysics – specifically conductivity and chargeability
 - Downhole petrophysics (e.g. gamma, density)
- The refund is applicable to all three application categories; Universal, Deep Drill, and Prospector.
- The refund will be a maximum of \$25,000 (ex GST) per successful drilling application.
- Any combination of the three survey types (e.g. petrophysics and FLEM) may be undertaken and claimed within the single \$25,000 refund.
- Any downhole surveys must be completed by the 31 January 2028.
- The interim report should indicate if the survey has been completed, is in progress, or is intended to be undertaken.
- A survey will only be eligible for a refund if the survey is conducted and data is acquired.
- Survey(s) results, data and interpretation, must be submitted as part of the final drilling report including:
 - Raw field data
 - Downhole orientation report
 - The survey interpretation report including raw data plots from full survey and any cross sections generated.
 - Modelled plate as Maxwell .dxf file (if applicable).
- A third-party invoice(s) from a) the survey provider and b) the consulting company undertaking modelling and interpretation (if different to survey provider), must be submitted with the final invoice in order to claim the refund.
- Mobilisation costs associated with the survey can be claimed under the refund.
- Standby costs associated with the survey cannot be claimed under the refund.
- The cost of materials (e.g. PVC piping) to maintain hole integrity can be included in the refund claim. A receipt must be provided in order to claim these costs.
- The survey refund will be itemised on the final invoice, in addition to the co-funded drilling grant and core tray refund (diamond drilling).

6d. Core tray costs – diamond drilling

A refund is claimable on core trays purchased to deliver EIS co-funded diamond core, drilled as part of a successful co-funded drilling application.

The refund will be external to the calculation of direct drilling cost for a co-funded drilling application and based according to the following:

- The refund will be \$15.00 per core tray (ex GST) submitted with EIS co-funded diamond core.
- **The refund will only be where at least ½ core is submitted in compliance with the guidelines and agreement.** Where it can clearly be demonstrated that core is missing, due to post-drilling activities (other than poor recovery during drilling) such as sampling for analysis/research, there will be no refund for the entire hole.
- The condition and amount of the core will be checked by the core library staff once the core is delivered to either the Perth or Kalgoorlie Core library.
- It is expected that different core sizes will be submitted in the appropriately sized core trays.
- It is expected that the core trays will be new, plastic trays. DMPE preference is for black trays, as this assists with HyLogger scanning. However, white, or grey-coloured trays are acceptable.
- The refund will not be on any additional donated holes (non-EIS co-funded) that might be drilled on the same project.
- The number of core trays should be listed on the core submission forms and will be counted by the core library staff.
- If the submission is compliant, the company/applicant will be notified by the EIS Team on the number of trays received and the final amount that will be refunded, prior to the final co-funding invoice being sent to DMPE.
- The tray refund will be itemised on the final invoice, in addition to the co-funded drilling grant.



6e. Co-funded drilling and Plan for Our Parks.

In 2019, the State Government of Western Australia announced a plan to create five million hectares of new national and marine parks and conservation reserves across Western Australia.

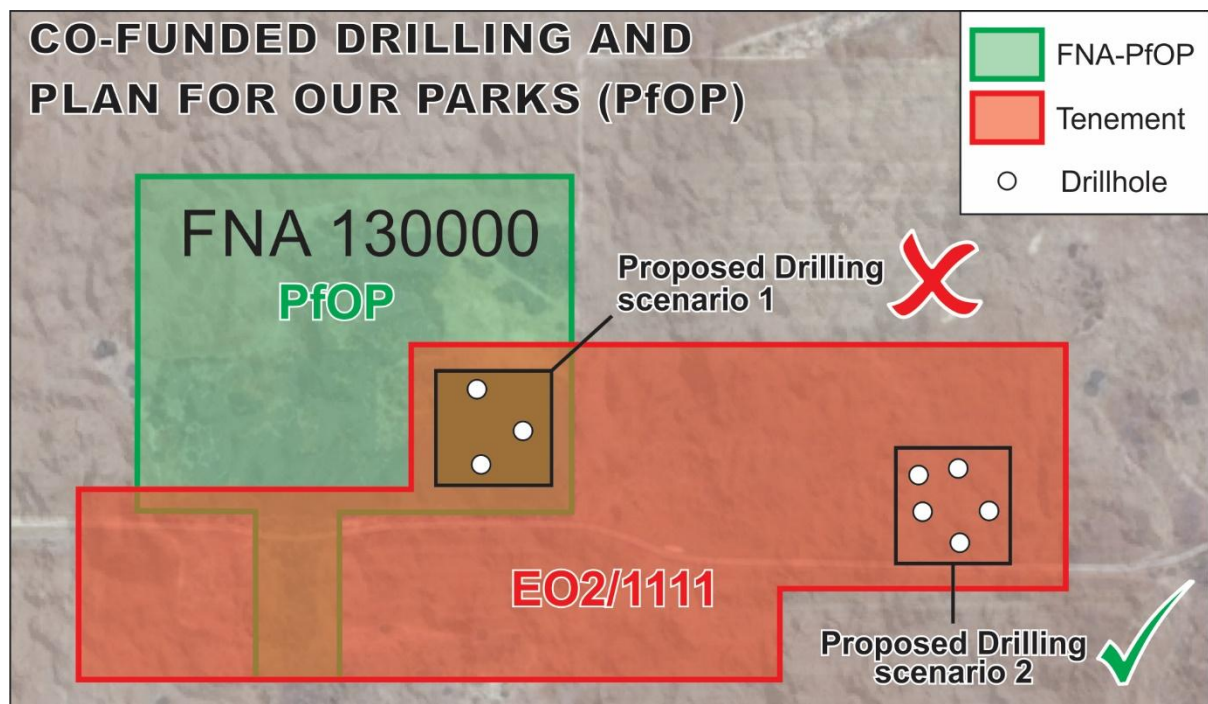
Plan for Our Parks (PfOP) will see new and expanded parks throughout Western Australia. The areas under consideration for conservation are displayed as File Notation Areas (FNA) on the following DMPE online databases:

- Tengraph Web
- GeoVIEW.WA (under Special Category Lands)
- Data and Software centre (under Special Category Lands)

FNA areas outlining PfOP areas can be identified under the attribute labelled 'Purpose', which will begin "FILE NOTATION AREA - PLAN FOR OUR PARKS – PROPOSE..".

For example FNA 14570 reads 'File Notation Area – Plan for Our Parks – Proposed Ningaloo Coastal Reserves – National Park'

The EIS co-funding exploration drilling program **will not support** applications where proposed drilling intersects a FNA with a purpose for the creation of conservation areas in the PfOP initiative (e.g., Scenario 1 in the figure below). Where a tenement may intersect an FNA for the purpose of PfOP, but the proposed drilling is completely outside of the FNA, the application will be accepted for consideration.



7. DOCUMENT GUIDELINES AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Project Proposals must be submitted using the online application form at:
www.dmp.wa.gov.au/eisdrilling

APPLICATION FORM

- a) The online **Application** should be filled out as completely as possible addressing all relevant criteria.
- b) The drilling cost estimates should be exclusive of GST, where the Proponent is registered for GST, and is entitled to claim an Input Tax Credit on GST costs. Proponents not registered for GST should include GST in their drilling cost estimate.
- c) Project Timelines for the Proposal must be realistic to ensure completion of drilling and delivery of the Interim Report and the tax invoice(s) to the Department by no later than **30 November 2027**.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION - TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Proposal Documentation

Applicants should ensure that the Application conforms to the following:

- It is clear and concise;
- Images are clear and decipherable;
- A suitably annotated geological plan and predictive cross section or 3D block diagram is included showing the geochemical, geophysical geological target/s to be drilled, with a drill hole trace/s outlined.
- Relevant supporting technical data are included.

Qualitative (scored) criteria

The Application should address the Assessment Criteria in the online application form (shown below) as appropriate, although it is not expected that all Proposals will conform to every criterion.

Addresses significant knowledge gaps and/or critical uncertainties in under explored areas (i.e. general geoscientific concepts) (assessed at 76% of total value of proposal)

- Tests innovative, soundly based mineral deposit model or petroleum / energy play.
- Has potential to advance exploration activity in under-explored areas.
- Delivers basic geoscientific information (i.e., resolves age, stratigraphic relationships, structural settings, untested geochemical or geophysical anomalies, or depth to geophysical targets or basement, new mineral commodity in area of application).
- Program tests area of previous ineffective drilling.
- Demonstrates knowledge of geology and past exploration in area of application.
- Has supporting evidence for target generation (including geological plans, cross-sections, etc).

Technical Merit of Proposed Program (Assessed at 24% of value of proposal)

- Proposed methods of analysis (i.e., assays, geochronology, isotopic analysis, downhole logging, quality control etc.).
- Type of drilling (i.e., is it cored?).

Proposals which will include full assay or other specialist data in the Final report which will be released to Open File, will be viewed favourably.

Eligibility criteria

Where required, as part of the assessment process the Department will take into consideration any of following criteria which may impact on the eligibility of the Proposed Program:

Land access and corporate issues

- History in meeting tenement or title reporting/compliance commitments
- Financial and technical capacity of the proponent to undertake the proposed program
- Proposed program schedule

8. LEGAL PARAMETERS OF PROPOSALS

- a) Subject to Item 8(b) below, contents of all Proposals will remain confidential, except for the location of the successful Proponent's Mining Tenement or Petroleum, or Geothermal Title.
- b) Although the Director General understands the need to keep commercial matters confidential in appropriate circumstances, the Director General reserves the right to disclose some or all of the contents of the Proposal so that the relevant Minister may answer questions raised in the Western Australian Parliament, keep Parliament informed or otherwise discharge the Minister's duties and obligations to Parliament and to advise the Governor, Parliament and/or the Western Australian Government. Any condition in a Proposal that purports to prohibit or restrict the Minister's right to make such disclosures cannot be accepted.
- c) Reservation of Rights - The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration reserves the right to:
 - Amend the Proposal closing date;
 - Amend the Conditions For Proposals at any time prior to the Closing Date for Proposals provided that the amendment is notified to prospective Proponents;
 - Clarify any aspect of a Proposal after the Closing Date for Proposals but before the endorsement of successful applicants by the Department and the Ministers announcement of the successful applicants
 - Seek advice from other divisions of DMPE on contemporary regulatory compliance by applicants
 - Seek the advice of external consultants to assist the Director General in evaluation or review of Proposals; and
 - Abandon the process whether before or after the receipt of Proposals.
- d) The Director General is not obliged to give any reasons for its selection or the abandonment of this process.
- e) The Director General is not obliged to accept any Proposal.
- f) No acceptance of a Proposal will be effective to constitute a contract or to create any legitimate expectation on the part of the Applicant unless a formal written agreement is executed by both parties.
- g) Prior to accepting a Proposal the Director General may request additional information, including but not limited to, evidence of financial capacity.

- h) The Director General, when considering a Proposal will expect that the following criteria are satisfied:
- The Applicant possesses the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to comply with the Conditions For Proposals and undertake the proposed drilling Project
 - The Applicant will ensure that all land access and tenement and title security issues are resolved; and
 - The Applicant is fully informed of all facts and conditions of all things relating to the Guidelines for Submission of Proposals.
- i) Applicants are responsible for the cost of preparing and submitting their Proposal and all other costs arising out of the process.
- j) Closing date for Application submission is **Friday 28 August 2026 at 4.00 pm WST**.

9. CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

All successful Applicants will be required to enter into a Funding Agreement with the State of Western Australia acting through the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration.

The following principles will apply to management of funding for successful Applicants:

- a) Management of the successfully funded Projects will be undertaken by the Project Applicants and/or operational nominees. All liabilities associated with the Project remain with the Project Applicants.
- b) Where total drilling costs for a completed Project are less than the estimate in the Proposal, the Department will provide funding in proportion to the ratio of the funding requested and the estimated total cost. An invoice or tax invoice from the Applicant, together with a concise summary of total drilling costs (including copies of tax invoices from drilling contractors) must be provided to the Director General.
- c) Drilling must be conducted according to land access and environmental procedures for Western Australian mining tenements or petroleum, or geothermal titles (refer to the website of the Department for details).
- d) Interim payment schedule:
 - Will be 80% of the agreed Government (drilling) co-funding funds;
 - The interim invoice or tax invoice and Interim Report must be submitted by the successful Applicants to the Director General within two weeks of the completion of drilling and in any case, no later than 30 November 2027.
 - Final payment will be made on submission of core and acceptance of the Final Report containing all technical information directly relevant to the drilling Project which should be submitted 3 months after the completion of the drilling and in any case no later than 28 February 2028.
- e) Details of the interim and final drilling reports and all deliverables will be defined in the Funding Agreement between the successful Applicant and the Department.
- f) Drilling co-funding contributions from the Department cannot be included as part of company expenditure commitments for Mining Tenements, or Petroleum, or Geothermal Titles.
- g) Drilling and downhole surveys must be undertaken by a third party, whereby submitted drillers, downhole survey provider, and downhole survey processing

contractors invoices show a different company name, address and ACN/ABN from the successful applicant awarded the EIS co-funded drilling.

All results, including drill sample material and interpreted downhole survey findings, are to be made Open File after a maximum confidentiality period of six months (commencing after payment of the first invoice).

All deliverable data must be provided in the standard data formats for reporting results from mining tenements, or petroleum, or geothermal titles as required by the Department (these are available on the Department's website: www.DMPE.wa.gov.au). Drill core samples are to be lodged with the Department's Core Library on completion of the Final Report.

10. FINAL REPORT SUBMISSION AND FURTHER INFORMATION

The Final Report must be received within 3 months of submission of the Interim Report.

The Report must be received no later than **5 pm WST on 28 February 2028**.

Reports are to be submitted online, using the WAMEX Report Lodgement system at <http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/WAMEX-Minerals-Exploration-1476.aspx>

Enquiries should be directed to:

Email: EIS@dmpe.wa.gov.au

or

Dr Charlotte Hall
General Manager Investment
Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration
100 Plain Street
EAST PERTH, WA 6004
Phone: +61 429 550 591
charlotte.hall@dmpe.wa.gov.au

11. DIRECT DRILLING COSTS

Drilling techniques, equipment and consumables are not static, and as such, a one-off complete list of direct drilling costs cannot be supplied. However, as a general rule, it will include all costs that are associated during active drilling to produce diamond core, percussion-drilled rock chips, or auger samples.

Table 1. Direct drilling costs. Direct drilling costs have been given according to three categories: Activities, consumables and instruments/equipment (including hire). Where items have a superscript refer to specific notes provided below the table. This list is not exhaustive, if there is an item that you consider to be a direct drilling cost that is not listed please contact the EIS Team to discuss.

| Activities | Consumables | Instruments/equipment |
|--|---|--|
| Active standby ¹ | Accommodation and messing | Axis Champ Gyro |
| Barrel change | Bit | Booster |
| Bit change | Collar stabilising items (PVC pipe/casing/foam) | Gyro hire/survey |
| Between EIS hole rig movement ² | Collar casing | Lighting tower (night drilling) ⁷ |
| Cartage of water ³ | Down hole consumables | Orientation tool |
| Casing operations | Diesel ⁶ | Single shot camera |
| Metre rate downhole ⁴ | Drilling mud additives | Solid returns unit ⁸ |
| Minimum shift rate ⁴ | Foam (for collar stabilization) | Temporary above ground sump ⁸ |
| Mobilisation | Grease/tacky | |
| Pack up drill site | PCV pipe (for collar) | |
| Pulling casing | Potassium Chloride | |
| Pulling/running rods | Roll black plastic | |
| Reaming ground conditions | Water ³ | |
| Reaming casing | | |
| Rigging down | | |
| Rigging up | | |
| Set up drill site | | |
| Site-to-accommodation daily travel | | |
| Standby ¹ | | |
| Tramming ² | | |
| Water bore drilling ⁵ | | |

Stand-by

Stand-by maybe itemised on some drilling invoices depending on the drilling company invoicing methodology and contract with the resource company. It is acknowledged that stand-by generally has two subsections.

Active Stand-by

Active Stand-by is considered to be part of the direct drilling costs.

This is considered to be where the drillers are actively working, but are not drilling to produce diamond core or chips. The active rate is charged at hourly rather than by meter rate. Actions that may be taking place are:

- Running rods to change bits
- Using down hole equipment such as gyros to record the orientation of the hole
- Navi drilling
- Hole conditioning
- Reaming of a hole
- Wedging
- Daily safety/toolbox/pre-start meetings (as required by mining regulations)

Non-active (e.g., passive/inactive/non-billable) Stand-by

Non active stand-by is **not** considered to be part of direct drilling costs under the EIS co-funded drilling agreement.

This is where no drilling activity or associated data collection is occurring. Such costs may include:

- The drill crew waiting for instructions from the Resource company (client stand-by)
- Waiting delivery of replacement parts
- Waiting on delivery of fuel or water
- Weather delay
- Client induction/client safety induction

Moving between holes on the project site/tramming

This cost is where the rig is already on site (not to be confused with mobilisation/ demobilisation) and is moving from the first hole drilled to the next at the project/ prospect site described in the co-funded drilling application. The cost of moving from one hole to the next (sometimes referred to as tramming), is usually built into the **active stand-by rate** and often not listed separately on the drillers invoices.

Also included as direct costs are charges related to the set-up of the drill site and pack up of the drill site.

Cartage of water

Where water is required for diamond drilling, the cost of the:

- Water and/or,
- Cartage of the water

is considered to be a legitimate direct drilling cost. **Invoices for all water costs (as above) will need to be submitted to the EIS team as proof of purchase.**

Metre rate down hole

Metre rate down hole or minimum shift rate (if metre rate is not met). Rates will vary according to type of drilling and drilling contract between the drilling company and resource company.

Drilling of water bores

Drilling of a water bore is not considered to be a drill hole under the co-funded agreement, in particular where drilling of a water bore has been part of a negotiation with a landholder (lease or freehold).

However, where it can be shown that drilling a water bore **for a water supply to undertake diamond drilling** will be:

- Significantly more economical than transporting water, and/or
- Reduce the ecological impact in a sensitive flora/fauna region (with all environmental approvals granted)

The water bore costs **may be considered** as a direct drilling cost. This consideration **must be** discussed with the EIS team before the drill rig is on site. An example of where such a cost was allowed was a drill site in the Kimberley Region that had no accessible water supply and would have required a significant track upgrade combined with transportation over 50km through a sensitive floral area combined with creation of a new section of track.

Diesel

Where the cost of diesel for the rig **has not been included** in the drilling costs/contract, and is delivered to site by a third party, the cost is considered as a legitimate direct drilling cost. However, for it to be claimed, **invoices from the third party must be provided to the EIS Team.**

Lighting tower for night drilling

Where diamond drilling is occurring across a day/night time (24 hour) drilling schedule and a lighting tower is required this will be considered as a legitimate direct drilling cost. The cost must be itemised on the driller's invoices and logs show meterage obtained against the 'night' time schedule.

Temporary above ground sump/solid returns unit (SRU) for diamond drilling.

If there are limitations to ground disturbance (e.g. sensitive flora/fauna conservation area; drilling in urban area with city council conditions) and the company cannot dig a ground sump, the cost of hiring a Solid Returns Unit (SRU) **may be accepted** as a legitimate direct drilling cost. This cost must be discussed with the EIS Team before the drill rig is on site.

12. ITEMS THAT ARE NOT DIRECT DRILLING COSTS

- Administration costs
- Site preparation costs (e.g., sumps and pads, camp setup/pack up)
- Land access and/or Heritage surveys
- ILUA agreement or processes
- Airfares to site
- Geological core logging
- Core farm delivery
- Tyres
- Assay under a General co-funded drilling application, or where a Prospecting application* is undertaking diamond drilling
- Non-active standby (see section 1)

*Prospectors are required to submit geochemical analyses to the department if non-cored drilling is undertaken. In this case it is expected that an equivalent of about 25% of direct drilling costs is spent on analyses. For example, where a grant of \$40,000 (maximum possible) is offered the approximate breakdown will be \$30,000 for drilling and \$10,000 for assays.

13. APPENDICES 1 to 4

(HYPERLINKS TO DEPARTMENTAL GUIDELINES)

APPENDIX 1

Environmental guidelines (petroleum and mineral exploration)

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/departments-of-mines-petroleum-and-exploration/resource-and-environmental-compliance>

APPENDIX 2

Drill core guidelines (includes core submission form)

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/departments-of-mines-petroleum-and-exploration/geological-survey-of-western-australia/core-library-services-and-samples>

APPENDIX 3

Guidelines for mineral exploration reports

<https://www.wa.gov.au/service/natural-resources/mineral-resources/access-mineral-exploration-reports-wamex>

APPENDIX 4

Access the Western Australian Petroleum and Geothermal Information Management System (WAPIMS)

<https://www.wa.gov.au/service/natural-resources/energy-resources/access-petroleum-and-geothermal-exploration-information-wapims>