



Queensland

# Mineral Resources Act 1989

Reprinted as in force on 25 March 2005  
(includes commenced amendments up to 2005 Act No. 8)

Reprint No. 8C  
revised edition

This reprint is prepared by  
the Office of the Queensland Parliamentary Counsel  
Warning—This reprint is not an authorised copy

# Information about this reprint

This Act is reprinted as at 25 March 2005. The reprint—

- shows the law as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before that day (Reprints Act 1992 s 5(c))
- incorporates all necessary consequential amendments, whether of punctuation, numbering or another kind (Reprints Act 1992 s 5(d)).

The reprint includes a reference to the law by which each amendment was made—see list of legislation and list of annotations in endnotes. Also see list of legislation for any uncommenced amendments.

This page is specific to this reprint. See previous reprints for information about earlier changes made under the Reprints Act 1992. A table of reprints is included in the endnotes.

**Also see endnotes for information about—**

- **when provisions commenced**
- **editorial changes made in earlier reprints.**

## **Dates shown on reprints**

**Reprints dated at last amendment** All reprints produced on or after 1 July 2002, hard copy and electronic, are dated as at the last date of amendment. Previously reprints were dated as at the date of publication. If a hard copy reprint is dated earlier than an electronic version published before 1 July 2002, it means the legislation was not further amended and the reprint date is the commencement of the last amendment.

If the date of a hard copy reprint is the same as the date shown for an electronic version previously published, it merely means that the electronic version was published before the hard copy version. Also, any revised edition of the previously published electronic version will have the same date as that version.

**Replacement reprint date** If the date of a hard copy reprint is the same as the date shown on another hard copy reprint it means that one is the replacement of the other.

Revised edition indicates further material has affected existing material. For example—

- a correction
- a retrospective provision
- other relevant information.



Queensland

# Mineral Resources Act 1989

## Contents

---

		Page
<b>Part 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
1	Short title . . . . .	29
2	Objectives of Act . . . . .	29
3	Application of Act to Commonwealth land and coastal waters of the State . . . . .	30
3A	Relationship with petroleum legislation . . . . .	31
4	Effect of change of baseline . . . . .	32
5	Definitions . . . . .	34
6	Meaning of mineral . . . . .	34
6A	Meaning of mine . . . . .	35
6B	Meaning of prospect . . . . .	36
6C	What is carrying out improvement restoration . . . . .	37
6D	Notes in text . . . . .	37
7	When educational institution is an eligible person . . . . .	37
8	Crown's property in minerals . . . . .	37
9	Exclusive right of Crown to grant mining leases etc. irrespective of ownership of mineral . . . . .	38
10	Act does not create estates in land . . . . .	39
10A	Extension of certain entitlements to registered native title bodies corporate and registered native title claimants . . . . .	39
<b>Part 2</b>	<b>Mining districts</b>	
11	Mining districts . . . . .	40
12	Identification of mining districts . . . . .	40
<b>Part 3</b>	<b>Prospecting permits</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Prospecting permit categories and entitlements</b>	
13	Definitions . . . . .	41
14	Categories of prospecting permit . . . . .	41

---

15	Area of land covered by parcel prospecting permit . . . . .	41
16	Land excluded from prospecting permit . . . . .	42
17	Prospecting permit to be granted to a single person . . . . .	42
18	Entitlements under prospecting permit . . . . .	43
19	Consent required to enter certain land . . . . .	43
20	Provisions about consents to enter land . . . . .	43
<b>Division 2</b>	<b>Other provisions about prospecting permits</b>	
21	Application for prospecting permit . . . . .	44
22	Reason for rejection of application to be given . . . . .	45
23	Refund upon rejection of application . . . . .	45
24	Grant of prospecting permit . . . . .	45
25	Conditions of prospecting permit . . . . .	46
25AA	Additional conditions of prospecting permit relating to native title	47
25A	Indigenous land use agreement conditions . . . . .	48
26	Provision of security . . . . .	48
27	Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent prospecting permit . . . . .	51
28	Compensation . . . . .	52
29	Term of prospecting permit . . . . .	52
30	Rights and obligations extended upon application for mining claim etc. . . . .	53
31	Mining registrar to notify owners of occupied land of grant of parcel prospecting permit . . . . .	53
32	Notice of entry under parcel prospecting permit . . . . .	53
33	Prospecting permit not transferable . . . . .	54
34	Report to mining registrar by owner of land . . . . .	54
35	Penalty for breach of conditions . . . . .	55
36	Cancellation of prospecting permit . . . . .	55
37	Surrender of prospecting permit . . . . .	55
38	Appeals about prospecting permits . . . . .	55
39	How to start an appeal . . . . .	56
40	Stay of operation of decisions . . . . .	57
41	Hearing procedures . . . . .	57
42	Powers of tribunal on appeal . . . . .	57
43	Minerals taken become property of holder of prospecting permit . . . . .	58
44	Royalties in respect of minerals taken under prospecting permit . . . . .	58

---

46	Production of prospecting permit . . . . .	58
47	Staying on occupied land . . . . .	58
<b>Part 4</b>	<b>Mining claims</b>	
48	Land subject to mining claim . . . . .	59
49	Only eligible persons to hold mining claims . . . . .	60
50	Entitlements under mining claim . . . . .	60
51	Land for which mining claim not to be granted . . . . .	61
52	No mining claim in respect of coal . . . . .	62
53	Area and shape of mining claim land . . . . .	62
54	Mining claim over reserve only with consent . . . . .	63
55	Restriction upon number of mining claims . . . . .	63
56	Marking out land before application for grant of mining claim . . .	63
57	Manner of marking out land proposed to be subject of mining claim . . . . .	64
58	Consent of mining registrar required to certain marking out of land . . . . .	65
59	Time for application for grant of mining claim . . . . .	65
60	If application for mining claim not made, is rejected or abandoned, posts etc. to be removed . . . . .	66
61	Application for grant of mining claim . . . . .	66
62	Description of mining claim . . . . .	68
63	Priority of applications for grant of mining claims . . . . .	69
64	Certificate of application etc. . . . .	69
64A	Issue of certificate of public notice . . . . .	70
64B	Applicant's obligations for certificate of public notice . . . . .	72
64C	Declaration of compliance with obligations . . . . .	72
64D	Continuing obligation to notify . . . . .	73
65	Mining registrar may call conference in some cases . . . . .	73
66	Who may attend conference . . . . .	74
67	What happens if someone does not attend . . . . .	74
68	Mining registrar's function at section 65 conference . . . . .	74
69	Agreements and statements at section 65 conference . . . . .	74
70	Tribunal may award costs . . . . .	75
71	Objection to application for grant of mining claim . . . . .	75
72	Referral to tribunal of application and objections . . . . .	76
73	Rejection of application for grant of mining claim for noncompliance . . . . .	77
74	Grant of mining claim to which no objection is lodged . . . . .	77

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*


---

75	Referral to tribunal of application to which no objection lodged . .	78
76	Referral to tribunal of issue of reserve owner's consent . . . . .	78
77	Tribunal hearing . . . . .	79
78	Tribunal's determination on hearing . . . . .	80
79	Consent to grant of mining claim over reserve by Governor in Council . . . . .	81
80	Grant of mining claim at instruction of tribunal or with consent of Governor in Council . . . . .	81
81	Conditions of mining claim . . . . .	82
81A	Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions . . . . .	84
81B	Other agreement conditions . . . . .	85
82	Variation of conditions of mining claim . . . . .	85
83	Provision of security . . . . .	86
84	Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent mining claim .	89
85	Compensation to be settled before grant or renewal of mining claim . . . . .	89
85A	Referral to tribunal of issue of compensation if not settled within 3 months after term of claim ends . . . . .	92
86	Appeal against tribunal's determination upon compensation . . . .	92
87	Public trustee may act in certain circumstances . . . . .	94
88	Issue of certificate of grant of mining claim . . . . .	94
89	Reasons for rejection of application for grant of mining claim . . .	94
90	Duty of holder of mining claim to mark boundary posts . . . . .	94
91	Initial term of mining claim . . . . .	95
92	Mining claim may be specified it is not renewable . . . . .	95
93	Renewal of mining claim. . . . .	95
93A	Continuation of claim while application being dealt with . . . . .	97
93B	When term of renewed claim starts . . . . .	98
93C	When new conditions of renewed claim start. . . . .	98
93D	Renewal of claim must be in name of last recorded assignee . . .	98
94	Reasons for rejection of application for renewal of mining claim .	99
95	Rental payable on mining claim . . . . .	99
96	Assignment or mortgage of mining claim . . . . .	100
97	Lodgment of caveat . . . . .	102
98	Mining registrar's functions upon receipt of caveat. . . . .	103
99	Effect of caveat. . . . .	103
100	Second caveat not available to same person. . . . .	104
101	Removal or withdrawal of caveat . . . . .	104

---

102	Compensation for lodging caveat without reasonable cause . . . .	105
103	Correction of certificate of grant of mining claim . . . . .	105
104	Replacement of certificate of grant of mining claim . . . . .	106
105	Mining other minerals . . . . .	106
106	Contravention by holder of mining claim . . . . .	107
107	Surrender of mining claim . . . . .	109
108	Abandonment of application for mining claim. . . . .	110
109	Improvement restoration for mining claim. . . . .	111
110	Use of machinery on mining claim land . . . . .	112
111	Declaration of prohibited machinery on mining claim land. . . . .	112
112	Mining registrar may authorise use of prohibited machinery for purposes other than mining etc. . . . .	112
113	Prohibited machinery etc. not to be used on mining claim land . .	113
114	Minerals taken become property of holder of mining claim . . . . .	113
115	Royalties in respect of minerals taken under mining claim. . . . .	113
116	Appeals about mining claims . . . . .	114
117	How to start an appeal . . . . .	114
118	Stay of operation of decisions . . . . .	115
119	Hearing procedures . . . . .	115
120	Powers of tribunal on appeal . . . . .	115
121	Effect of termination of mining claim . . . . .	116
122	Application may be made for approval to remove mineral and property . . . . .	116
123	Property remaining on former mining claim may be sold etc. . . .	118
124	Approval for prospecting on reserve subject of mining claim application . . . . .	119
125	Variation of access to mining claim land . . . . .	119
<b>Part 5</b>	<b>Exploration permits</b>	
126	Blocks and sub-blocks of land . . . . .	122
127	Land subject to exploration permit . . . . .	122
128	Only eligible persons to hold exploration permits. . . . .	123
129	Entitlements under exploration permit . . . . .	123
130	Exploration permit to specify minerals sought . . . . .	126
131	Restriction on grant of exploration permits over same sub-block. .	127
132	Exclusion of land from exploration permit if subject to other authority under Act . . . . .	127
133	Application for exploration permit . . . . .	128
134	Application to be numbered . . . . .	130

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*


---

134A	Priority of applications for grant of exploration permit . . . . .	130
135	No application for exploration permit within 2 months of land ceasing to be subject to exploration permit . . . . .	131
136	Upon rejection of application, application fee or part may be retained . . . . .	131
137	Grant of exploration permit . . . . .	131
138	Rental payable on exploration permit . . . . .	133
139	Periodic reduction in land covered by exploration permit . . . . .	133
140	Voluntary reduction in land covered by exploration permit	135
141	Conditions of exploration permit . . . . .	135
141AA	Additional conditions of exploration permit relating to native title .	137
141A	Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions . . . . .	138
141B	Other agreement conditions . . . . .	138
141C	Application to vary conditions of existing permit . . . . .	139
144	Provision of security . . . . .	139
145	Compensation . . . . .	142
146	Initial term of exploration permit . . . . .	142
147	Application for renewal of exploration permit . . . . .	142
147A	Decision on application . . . . .	143
147B	Chief executive must give copy of application to EPA administering authority . . . . .	144
147C	Continuation of permit while application being dealt with . . . . .	144
147D	When term of renewed permit starts . . . . .	145
147E	When new conditions of renewed permit start . . . . .	145
147F	Renewal of permit must be in name of last recorded assignee . .	145
148	Rights and obligations upon application for mining lease or mineral development licence . . . . .	146
149	Correction of instrument of exploration permit . . . . .	146
150	Replacement of instrument of exploration permit . . . . .	147
151	Assignment of exploration permit . . . . .	148
152	Lodgment of caveat . . . . .	149
153	Chief executive's functions upon receipt of caveat . . . . .	150
154	Effect of caveat . . . . .	150
155	Second caveat not available to same person . . . . .	151
156	Removal or withdrawal of caveat . . . . .	151
157	Compensation for lodging caveat without reasonable cause . . . .	152
158	Recording of agreements, arrangements, dealings or interests . .	152
159	Abandonment of application for exploration permit . . . . .	153



*Mineral Resources Act 1989*


---

160	Contravention by holder of exploration permit . . . . .	153
161	Surrender of exploration permit . . . . .	155
162	Adjustment of rental etc. upon surrender etc. of exploration permit . . . . .	156
163	Notice of entry to be given . . . . .	156
164	Term and renewal of notice . . . . .	157
166	Improvement restoration for exploration permit . . . . .	159
167	Production of exploration permit. . . . .	159
168	Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent exploration permit . . . . .	160
169	Mining registrar may call conference in some cases . . . . .	160
170	Who may attend conference. . . . .	161
171	What happens if someone does not attend . . . . .	162
172	Mining registrar's function at section 169 conference. . . . .	162
173	Agreements and statements at section 169 conference . . . . .	162
174	Tribunal may award costs . . . . .	162
175	Mining registrar may recommend action to ease concerns or other action. . . . .	163
176	Discovery of minerals to be reported . . . . .	164
176A	Application to add excluded land to existing permit . . . . .	164
177	Reduction of land under exploration permit upon grant of mineral development licence or mining lease. . . . .	165
178	Discovery etc. of mineral does not vest property . . . . .	165
<b>Part 6</b>	<b>Mineral development licences</b>	
179	Mineral development licence . . . . .	166
180	Only eligible persons to hold mineral development licences . . . . .	166
181	Obligations and entitlement under mineral development licence . . . . .	166
182	Land is excluded from mineral development licence if covered by other authority under Act . . . . .	171
183	Application for mineral development licence . . . . .	172
184	Description of mineral development licence. . . . .	174
185	Priority of applications for grant of mineral development licences . . . . .	174
186	Minister may grant or reject application for mineral development licence . . . . .	175
187	Holder to notify owners of land of grant or renewal . . . . .	176
188	Upon rejection of application, application fee or part may be retained . . . . .	176
189	Abandonment of application for mineral development licence . . . . .	177
190	Provision of security. . . . .	177

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*


---

191	Compensation . . . . .	180
192	Initial term of mineral development licence . . . . .	180
193	Rental payable on mineral development licence . . . . .	181
194	Conditions of mineral development licence . . . . .	182
194AAA	Additional conditions of mineral development licence relating to native title . . . . .	184
194AA	Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions . . . . .	184
194AB	Other agreement conditions . . . . .	185
194AC	Application to vary conditions of existing licence . . . . .	185
194A	Tribunal's jurisdiction for At Risk agreement . . . . .	186
197	Application for renewal of mineral development licence . . . . .	187
197A	Decision on application . . . . .	187
197B	Chief executive must give copy of application to EPA administering authority . . . . .	188
197C	Continuation of licence while application being dealt with . . . . .	189
197D	When term of renewed licence starts . . . . .	189
197E	When new conditions of renewed licence start . . . . .	189
197F	Renewal of licence must be in name of last recorded assignee . . . . .	190
198	Assignment or mortgage of mineral development licence . . . . .	190
199	Lodgment of caveat . . . . .	192
200	Chief executive's functions upon receipt of caveat . . . . .	193
201	Effect of caveat . . . . .	193
202	Second caveat not available to same person . . . . .	194
203	Removal or withdrawal of caveat . . . . .	194
204	Compensation for lodging caveat without reasonable cause . . . . .	195
205	Recording of agreements, arrangements, dealings or interests . . . . .	195
206	Correction of instrument of mineral development licence . . . . .	196
207	Replacement of instrument of mineral development licence . . . . .	196
208	Adding other minerals to licence . . . . .	197
209	Contravention by holder of mineral development licence . . . . .	198
210	Surrender of mineral development licence . . . . .	199
211	Notice of entry to be given . . . . .	202
212	Term and renewal of notice . . . . .	203
214	Improvement restoration for mineral development licence . . . . .	204
215	Rights and obligations extended upon application for mining lease . . . . .	205
216	Production of mineral development licence . . . . .	205
217	Mining registrar may call conference in some cases . . . . .	206

---

218	Who may attend conference. . . . .	207
219	What happens if someone does not attend . . . . .	207
220	Mining registrar's function at section 217 conference. . . . .	207
221	Agreements and statements at section 217 conference . . . . .	208
222	Tribunal may award costs . . . . .	208
223	Mining registrar may recommend action to ease concerns or other action. . . . .	208
224	Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent mineral development licence or mining lease. . . . .	209
225	Direction to apply for mining lease . . . . .	210
226	Minister may determine availability of certain land. . . . .	210
226AA	Application to add excluded land to existing licence . . . . .	211
226A	Reduction of land under mineral development licence on grant of mining lease . . . . .	212
227	Discovery etc. of mineral does not vest property . . . . .	212
228	Effect of termination of mineral development licence. . . . .	213
229	Application may be made for approval to remove plant . . . . .	213
230	Plant remaining on former mineral development licence may be sold etc. . . . .	214
231	Variation of access to mineral development licence land. . . . .	215
<b>Part 7</b>	<b>Mining leases</b>	
232	Land subject to mining lease . . . . .	216
233	Only eligible persons to hold mining leases . . . . .	217
234	Governor in Council may grant mining lease . . . . .	217
235	General entitlements of holder of mining lease . . . . .	218
236	Entitlement to use sand, gravel and rock . . . . .	218
237	Drilling and other activities on land not included in surface area .	219
238	Mining lease over surface of reserve or land near a dwelling house . . . . .	220
239	Restriction on mining leases where land freed from exploration permit . . . . .	221
240	Marking out land before application for grant of mining lease . . .	221
241	Manner of marking out land proposed to be subject of mining lease . . . . .	221
242	Consent of mining registrar required to certain marking out of land . . . . .	223
243	Time for application for grant of mining lease. . . . .	223
244	If application for mining lease not made, is rejected or abandoned, posts etc. to be removed . . . . .	223
245	Application for grant of mining lease . . . . .	224

---

246	Description of mining lease . . . . .	226
247	Lodgment of application where land in more than 1 mining district . . . . .	227
248	Applicant must obtain consent or views of existing authority holders . . . . .	227
249	Later applicant must obtain consent or views of earlier applicant if same land affected . . . . .	228
250	Rejection of application by mining registrar . . . . .	230
251	Priority of applications for grant of mining lease . . . . .	231
252	Certificate of application etc. . . . .	231
252A	Issue of certificate of public notice . . . . .	232
252B	Applicant's obligations for certificate of public notice . . . . .	234
252C	Declaration of compliance with obligations. . . . .	236
252D	Continuing obligation to notify . . . . .	236
253	Reissue of certificate of public notice. . . . .	236
254	Mining registrar may call conference in some cases . . . . .	237
255	Who may attend conference. . . . .	237
256	What happens if someone does not attend . . . . .	238
257	Mining registrar's function at section 254 conference. . . . .	238
258	Agreements and statements at section 254 conference . . . . .	238
259	Tribunal may award costs . . . . .	238
260	Objection to application for grant of mining lease. . . . .	239
265	Referral of application and objections to tribunal . . . . .	239
266	Mining registrar may recommend rejection of application for noncompliance . . . . .	240
267	Minister may reject application at any time. . . . .	240
268	Hearing of application for grant of mining lease . . . . .	241
269	Tribunal's recommendation on hearing. . . . .	242
270	Procedure where no objections lodged . . . . .	244
271	Minister to consider recommendation made in respect of application for grant of mining lease. . . . .	245
272	Minister may remit to tribunal for additional evidence. . . . .	246
273	Restriction on grant of mining lease that does not include surface of land . . . . .	246
274	Holder of a mining lease to mark boundary posts . . . . .	246
275	Application for inclusion of surface of land in mining lease . . . . .	247
276	General conditions of mining lease . . . . .	247
276A	Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions . . . . .	249
276B	Other agreement conditions. . . . .	250

---

277	Provision of security . . . . .	250
278	Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent mining lease .	253
278A	Tribunal's jurisdiction for At Risk agreement. . . . .	253
279	Compensation to be settled before grant or renewal of mining lease . . . . .	254
279A	Referral to tribunal of issue of compensation if not settled within 3 months after term of lease ends . . . . .	255
280	Compensation for owner of land where surface area not included . . . . .	256
281	Determination of compensation by tribunal . . . . .	256
282	Appeal against tribunal's determination upon compensation . . . .	258
283	Public trustee may act in certain circumstances . . . . .	259
283A	Agreement to amend compensation . . . . .	260
283B	Review of compensation by tribunal. . . . .	260
284	Initial term of mining lease . . . . .	261
285	Mining lease may be specified it is not renewable . . . . .	262
286	Application for renewal of mining lease . . . . .	262
286A	Decision on application . . . . .	263
286B	Chief executive must give copy of application to EPA administering authority . . . . .	264
286C	Continuation of lease while application being dealt with . . . . .	265
286D	When term of renewed lease starts . . . . .	265
286E	When new conditions of renewed lease start. . . . .	265
286F	Renewal of lease must be in name of last recorded assignee . . . .	266
287	Notice of rejection of renewal application . . . . .	266
288	Holder to notify owner of grant or renewal of mining lease . . . . .	266
289	Mining lease where area not surveyed. . . . .	267
290	Rental payable on mining lease . . . . .	267
290A	Application of GST to rents for certain mining leases . . . . .	268
294	Variation of conditions of mining lease . . . . .	269
295	Variation of mining lease for accuracy etc. . . . .	269
296	Correction of instrument of lease . . . . .	272
297	Replacement instrument of lease . . . . .	273
298	Mining other minerals or use for other purposes . . . . .	274
299	Consolidation of mining leases. . . . .	275
300	Assignment, mortgage or sublease of mining lease. . . . .	276
301	Lodgment of caveat . . . . .	279
302	Mining registrar's functions upon receipt of caveat. . . . .	280

---

303	Effect of caveat . . . . .	280
304	Second caveat not available to same person . . . . .	281
305	Removal or withdrawal of caveat . . . . .	281
306	Compensation for lodging caveat without reasonable cause . . . . .	282
307	Abandonment of application for the grant of a mining lease . . . . .	282
308	Contravention by holder of mining lease . . . . .	283
309	Surrender of mining lease . . . . .	284
310	Minerals taken become property of holder of mining lease . . . . .	286
311	Royalties in respect of minerals taken under mining lease. . . . .	286
312	Effect of termination of mining lease . . . . .	286
313	Application for approval to remove mineral and property . . . . .	287
314	Property remaining on former mining lease may be sold . . . . .	288
316	Mining lease for transportation through land . . . . .	289
317	Variation of access to mining lease land . . . . .	290
318	Improvement restoration for mining lease . . . . .	292
<b>Part 7AA</b>	<b>Provisions for coal seam gas</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
<b>Subdivision 1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	
318A	Main purposes of pt 7AA . . . . .	293
318AA	How main purposes are achieved . . . . .	294
318AB	Relationship with pts 5–7 . . . . .	295
<b>Subdivision 2</b>	<b>Definitions for part 7AA</b>	
318AC	What is coal seam gas and incidental coal seam gas . . . . .	296
318AD	What is oil shale . . . . .	296
318AE	What is a coal exploration tenement, a coal mining lease and a special coal mining lease . . . . .	296
318AF	What is an oil shale exploration tenement and an oil shale mining lease . . . . .	297
318AG	What is a coal or oil shale mining tenement. . . . .	297
318AH	What is a development plan and its plan period. . . . .	298
318AI	Petroleum tenures . . . . .	298
318AJ	What is a coordination arrangement . . . . .	298
318AK	What is the public interest . . . . .	298
<b>Subdivision 3</b>	<b>Relationship with particular special agreement Acts</b>	
318AL	Application of pt 7AA to grant of special coal mining lease under Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968 . . . . .	299
318AM	Part prevails over special agreement Acts . . . . .	299
318AN	No compensation . . . . .	300

<b>Division 2</b>	<b>Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (other than by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder)</b>	
<b>Subdivision 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
318AO	Application of div 2 . . . . .	300
<b>Subdivision 2</b>	<b>Provisions for making coal or oil shale mining lease application</b>	
318AP	Additional requirements for making application . . . . .	301
<b>Subdivision 3</b>	<b>Provisions for splitting application in particular circumstances</b>	
318AQ	Requirement to split application if it relates to petroleum lease and authority to prospect not held by same person . . . . .	303
318AR	Power to split application if it includes other land . . . . .	304
318AS	Power to split application at applicant's request . . . . .	304
<b>Subdivision 4</b>	<b>Obligations of applicant and authority to prospect holder</b>	
318AT	Applicant's obligations . . . . .	305
318AU	Minister may require further negotiation . . . . .	307
318AV	Consequence of applicant not complying with obligations or requirement . . . . .	307
318AW	Authority to prospect holder's obligations . . . . .	307
318AX	Submissions by authority to prospect holder . . . . .	308
<b>Subdivision 5</b>	<b>Priority for earlier petroleum lease application or proposed application</b>	
318AY	Earlier petroleum lease application . . . . .	309
318AZ	Proposed petroleum lease for which EIS approval given . . . . .	309
318B	Proposed petroleum lease declared a significant project . . . . .	310
<b>Subdivision 6</b>	<b>Ministerial decision about whether to give any preference to petroleum development</b>	
318BA	When preference decision is required . . . . .	311
318BB	Decision about whether to give any preference to petroleum development . . . . .	313
318BC	Reference to tribunal before making preference decision . . . . .	313
318BD	Restrictions on giving preference . . . . .	314
<b>Subdivision 7</b>	<b>Process if preference decision is to give any preference to petroleum development</b>	
318BF	Application of sdiv 7 . . . . .	316
318BG	Notice to applicant and authority to prospect holder . . . . .	316
318BH	Petroleum lease application for all of the land . . . . .	316
318BI	Petroleum lease application for part of the land . . . . .	317
318BJ	No petroleum lease application . . . . .	317

<b>Subdivision 8</b>	<b>Deciding mining lease</b>	
318BK	Application of sdiv 8 . . . . .	317
318BL	Additional criteria for recommending conditions or term . . . . .	318
318BM	Power to determine relinquishment condition. . . . .	319
318BN	Publication of outcome of application. . . . .	319
<b>Division 3</b>	<b>Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder)</b>	
318BO	Application of div 3 . . . . .	320
318BP	Additional requirements for making application . . . . .	321
318BQ	Requirement to split application if it relates to petroleum lease and authority to prospect not held by same person . . . . .	321
318BR	Power to split application if it includes other land . . . . .	322
318BS	Power to split application at applicant's request . . . . .	323
318BT	Priority for earlier petroleum lease application or proposed application . . . . .	323
318BU	Additional criteria for recommending conditions or term . . . . .	323
<b>Division 4</b>	<b>Coal mining lease and oil shale mining lease applications in response to Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act preference decision</b>	
318BV	Additional ground for refusing application . . . . .	324
<b>Division 5</b>	<b>Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (other than by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)</b>	
318BW	Application of div 5 . . . . .	325
318BX	Additional requirements for making application . . . . .	325
318BY	Power to split application if it includes other land . . . . .	326
318BZ	Power to split application at applicant's request . . . . .	326
318C	Notice to petroleum lease holder . . . . .	326
318CA	Petroleum lease holder's obligation to negotiate . . . . .	327
318CB	Restriction on issuing certificate of public notice and additional requirements for grant . . . . .	327
<b>Division 6</b>	<b>Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)</b>	
318CC	Application of div 6 . . . . .	329
318CD	Additional requirements for making application . . . . .	329
318CE	Power to split application if it includes other land . . . . .	330
318CF	Power to split application at applicant's request . . . . .	330
318CG	Additional criteria for recommending conditions. . . . .	330



<b>Division 7</b>	<b>Additional provisions for coal and oil shale exploration tenements</b>	
<b>Subdivision 1</b>	<b>Grant of coal or oil shale exploration tenement in area of authority to prospect</b>	
318CH	Provisions for coal or oil shale exploration tenement . . . . .	331
<b>Subdivision 2</b>	<b>Restriction on authorised activities on petroleum lease land</b>	
318CI	Restriction . . . . .	331
<b>Subdivision 3</b>	<b>Conditions</b>	
318CJ	Notice of grant to authority to prospect holder or applicant . . . . .	332
318CK	Compliance with obligations under Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act . . . . .	332
<b>Division 8</b>	<b>Additional provisions for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases</b>	
<b>Subdivision 1</b>	<b>Entitlement to coal seam gas</b>	
318CL	Application of div 8 . . . . .	333
318CM	Limited entitlement to mine coal seam gas . . . . .	333
318CN	Use that may be made under mining lease of incidental coal seam gas . . . . .	334
318CO	Restriction on flaring or venting of incidental coal seam gas . . . . .	335
<b>Subdivision 2</b>	<b>Provisions for mining coal seam gas from coextensive natural underground reservoirs</b>	
318CP	Application of sdiv 2 . . . . .	336
318CQ	Coordination arrangement may be made about mining or production from reservoir . . . . .	337
318CR	Restriction on carrying out particular authorised activities . . . . .	337
318CS	Dispute resolution by tribunal . . . . .	338
<b>Subdivision 3</b>	<b>Conditions</b>	
318CT	Continuing requirement for coordination arrangement for particular coal or oil shale mining leases . . . . .	339
318CU	Obligation to measure and record coal seam gas mined . . . . .	340
318CV	Obligation to lodge annual reports . . . . .	341
318CW	Compliance with obligation to negotiate with petroleum lease applicant . . . . .	343
318CX	Relinquishment report . . . . .	343
318CY	Surrender report . . . . .	343
318CZ	Cessation of relinquishment condition for area not overlapping with authority to prospect . . . . .	344
<b>Subdivision 4</b>	<b>Amendment of relinquishment condition by application</b>	
318D	Application of sdiv 4 . . . . .	344
318DA	Conditions for applying to amend relinquishment condition . . . . .	345

---

318DB	Authority to prospect holder's obligation to negotiate . . . . .	345
318DC	Requirements for making application . . . . .	345
318DD	Notice of application . . . . .	347
318DE	Submissions by authority to prospect holder . . . . .	347
318DF	Minister may require further negotiation . . . . .	348
318DG	Deciding amendment application . . . . .	348
<b>Subdivision 5</b>	<b>Restriction on recommendation to amend other conditions</b>	
318DH	Interests of relevant petroleum tenure holder to be considered . .	349
<b>Subdivision 6</b>	<b>Renewals</b>	
318DI	General additional provisions for renewal application . . . . .	349
318DJ	Applied provisions for renewal application . . . . .	350
318DK	Mining lease taken to have development plan until renewal application decided . . . . .	351
<b>Subdivision 7</b>	<b>Consolidations</b>	
318DL	Restriction on consolidation applications . . . . .	351
318DM	Additional requirements for making consolidation application . . .	352
318DN	Deciding whether to approve proposed development plan . . . . .	352
<b>Subdivision 8</b>	<b>Restriction on assignment or subletting</b>	
318DO	Requirement for coordination arrangement to assign or sublet mining lease in area of petroleum lease . . . . .	353
<b>Division 9</b>	<b>Development plans for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases</b>	
<b>Subdivision 1</b>	<b>General provisions about development plans</b>	
318DP	Function and purpose . . . . .	353
318DQ	Requirement to have development plan . . . . .	354
318DR	Obligation to comply with development plan . . . . .	354
<b>Subdivision 2</b>	<b>Requirements for proposed initial development plans</b>	
318DS	Operation of sdiv 2 . . . . .	355
318DT	General requirements . . . . .	355
318DU	Plan period . . . . .	356
318DV	Statement about interests of relevant petroleum tenure holder . .	357
318DW	Requirement to optimise use of incidental coal seam gas . . . . .	357
318DX	Consistency with petroleum lease development plan and relevant coordination arrangement . . . . .	357
<b>Subdivision 3</b>	<b>Approval of proposed initial development plans</b>	
318DY	Application of sdiv 3 . . . . .	357
318DZ	Ministerial approval of proposed plan . . . . .	358
318E	Amendment of proposed plan before approval . . . . .	358

---

318EA	Deciding whether to approve proposed plan . . . . .	358
<b>Subdivision 4</b>	<b>Approval of proposed later development plans</b>	
318EB	Obligation to lodge proposed later development plan . . . . .	359
318EC	Consequence of failure to comply with notice to lodge proposed later development plan . . . . .	361
318ED	Later development plan requirements . . . . .	361
318EE	Mining lease taken to have development plan until decision on whether to approve proposed later development plan . . . . .	362
318EF	Criteria for deciding whether to approve proposed plan. . . . .	362
318EG	Power to require partial surrender application . . . . .	363
318EH	Steps after, and taking effect, of decision. . . . .	363
<b>Subdivision 5</b>	<b>Appeals</b>	
318EI	Right of appeal against cancellation, deferral or refusal. . . . .	364
<b>Division 10</b>	<b>Confidentiality of information</b>	
318EJ	Application of div 10. . . . .	365
318EK	Confidentiality obligations. . . . .	366
318EL	Civil remedies. . . . .	366
<b>Part 7A</b>	<b>Roads</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
318EM	Significant projects excluded from pt 7A . . . . .	367
318EN	What is the road authority for a road . . . . .	367
318EO	What is a notifiable road use . . . . .	367
<b>Division 2</b>	<b>Notifiable road uses</b>	
318EP	Notice of notifiable road use. . . . .	368
318EQ	Directions about notifiable road use. . . . .	369
318ER	Obligation to comply with road use directions . . . . .	370
<b>Division 3</b>	<b>Compensation for notifiable road uses</b>	
318ES	Liability to compensate road authority . . . . .	370
318ET	Compensation agreement . . . . .	371
318EU	Deciding compensation through tribunal . . . . .	372
318EV	Criteria for decision . . . . .	372
318EW	Tribunal review of compensation . . . . .	373
318EX	Compensation to be addressed before carrying out notifiable road use . . . . .	374
318EY	Compensation not affected by change in administration or holder . . . . .	374
<b>Part 8</b>	<b>Relationship with Integrated Planning Act 1997</b>	
319	Effect on development . . . . .	375

---

319A	Effect on planning schemes . . . . .	375
<b>Part 9</b>	<b>Royalties</b>	
320	Royalty return and payment . . . . .	376
321	Prescription of royalty . . . . .	378
322	Minister may request audit . . . . .	379
323	Resolving inconsistency between differing royalty provisions . . .	380
324	Utilisation of security deposit towards royalty payments . . . . .	380
325	Royalty return and payment upon assignment or surrender of mining claim or mining lease . . . . .	381
326	Maintenance of records . . . . .	381
327	Minister may require information . . . . .	381
328	Offence not to comply with s 327 . . . . .	384
329	False or misleading statements . . . . .	386
330	Determination of facts by Minister . . . . .	386
331	Reassessment of royalty . . . . .	387
332	Interest upon unpaid royalty . . . . .	387
333	Recovery of unpaid royalties . . . . .	387
334	Confidentiality of information . . . . .	387
335	Furnishing false particulars etc. . . . .	388
<b>Part 10</b>	<b>Administration and judicial functions</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Mining registrars and other officers</b>	
336	Appointment of mining registrars and other officers . . . . .	389
337	Acting mining registrar . . . . .	389
338	Disability of mining registrars, deputy mining registrars and field officers . . . . .	390
339	Scope of authority of mining registrars and deputy mining registrars . . . . .	390
340	Scope of authority of field officers . . . . .	391
341	Establishment of offices of mining registrars . . . . .	391
342	Powers of mining registrars and others . . . . .	391
343	Seizure of minerals produced by or vehicles, machinery etc. used in unauthorised mining . . . . .	395
<b>Division 2</b>	<b>The tribunal</b>	
363	Substantive jurisdiction . . . . .	399
364	Application for interim orders by remote means . . . . .	401
370	Jurisdiction of Supreme Court . . . . .	401
378	Power to order deposit of mineral etc. . . . .	402
380	Tribunal may order survey . . . . .	403

---

381	Power of tribunal to order surrender of minerals . . . . .	403
<b>Part 11</b>	<b>General</b>	
387	Registers to be maintained. . . . .	404
388	Notice of change of address for service . . . . .	405
389	Duplicate permits, leases etc. . . . .	405
390	Priority of competing applications. . . . .	405
391	Restriction on grants etc. . . . .	406
391A	Restriction on decisions or recommendations about mining tenements . . . . .	407
391B	Right of access for authorised activities includes access for rehabilitation and environmental management . . . . .	408
392	Substantial compliance with Act may be accepted as compliance . . . . .	408
393	Applicant or holder excused for neglect or default of mining registrar etc. . . . .	408
394	Declaration of State forests etc. over land subject to grants . . . .	409
395	Act's application to holder of fossickers licence . . . . .	409
396	Application of other Acts. . . . .	409
396A	Transfer of coal exploration or production well to petroleum tenure holder . . . . .	410
397	Liability of owner restricted. . . . .	411
398	Delegation by Minister . . . . .	411
399	Mode of service of documents . . . . .	411
400	Acting in aid of mining registrar etc. . . . .	412
401	Protection against liability. . . . .	413
401A	Protection against liability as condition of approval . . . . .	413
402	Offences with respect to unauthorised mining etc. . . . .	415
403	Offences regarding land subject to mining claim or mining lease	416
404	Offence to resist bailiff etc. . . . .	416
404A	Distance of excavation from railway works. . . . .	417
404B	Interference with particular things . . . . .	417
404C	Information requirements for holders of mining tenements	418
404D	False or misleading document . . . . .	419
405	Directions to be complied with . . . . .	419
406	Tribunal may review direction or requirement. . . . .	420
407	Minister may require survey . . . . .	421
408	Surveyor not to have interest . . . . .	421
409	Removal orders . . . . .	422

---

410	Certain interests not interests for certain purposes . . . . .	424
411	Indemnity against liability . . . . .	424
412	Offences and recovery of penalties etc. . . . .	424
413	Evidentiary provision . . . . .	425
414	Failure to supply information constitutes noncompliance with Act	427
415	Copies of decisions to be sent to chief executive. . . . .	427
416	Rights independent of this Act preserved. . . . .	427
416A	Approval of forms . . . . .	427
417	Regulation-making power. . . . .	428
418	References to repealed Acts . . . . .	429
418A	Validation of granting of mining lease 1978 . . . . .	430
418B	Provisions about compensation for owners of lots 65 and 66 on RP 909055 . . . . .	430
418C	Cancellation of Shelburne Bay mining leases . . . . .	431
418D	Particular mineral development licences and mining leases . . . .	432
<b>Part 12</b>	<b>Introduction to native title provisions</b>	
419	Application of native title provisions . . . . .	432
420	Exclusion of certain agreed acts from pts 13 to 17 . . . . .	433
421	Effect of failure to comply with native title provisions . . . . .	433
422	Definitions for native title provisions . . . . .	434
423	Other provisions for interpretation of native title provisions . . . . .	435
<b>Part 13</b>	<b>Native title provisions for prospecting permits</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
425	Purpose of pt 13. . . . .	436
426	Application of pt 13. . . . .	436
427	Exclusion of certain prospecting permits from pt 13 . . . . .	437
428	Limited application of pt 13 to prospecting permit in approved opal or gem mining area. . . . .	437
429	Definitions for pt 13. . . . .	438
430	Meaning of low impact prospecting permit for pt 13. . . . .	438
430A	Delayed start for prospecting permit if access agreement required . . . . .	439
<b>Division 2</b>	<b>Notification requirements</b>	
431	Requirement to notify . . . . .	439
432	Failure to notify correctly . . . . .	440
<b>Division 3</b>	<b>Consultation and access agreement requirements before entry</b>	
433	Requirement for consultation and access agreement . . . . .	441

---

433A	Prospecting activities to be carried out in accordance with access agreement .....	441
434	Consultation matters .....	442
434A	Access agreements .....	442
435	Consultation period and consultation period advice day .....	443
436	Parties may seek mediation .....	444
436A	Decision by tribunal .....	444
437	Notice of access agreement .....	445
438	Mining registrar may take action .....	445
<b>Part 14</b>	<b>Native title provisions for mining claims</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
439	Purpose of pt 14 .....	445
440	Limited application of pt 14 to mining claim in approved opal or gem mining area .....	446
<b>Division 4</b>	<b>Mining claims</b>	
462	Application of div 4 .....	446
463	Requirement for grant .....	447
464	Applying pt 17, div 4 for grant .....	447
<b>Division 5</b>	<b>Renewals of mining claims</b>	
465	Application of div 5 .....	448
470	Requirements for renewal—applying div 4 .....	449
471	Applying div 4 for renewal .....	449
<b>Division 6</b>	<b>Requirements for subsidiary approvals</b>	
472	Application of div 6 .....	450
477	Requirements for addition—applying div 4 .....	451
478	Applying div 4 for addition .....	451
<b>Part 15</b>	<b>Native title provisions for exploration permits</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
479	Purpose of pt 15 .....	452
480	Limited application of pt 15 to exploration permit in approved opal or gem mining area .....	453
481	Meaning of low impact exploration permit .....	453
482	Meaning of low impact activity .....	453
483	Meaning of high impact exploration permit .....	455
<b>Division 2</b>	<b>Low impact exploration permits</b>	
<b>Subdivision 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
484	Application of div 2 .....	456
485	Definitions for div 2 .....	457

<b>Subdivision 2</b>	<b>Notification requirements</b>	
486	Requirement to notify . . . . .	457
487	Notification of mining registrar . . . . .	458
<b>Subdivision 3</b>	<b>Consultation and access agreement requirements before entry</b>	
488	Requirement for consultation and access agreement . . . . .	459
488A	Exploration activities to be carried out in accordance with access agreement. . . . .	460
489	Consultation matters . . . . .	460
489A	Access agreements . . . . .	461
490	Consultation period and consultation period advice day . . . . .	462
491	Parties may seek mediation . . . . .	462
491A	Decision by tribunal . . . . .	463
492	Notice of access agreement. . . . .	464
493	Mining registrar may recommend action . . . . .	464
<b>Division 4</b>	<b>High impact exploration permits</b>	
522	Application of div 4 . . . . .	464
523	Requirements for grant . . . . .	465
524	Applying pt 17, div 4 for grant. . . . .	465
<b>Division 5</b>	<b>Renewals of exploration permits</b>	
525	Application of div 5 . . . . .	467
526	Requirements for renewal—applying div 2. . . . .	468
529	Requirements for renewal—applying div 4. . . . .	468
530	Applying div 4 for renewal . . . . .	469
<b>Division 6</b>	<b>Requirements for subsidiary approvals</b>	
531	Application of div 6 . . . . .	469
532	Requirements for variation—low impact exploration permit . . . . .	471
534	Requirements for variation or addition—other exploration permits . . . . .	471
<b>Part 16</b>	<b>Native title provisions for mineral development licences</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
535	Purpose of pt 16. . . . .	472
536	Limited application of pt 16 to mineral development licence in approved opal or gem mining area. . . . .	473
537	Meaning of low impact mineral development licence . . . . .	473
538	Meaning of low impact activity . . . . .	473
539	Meaning of high impact mineral development licence . . . . .	476



---

<b>Division 2</b>	<b>Low impact mineral development licences</b>	
<b>Subdivision 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
540	Application of div 2 . . . . .	476
541	Definitions for div 2 . . . . .	477
<b>Subdivision 2</b>	<b>Notification requirements</b>	
542	Requirement to notify . . . . .	478
543	Notification of mining registrar . . . . .	478
<b>Subdivision 3</b>	<b>Consultation and access agreement requirements before entry</b>	
544	Requirement for consultation and access agreement . . . . .	479
544A	Mineral development activities to be carried out in accordance with access agreement . . . . .	480
545	Consultation matters . . . . .	480
545A	Access agreements . . . . .	481
546	Consultation period and consultation period advice day . . . . .	482
547	Parties may seek mediation . . . . .	483
547A	Decision by tribunal . . . . .	483
548	Notice of access agreement . . . . .	484
549	Mining registrar may recommend action . . . . .	484
<b>Division 4</b>	<b>High impact mineral development licences</b>	
579	Application of div 4 . . . . .	484
580	Requirements for grant . . . . .	485
581	Applying pt 17, div 4 for grant . . . . .	486
<b>Division 5</b>	<b>Renewals of mineral development licences</b>	
582	Application of div 5 . . . . .	487
583	Requirements for renewal—applying div 2 . . . . .	489
586	Requirements for renewal—applying div 4 . . . . .	489
587	Applying div 4 for renewal . . . . .	489
<b>Division 6</b>	<b>Requirements for subsidiary approvals</b>	
588	Application of div 6 . . . . .	490
589	Requirements for variation—low impact mineral development licence . . . . .	491
591	Requirements for variation or addition—other mineral development licences . . . . .	492
592	Requirements for approval—adding minerals to mineral development licence . . . . .	492

<b>Part 17</b>	<b>Native title provisions for mining leases</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
593	Purpose of pt 17 . . . . .	493
594	Limited application of pt 17 to mining lease in approved opal or gem mining area. . . . .	493
596	No re-opening of issues previously decided. . . . .	493
<b>Division 4</b>	<b>Mining leases</b>	
<b>Subdivision 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
650	Application of div 4 . . . . .	494
651	Definitions for div 4. . . . .	495
<b>Subdivision 2</b>	<b>Notification and registration requirements</b>	
652	Requirement to notify . . . . .	495
653	Content of written notice. . . . .	496
654	Notification of mining registrar . . . . .	498
655	Registered native title parties. . . . .	499
656	Advice to mining registrar. . . . .	500
657	Ending of additional requirements . . . . .	501
<b>Subdivision 3</b>	<b>Consultation and negotiation</b>	
658	Parties to consultation and negotiation . . . . .	501
659	Requirement for consultation and negotiation in good faith . . . . .	502
660	Content of negotiation in good faith . . . . .	503
661	Failure to negotiate. . . . .	503
662	Request for mediation . . . . .	504
663	Process for consultation and negotiation—applicant consultation . . . . .	504
664	Process for consultation and negotiation—registered native title parties consultation . . . . .	505
665	Process for consultation and negotiation—taking account of existing rights, interests and use . . . . .	506
666	Process for consultation and negotiation—negotiated agreement with or without conditions attached . . . . .	506
667	Process for consultation and negotiation—negotiated agreement with conditions attached. . . . .	507
668	Objections . . . . .	508
<b>Subdivision 4</b>	<b>Referral and native title issues decision</b>	
669	Referral of proposed mining lease to tribunal. . . . .	510
670	Continuing negotiation . . . . .	511
671	Combined hearing . . . . .	511
672	Fixing of date for combined hearing. . . . .	512

---

<b>Subdivision 5</b>	<b>Requirements for combined hearing</b>	
673	Directions about conduct of combined hearing . . . . .	513
674	Issue of negotiation in good faith . . . . .	513
675	Nature of native title issues decision . . . . .	514
676	Timing of tribunal's recommendation and native title issues decision . . . . .	515
677	Tribunal's native title issues decision . . . . .	515
678	Deferred matters. . . . .	517
679	General time requirement for making native title issues decision	518
680	Effect of native title issues decision . . . . .	518
<b>Subdivision 6</b>	<b>Overruling of native title issues decision</b>	
681	Minister may overrule native title issues decision. . . . .	519
682	Effect of overruling . . . . .	520
<b>Subdivision 7</b>	<b>Special provisions about completion of combined hearing and making of native titles issues decision</b>	
683	Giving of urgency notice. . . . .	520
684	Minister's decision if tribunal recommendation delayed . . . . .	521
685	Consultation before Minister's decision . . . . .	522
686	Minister's decisions generally. . . . .	524
<b>Subdivision 8</b>	<b>Miscellaneous matters about grant</b>	
687	Contract conditions. . . . .	525
688	Notice of grant to registered native title parties . . . . .	525
<b>Division 5</b>	<b>Renewals of mining leases</b>	
689	Application of div 5 . . . . .	525
694	Requirements for renewal—applying div 4. . . . .	526
695	Applying div 4 for renewal . . . . .	526
<b>Division 6</b>	<b>Requirements for subsidiary approvals</b>	
696	Meaning of approval in div 6. . . . .	528
697	Application of div 6 . . . . .	528
699	Requirements for approval (additional area)—applying div 4. . . .	529
704	Requirements for approval (other changes)—applying div 4 . . . .	530
705	Applying div 4 for approval . . . . .	530
<b>Part 18</b>	<b>Compensation provisions</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
706	Definitions for pt 18. . . . .	532
<b>Division 2</b>	<b>General principles</b>	
707	Native title compensation . . . . .	533

708	Agreement for compensation . . . . .	534
709	Application for compensation . . . . .	535
710	Compensation provided in non-monetary form . . . . .	536
711	Conditions of agreement or compensation decision . . . . .	537
712	Compensation trust decisions . . . . .	537
713	State's right to be heard . . . . .	538
<b>Division 3</b>	<b>Payment of compensation in particular circumstances</b>	
714	Compensation before relevant act relating to mining claim or mining lease if registered native title body corporate . . . . .	538
715	Compensation before relevant act relating to mining claim or mining lease if registered native title claimant . . . . .	539
716	Compensation after relevant act relating to mining claim or mining lease . . . . .	541
717	Compensation after relevant act relating to other mining tenement if registered native title body corporate . . . . .	542
718	Compensation after relevant act relating to other mining tenement if registered native title claimant . . . . .	542
719	State liable to pay compensation in particular circumstances . . . . .	543
<b>Division 4</b>	<b>Amounts held in trust</b>	
720	Repayment of amount held in trust for compensation . . . . .	544
721	Dealing with amount held in trust for compensation—determination of native title . . . . .	545
722	Dealing with amount held in trust for compensation—no applicable provision . . . . .	545
<b>Part 19</b>	<b>Transitional provisions</b>	
<b>Division 1</b>	<b>Transitional provisions for Act No. 27 of 1998</b>	
723	At Risk agreement conditions. . . . .	546
724	Application of Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1998 . . . . .	546
<b>Division 2</b>	<b>Transitional provisions for Act No. 38 of 1998</b>	
725	Application of div 2 . . . . .	547
726	Definitions for div 2 . . . . .	548
727	Giving advice of notification commencement day . . . . .	548
728	Existing prospecting permit applications . . . . .	549
729	Existing mining claim applications . . . . .	549
730	Existing exploration permit applications . . . . .	550
731	Existing mineral development licence applications . . . . .	550
732	Existing mining lease applications . . . . .	551
733	Existing applications for certain approvals . . . . .	552
734	Separate hearings . . . . .	552

<b>Division 3</b>	<b>Transitional provisions for Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2000</b>	
735	Existing Act continues to apply for special agreement Acts . . . . .	553
<b>Division 4</b>	<b>Transitional provision for Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2002</b>	
736	Exclusion of pt 7A for continuance of existing notifiable road uses . . . . .	554
<b>Division 5</b>	<b>Transitional provisions for Natural Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2003</b>	
737	No notification commencement day advised before 31 March 2003 . . . . .	555
738	Effect of extension of time for giving notice or information . . . . .	555
<b>Division 6</b>	<b>Transitional provisions for Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005</b>	
739	Application of particular provisions . . . . .	556
<b>Division 6</b>	<b>Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004</b>	
<b>Subdivision 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
739	Definitions for div 6 . . . . .	557
<b>Subdivision 2</b>	<b>Provisions for special agreement Acts</b>	
740	Application of div 6 to special coal mining lease under special agreement Act . . . . .	560
741	Unfinished special coal mining lease applications . . . . .	560
742	Division 6 prevails over special agreement Acts . . . . .	561
743	No compensation . . . . .	561
<b>Subdivision 3</b>	<b>Provision for section 3A</b>	
744	Application of s 3A to existing mining tenements . . . . .	562
<b>Subdivision 4</b>	<b>Unfinished coal or oil shale mining lease applications for land in area of petroleum tenure</b>	
745	Application of pt 7AA . . . . .	562
<b>Subdivision 5</b>	<b>Provisions for existing coal mining leases</b>	
746	Clarification provision for coal seam gas . . . . .	563
747	Continuation of particular rights relating to coal seam gas under mineral hydrocarbon mining leases . . . . .	564
748	Restriction on flaring or venting coal seam gas . . . . .	565
749	Deferral of ss 318CN(2) and 318CO for particular existing coal mining lease holders . . . . .	565
750	Deferral of s 318CR(1) for existing coal mining lease holders . . .	566
<b>Subdivision 6</b>	<b>Modified application of section 318CI for particular existing exploration tenements overlapping with petroleum lease</b>	
751	Application of s div 6 . . . . .	566

---

752	Modified application of s 318CI until 3 months after commencement . . . . .	566
753	Power to relinquish if activity restricted . . . . .	567
<b>Subdivision 7</b>	<b>Particular provision for existing mineral development licences that overlap with a Petroleum Act lease</b>	
754	Application of sdiv 7 . . . . .	568
755	Substituted restriction on authorised activities . . . . .	568
<b>Subdivision 8</b>	<b>Development plans</b>	
756	Application of sdiv 8 . . . . .	569
757	Deferral of obligation to comply with development plan . . . . .	570
758	Obligation to lodge proposed development plan . . . . .	570
759	Application of pt 7AA, div 9, sdiv 3 for approval of proposed plan . . . . .	571
760	Additional requirement for proposed development plan for mineral hydrocarbon mining lease . . . . .	571
761	Additional condition for proposed development plan for mineral hydrocarbon mining lease . . . . .	572
762	Omission of particular conditions to be superseded by development plan . . . . .	573
763	Development plan requirements for renewal applications if no current development plan . . . . .	573
<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Dictionary</b> . . . . .	575
 <b>Endnotes</b>		
1	Index to endnotes . . . . .	591
2	Date to which amendments incorporated . . . . .	591
3	Key . . . . .	592
4	Table of reprints . . . . .	592
5	Tables in earlier reprints . . . . .	592
6	List of legislation . . . . .	592
7	List of annotations . . . . .	598
8	List of forms notified or published in the gazette . . . . .	662
9	Table of renumbered provisions . . . . .	667
10	Information about retrospectivity . . . . .	688

# **Mineral Resources Act 1989**

[as amended by all amendments that commenced on or before 25 March 2005]

**An Act to provide for the assessment, development and utilisation of mineral resources to the maximum extent practicable consistent with sound economic and land use management**

## **Part 1 Preliminary**

### **1 Short title**

This Act may be cited as the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*.

### **2 Objectives of Act**

The principal objectives of this Act are to—

- (a) encourage and facilitate prospecting and exploring for and mining of minerals;
- (b) enhance knowledge of the mineral resources of the State;
- (c) minimise land use conflict with respect to prospecting, exploring and mining;
- (d) encourage environmental responsibility in prospecting, exploring and mining;
- (e) ensure an appropriate financial return to the State from mining;
- (f) provide an administrative framework to expedite and regulate prospecting and exploring for and mining of minerals;
- (g) encourage responsible land care management in prospecting, exploring and mining.

### 3 **Application of Act to Commonwealth land and coastal waters of the State**

- (1) To the extent that the Parliament of the Commonwealth shall have from time to time vested in the Crown in right of Queensland jurisdiction to make such laws with respect thereto, this Act applies in respect of the sea bed and subsoil beneath the internal waters of Australia and beneath the baseline waters of the State and to waters above that sea bed as if that sea bed and subsoil were land within Queensland.
- (2) This Act applies in respect of land of or vested in the Commonwealth to the extent that from time to time the Parliament of the Commonwealth shall determine.
- (3) Subsections (1) and (2) shall not be construed to authorise prospecting, exploration or mining of the sea bed and subsoil that—
  - (a) is within a protected area; or
  - (b) by a law of the Commonwealth is excluded from the application of this Act (whether by reference to this Act or to the subject matter of this Act) to the extent of that exclusion.
- (4) In this section—

***baseline waters*** means the waters between the mean low water springs level and the inside of the baseline under the *Offshore Minerals Act 1998*, section 16.<sup>1</sup>

---

1 *Offshore Minerals Act 1998*, section 16 (Coastal waters, and effect of change in baseline)



**3A Relationship with petroleum legislation**

- (1) This section does not apply to a coal or oil shale mining tenement.<sup>2</sup>
- (2) Subject to subsections (3) to (9), the *Petroleum Act 1923* and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act do not limit or otherwise affect—
  - (a) the power under this Act to grant or renew a mining tenement over land (the *overlapping land*) in the area of a petroleum authority; or
  - (b) a mining tenement already granted over land (also the *overlapping land*) in the area of an existing petroleum authority.
- (3) If the petroleum authority is a petroleum lease or petroleum facility licence and the mining tenement is an exploration permit, mineral development licence, or mining lease, an authorised activity for the mining tenement may be carried out on the overlapping land only if—
  - (a) the petroleum lease or petroleum facility licence holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity; and
  - (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at the following office (the *relevant office*)—
    - (i) the office of the department for lodging the agreement, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
    - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
  - (c) the agreement is still in force.
- (4) If the petroleum authority is a petroleum lease and the mining tenement is a prospecting permit or mining claim, an authorised activity for the mining tenement may be carried out

---

2 See also the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 6 (Relationship with Mineral Resources Act).

For the relationship between this Act and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act in relation to coal or oil shale mining tenements, see part 7AA (Provisions for coal seam gas).

on the overlapping land only if carrying out the activity does not adversely affect the carrying out of an authorised activity for the petroleum lease.

- (5) Subsection (4) applies whether or not the authorised activity for the petroleum lease has already started.
- (6) If the petroleum authority is an authority to prospect or pipeline licence and the mining tenement is not a mining lease, an authorised activity for the mining tenement may be carried out on the overlapping land only if—
  - (a) the authority to prospect or pipeline licence holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity, a copy of the agreement has been lodged at the relevant office and the agreement is still in force; or
  - (b) carrying out the activity does not adversely affect the carrying out of an authorised activity for the authority to prospect that has already started.
- (7) If the petroleum authority is an authority to prospect and the mining tenement is a mining lease, an authorised activity for the authority to prospect may be carried out on the overlapping land only if—
  - (a) the mining lease holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity; and
  - (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at the relevant office; and
  - (c) the agreement is still in force.
- (8) Subsection (7) does not apply, or ceases to apply, if the same person holds the authority and the mining lease.
- (9) This section applies despite any other provision of this Act.

#### **4 Effect of change of baseline**

- (1) If—
  - (a) an offshore area is covered by an exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease (the *mining tenement*); and

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (b) there is a change to the inner limit of the coastal waters of the State as defined in the *Offshore Minerals Act 1998*, section 16(1) and (2); and
- (c) as a result of the change, the offshore area comes within those coastal waters;

this Act applies, while the mining tenement or any successor mining tenement remains in force, as if the area were still within the offshore area.

(2) If—

- (a) a mining lease takes effect immediately after an exploration permit expires; and
- (b) the holder of the mining lease immediately after it takes effect was the holder of the exploration permit immediately before it expired;

the mining lease is a successor mining tenement to the exploration permit for subsection (1).

(3) If—

- (a) a mineral development licence takes effect immediately after an exploration permit expires; and
- (b) the holder of the mineral development licence immediately after it takes effect was the holder of the exploration permit immediately before it expired;

the mineral development licence is a successor mining tenement to the exploration permit for subsection (1).

(4) If—

- (a) a mining lease takes effect immediately after a mineral development licence expires; and
- (b) the mineral development licence took effect immediately after an exploration permit expired; and
- (c) the holder of the mining lease immediately after it takes effect was the holder of the mineral development licence immediately before it expired; and
- (d) the holder of the mineral development licence immediately after it took effect was the holder of the exploration permit immediately before it expired;

the mining lease is a successor tenement to the exploration permit and the mineral development licence for subsection (1).

(5) In this section—

***offshore area*** means an area of the sea bed and subsoil to which the Act applies.

## 5 Definitions

The dictionary in the schedule defines particular words used in this Act.

## 6 Meaning of *mineral*

(1) A ***mineral*** is a substance—

- (a) normally occurring naturally as part of the earth's crust; or
- (b) dissolved or suspended in water on or within the earth's crust; or
- (c) that may be extracted from a substance mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b).

(2) Subject to subsection (3), each of the following is a ***mineral***—

- (a) any type of clay;
- (b) foundry sand;
- (c) coal seam gas;<sup>3</sup>
- (d) limestone;
- (e) marble;
- (f) a product that may be extracted or produced by an underground gasification process for coal or oil shale and another product that may result from the carrying out of the process;

---

3 See section 318AC (What is *coal seam gas* and *incidental coal seam gas*). See also part 7AA, division 8, subdivision 1 (Entitlement to coal seam gas).

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

*Example of underground gasification processes—*

combustion, consumption, heating, leaching and reaction

*Example of another product—*

gas desorbed as a result of an underground gasification process

- (g) peat;
  - (h) salt, including brine;
  - (i) oil shale;<sup>4</sup>
  - (j) silica, including silica sand;
  - (k) rock mined in block or slab form for building or monumental purposes.
- (3) Despite subsections (1) and (2)—
- (a) clay (other than kaolin and bentonite) is only a mineral if it is mined for use for its ceramic properties; and  
*Examples of uses of clay for its ceramic properties—*
    - for brick or tile making
    - for pottery making
  - (b) limestone, silica and silica sand is only a mineral if it is mined for use for its chemical properties; and
  - (c) each of the following is not a mineral—
    - (i) soil, sand, gravel or rock (other than rock mentioned in subsection (2)(k) if it is to be used, or to be supplied for use, as sand, gravel or rock, whether intact or in broken form;
    - (ii) living matter;
    - (iii) steam or water.

## 6A Meaning of *mine*

- (1) *Mine* means to carry on an operation with a view to, or for the purpose of—
  - (a) winning mineral from a place where it occurs; or

<sup>4</sup> See section 318AD (What is *oil shale*).

- (b) extracting mineral from its natural state; or
  - (c) disposing of mineral in connection with, or waste substances resulting from, the winning or extraction.
- (2) For subsection (1), extracting includes the physical, chemical, electrical, magnetic or other way of separation of a mineral.
  - (3) Extracting includes, for example, crushing, grinding, concentrating, screening, washing, jigging, tabling, electro winning, solvent extraction electro winning (SX-EW), heap leaching, flotation, fluidised bedding, carbon-in-leach (CIL) and carbon-in-pulp (CIP) processing.
  - (4) However, extracting does not include—
    - (a) a process in a smelter, refinery or anywhere else by which mineral is changed to another substance; or
    - (b) testing or assaying small quantities of mineral in teaching institutions or laboratories, other than laboratories situated on a mining lease; or
    - (c) an activity, prescribed under a regulation, that is not directly associated with winning mineral from a place where it occurs.
  - (5) For subsection (1), disposing includes, for example, the disposal of tailings and waste rock.
  - (6) A regulation under subsection (4)(c) may prescribe an activity by reference to the quantities of minerals extracted or to any other specified circumstances.

## **6B Meaning of *prospect***

- (1) ***Prospect*** means take action to find out about the existence, quality or quantity of minerals on, in or under land by—
  - (a) using a metal detector or a similar hand held instrument; or
  - (b) sampling using only hand held implements, including, for example, hammers, hand augers, panning dishes, picks, shakers, shovels and sieves.
- (2) However, ***prospect*** does not include taking action that is—

- (a) hand mining; or
- (b) the removal of minerals for their sale.

## **6C What is carrying out *improvement restoration***

- (1) To carry out *improvement restoration*, for a mining tenement, means to repair any damage caused by an activity under the tenement to all pre-existing improvements on, or attached to, the land subject to the tenement by—
  - (a) restoring them to the same, or substantially the same, condition they were in before the damage happened; or
  - (b) replacing them with another improvement in the condition mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (2) For subsection (1), damage does not include damage to which a requirement to rehabilitate or remediate under the Environmental Protection Act applies.

## **6D Notes in text**

A note in the text of this Act is part of this Act.

## **7 When educational institution is an eligible person**

The Minister may treat an educational institution as an eligible person under this Act to enable it to apply for and hold a prospecting permit, mining claim or mining lease only if the Minister is satisfied the activities it intends to carry out under the permit, claim or lease are educational or training activities.

## **8 Crown's property in minerals**

- (1) Gold on or below the surface of land is the property of the Crown.
- (2) Coal—
  - (a) on or below the surface of land that was acquired by the Crown as provided in the *Agricultural Lands Special Purchase Act 1901* and subsequently alienated in fee simple by the Crown is the property of the Crown;

- (b) on or below the surface of land (other than land referred to in paragraph (a)) is the property of the Crown except where that land was alienated in fee simple by the Crown before 1 March 1910 and the grant of that land did not contain a reservation to the Crown of the property in that coal.
- (3) All minerals (other than coal and gold but including minerals dissolved or suspended in water within or upon the earth's crust) on or below the surface of land in Queensland other than land alienated in fee simple by the Crown pursuant to—
  - (a) the *Alienation of Crown Lands Act 1860*, section 22; or
  - (b) the *Crown Lands Alienation Act 1868*, section 32; or
  - (c) the *Mineral Lands Act 1872*, section 21;are the property of the Crown.
- (4) Each deed of grant or lease of unallocated State land must contain a reservation of—
  - (a) minerals on and below the surface of the land; and
  - (b) the right of access for prospecting, exploring or mining.
- (5) Mineral on or below the surface of land that is or becomes road is (to the extent that the mineral, but for this paragraph would not be the property of the Crown) on and from the date the land becomes or became road, the property of the Crown.
- (6) Where land to a specified depth only is or becomes road, subsection (5) applies in respect only of mineral in or below the surface of that land to the specified depth.
- (7) Nothing in subsections (5) and (6) shall be construed as abrogating any right that the owner of land whose land is compulsorily acquired after the commencement of this Act for the purpose of being used as a road may have under any other Act or law to compensation in respect of that acquisition.

## **9 Exclusive right of Crown to grant mining leases etc. irrespective of ownership of mineral**

- (1) A person is not competent to grant a lease or to enter into an agreement or arrangement, whether for valuable consideration or otherwise (other than an agreement referred to in



section 320(2)(a) or (b)) authorising the prospecting or exploring for mineral or the mining of any mineral therefrom notwithstanding that the mineral is not the property of the Crown.

- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1) a compensation agreement entered into pursuant to this Act does not authorise prospecting, exploring or mining.
- (3) Subject to this Act, a mining tenement may be granted over land even though—
  - (a) a deed of grant in fee simple from the State may or may not contain a reservation to the State of the relevant mineral on or below the surface of the land; or
  - (b) the relevant mineral is not the property of the State.
- (4) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Act, a person who undertakes any airborne activity to determine the existence of minerals shall notify the Minister after the completion of that activity and shall furnish the Minister such data as the Minister may determine in the particular case.

## **10 Act does not create estates in land**

The grant of a mining tenement under this Act does not create an estate or interest in land.

## **10A Extension of certain entitlements to registered native title bodies corporate and registered native title claimants**

- (1) To the extent that a provision of part 3, other than section 19(1) or 34, applies to a prospecting permit granted only for pegging purposes, a reference in the provision to the owner of land is taken to include a reference to any registered native title body corporate under the Commonwealth Native Title Act in relation to any of the land.
- (2) To the extent that section 31 applies to a prospecting permit granted other than only for pegging purposes, a reference in the section to the owner of land is taken to include a reference to any registered native title body corporate or registered native title claimant under the Commonwealth Native Title Act in relation to any of the land.

- (3) In sections 34, 96(11), 125, 169, 198(10), 217, 231(6), 300(13) and 317, a reference to the owner of land is taken to include a reference to any registered native title body corporate or registered native title claimant under the Commonwealth Native Title Act in relation to any of the land.
- (4) In this section—
- pegging purposes*, in relation to a prospecting permit, means purposes necessary to enable the holder of the permit to apply for a mining claim or mining lease over the land for which the permit is granted.

## **Part 2 Mining districts**

### **11 Mining districts**

The Governor in Council may, by regulation—

- (a) constitute any land a mining district and assign to that district a name;
- (b) abolish a mining district;
- (c) vary the boundaries of a mining district;
- (d) alter the name by which a mining district is for the time being called.

### **12 Identification of mining districts**

- (1) Mining districts may be identified by such means as the Governor in Council considers appropriate including by reference to any local government area for the time being under the *Local Government Act 1993*.
- (2) Where, under the *Local Government Act 1993* a boundary of a local government area is varied, any mining district identified by reference to that area shall, by virtue of that variation, be varied accordingly.

## Part 3                      Prospecting permits

### Division 1                      Prospecting permit categories and entitlements

#### 13            Definitions

In this division—

*holder*, of a prospecting permit, includes a person who is an officer, employee, contractor or agent of the holder if the person is in actual possession of—

- (a) the permit; or
- (b) the holder's written permission for the person to do something the holder may do under the permit.

#### 14            Categories of prospecting permit

- (1) A prospecting permit may be granted for—
  - (a) a mining district; or
  - (b) a lot; or
  - (c) 2 or more adjoining lots<sup>5</sup> owned by the same person.
- (2) A prospecting permit under subsection (1)(a) is a *district prospecting permit*.
- (3) A prospecting permit under subsection (1)(b) or (c) is a *parcel prospecting permit*.

#### 15            Area of land covered by parcel prospecting permit

- (1) A parcel prospecting permit may be granted for all or part of the land of a lot, or 2 or more adjoining lots owned by the same person.
- (2) More than 1 parcel prospecting permit may be granted over a lot, or 2 or more adjoining lots owned by the same person.

---

<sup>5</sup> See the schedule (Dictionary), definition *adjoining lots*.

- (3) If an application for a parcel prospecting permit is for only part of the land of a lot, or 2 or more adjoining lots owned by the same person, the permit may be granted for all of the area.

## **16 Land excluded from prospecting permit**

- (1) Land is excluded from a prospecting permit if it is covered by—
  - (a) a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease; or
  - (b) an application for a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease that has not been finally decided.
- (2) Also, a prospecting permit may be granted for all or part of a fossicking area only if the application for the permit was made, but not decided, before the land became a fossicking area.
- (3) However, if the holder of, or applicant for, the mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease consents in writing to an application for a prospecting permit for land covered by the claim, licence or lease, this section does not apply to the application to the extent stated in the consent.
- (4) In addition, this section does not apply if—
  - (a) the prospecting permit holder is the applicant for the mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease; and
  - (b) there is no other application for a claim, licence or lease for land covered by the prospecting permit.

## **17 Prospecting permit to be granted to a single person**

A prospecting permit may only be issued in the name of a single eligible person.

**18 Entitlements under prospecting permit**

- (1) A holder of a prospecting permit for land may enter the land for—
  - (a) purposes necessary to enable the holder to apply for a mining claim or mining lease over the land; or
  - (b) prospecting purposes; or
  - (c) hand mining for a mineral other than coal.
- (2) The holder may—
  - (a) enter and leave the land using a reasonable type of transport; and
  - (b) enter and leave the land through land the permit states is access land.

**19 Consent required to enter certain land**

- (1) A parcel prospecting permit holder may enter the surface of a reserve for prospecting purposes only with the written consent of the owner of the reserve.
- (2) A district prospecting permit holder may enter the surface of occupied land only with the written consent of the owner of the land.
- (3) Also, a prospecting permit holder may enter occupied land for hand mining only with the written consent of the owner of the land.
- (4) In addition, a prospecting permit holder may enter restricted land only with the written consent of the owner of the land where the relevant permanent building, or relevant feature, is situated.
- (5) Further, a prospecting permit holder may enter land within 50 m laterally of a place where activities are being carried on under an exploration permit only with the written consent of the exploration permit holder.

**20 Provisions about consents to enter land**

- (1) This section applies to consents for a prospecting permit holder to enter land.

- (2) In the absence of evidence to the contrary, the consent of an owner who is a joint tenant or tenant in common with other owners, is taken to be the consent of all the owners.
- (3) If the owner of land can not be easily contacted, a consent may be given for the land by the land's occupier.

*Examples of the owner not being easily contacted—*

- 1 The owner does not live in Australia and there is no known current overseas address for the owner.
  - 2 The owner is travelling in Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
- (4) Consent under this section may be given on conditions.
  - (5) The holder of a consent must comply with the consent's conditions.

Maximum penalty for subsection (5)—10 penalty units.

- (6) A consent given for land may be amended or withdrawn by the land's owner (or, if given by the occupier, the occupier) by written notice given to the holder and mining registrar.

## **Division 2                      Other provisions about prospecting permits**

### **21            Application for prospecting permit**

- (1) An application for a prospecting permit for land must—
  - (a) be made in the approved form and lodged with the mining registrar; and
  - (b) be accompanied by—
    - (i) proof, to the mining registrar's satisfaction, of the applicant's identity; and
    - (ii) the fee prescribed under a regulation; and
  - (c) state the applicant's name, and address for service of notices; and

- (d) if the application is for a parcel prospecting permit—
  - (i) identify, by sketch and description, or in another way acceptable to the mining registrar, the land over which the permit is sought and land proposed to be used as access; and
  - (ii) state the name and address of each owner of occupied land over which the permit is sought; and
  - (iii) state the name and address of each owner of land proposed to be used as access.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the application is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (3) Subsection (2) ceases to apply if the application is rejected under section 22.

## **22 Reason for rejection of application to be given**

A mining registrar who rejects an application for the grant of a prospecting permit must, within 5 business days after deciding to reject, give the applicant and the EPA administering authority a written notice stating the decision and the reasons for it.

## **23 Refund upon rejection of application**

If a mining registrar rejects an application for the grant of a prospecting permit the application fee and any other moneys that accompanied the application for the permit shall be refunded to the applicant.

## **24 Grant of prospecting permit**

- (1) A mining registrar may grant a prospecting permit for land if the mining registrar is satisfied an eligible person has—
  - (a) made a genuine application that complies with this part, and otherwise complied with the requirements of this Act; and

- (b) deposited the amount of security required to be deposited for the permit.
- (2) A prospecting permit shall be in the approved form and shall specify—
  - (a) the identification number of the permit; and
  - (b) the name of the holder; and
  - (c) the address for service of notices on the holder; and
  - (d) the description of land in respect of which the permit is granted; and
  - (e) the term and date of commencement of the permit; and
  - (f) the conditions (other than conditions prescribed by this Act) to which the permit is subject.
- (3) A mining registrar, who is of the opinion that an applicant for a prospecting permit had previously contravened or failed to comply with any provision of this Act, the repealed Acts, any other Act about mining or the *Fossicking Act 1994*, may, whether or not that person had been charged or convicted of an offence in respect of that contravention or failure to comply, reject the application.
- (4) For subsection (3), a company is taken to have contravened a provision of this Act if the person contravening the provision is—
  - (a) an officer or employee of the company; or
  - (b) someone else who is in a position to control or substantially influence the company's affairs.
- (5) A prospecting permit shall be in the approved form for that category of permit.

## **25 Conditions of prospecting permit**

- (1) It is a condition of each prospecting permit that the holder must carry out improvement restoration for the permit.
- (2) A prospecting permit shall be subject to any prescribed conditions and such other conditions as a mining registrar shall from time to time impose.



- (3) In imposing conditions upon the grant of a prospecting permit a mining registrar shall take into consideration the possible effect upon the owner of the land of the grant of the permit having regard to the holder's entitlements under that permit and any other subsisting permits.
- (4) A mining registrar may from time to time, by notice in writing to the holder of a prospecting permit vary any condition imposed by the mining registrar.
- (5) Despite subsections (2) to (4), a condition must not be imposed, prescribed or varied if the condition, or the condition as varied, is the same, or substantially the same, or inconsistent with, a relevant environmental condition for the prospecting permit.
- (6) The holder of a prospecting permit and all persons acting under the authority of the permit shall comply with the conditions for the time being of the permit of which notice has been served on the holder.
- (7) To remove doubt, it is declared that a condition may limit the extent of the holder's entitlements under section 18(1).<sup>6</sup>
- (8) If a prospecting permit is subject to a condition imposed under section 433,<sup>7</sup> the condition is taken to be a condition of the permit of which notice has been served on the holder.

**25AA Additional conditions of prospecting permit relating to native title**

- (1) Conditions imposed on a prospecting permit by a mining registrar under section 25(2) may include native title protection conditions for the permit.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit section 25(2).

---

<sup>6</sup> Section 18 (Entitlements under prospecting permit)

<sup>7</sup> Section 433 (Requirement for consultation and access agreement)

(3) In this section—

*native title protection conditions*, for a prospecting permit, means conditions that—

- (a) are about ways of minimising the impact of the permit on native title in relation to the land affected by the permit, including ways of accessing the land and ways anything authorised under the permit may be done; and
- (b) are identified in the permit as native title protection conditions for the permit.

## **25A Indigenous land use agreement conditions**

(1) This section applies if—

- (a) a registered indigenous land use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act provides for the granting of a prospecting permit; and
  - (b) the State is a party to the agreement; and
  - (c) the agreement includes a requirement that, if the prospecting permit is granted, it must be granted subject to conditions stated in the agreement (the *stated conditions*); and
  - (d) the prospecting permit is granted.
- (2) The prospecting permit is subject to the stated conditions.
- (3) The stated conditions are taken to be conditions of the permit of which notice has been served on the holder of the prospecting permit.

## **26 Provision of security**

- (1) A prospecting permit shall not be granted until the applicant for the permit deposits the security (if any) determined by the mining registrar for compliance with the conditions of the prospecting permit and the provisions of this Act and to rectify any actual damage that may be caused by any person whilst purporting to act under the authority of the permit to pre-existing improvements for the permit.

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (2) If the mining registrar fixes an amount of security under subsection (1), the amount must not be less than the amount prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) The owner of any land may apply in writing to the mining registrar to rectify the damage referred to in subsection (1) that has been caused by any activity allegedly authorised under a prospecting permit in respect of that land.
- (4) If the mining registrar is satisfied (whether or not upon an application referred to in subsection (3)) that damage referred to in subsection (1) has been caused by any person purporting to act under the authority of a prospecting permit the mining registrar shall require that person to take all action necessary to rectify that damage.
- (5) The mining registrar may, at any time (whether before or after the expiry or cancellation of a prospecting permit) use all or part of the security deposited for the permit to rectify actual damage caused by someone acting under the permit.
- (6) If, at any time (whether during or within 20 business days after the expiration of the term of a prospecting permit) the amount or any part of the amount deposited under this section is utilised as provided by subsection (5) or a mining registrar considers that, in view of the damage caused or likely to be caused by any person purporting to act under the authority of the prospecting permit or for any other reason, a further amount of security should be deposited in respect of that prospecting permit, the mining registrar shall require the holder or former holder of the prospecting permit, within the time specified by the mining registrar, to deposit the further security.
- (7) A mining registrar may accept a bond or a guarantee or indemnity by, or other financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or another credit provider approved by the mining registrar or other form of security acceptable to the mining registrar as the whole or part of the security to be deposited under this section.
- (8) It shall be a condition of a prospecting permit that the holder shall deposit security or further security from time to time in accordance with a requirement made as provided by this section.

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (9) Subsection (10) applies if an amount of security deposited by a holder of a prospecting permit has not been used when the permit terminates and—
- (a) for a parcel prospecting permit—the owner of the occupied land covered by the permit—
    - (i) gives the mining registrar written approval to refund the security; or
    - (ii) does not make a claim against the security within—
      - (A) 20 business days after the termination; or
      - (B) a longer period (of not more than 3 months) fixed by the mining registrar by written notice given to the permit holder and owner; or
  - (b) for a district prospecting permit—an owner of land covered by the permit does not make a claim against the security within—
    - (i) 20 business days after the termination; or
    - (ii) a longer period (of not more than 3 months) fixed by the mining registrar by written notice given to the permit holder and owner.
- (10) After deducting the amount the mining registrar considers should be held for use under subsection (5), the mining registrar may refund the balance of the security.
- (11) The mining registrar must refund the amount to the permit holder or in accordance with any written direction the holder gives the mining registrar.
- (12) In the absence of evidence to the contrary, the approval of an owner who is a joint tenant or tenant in common is taken to be the approval of all the owners for subsection (9)(a)(i).
- (13) Subsection (10) does not limit the mining registrar's powers under subsection (15).

- (14) If—
- (a) a prospecting permit holder applies for a mining claim or mining lease; and
  - (b) the application has not been finally decided when the permit is terminated; and
  - (c) after the application is decided, an amount held as security under this section is not held as security for the claim or lease;

the amount may be refunded under subsection (9).

- (15) If the mining registrar accepts a bond, guarantee or indemnity by, or another financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or credit provider as security under this section, any amount payable to the holder under subsection (9) or (10) must be refunded to the financial institution, insurance company or credit provider and not to the holder of the prospecting permit to which the security relates.

## **27 Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent prospecting permit**

If the holder of a prospecting permit or an expired prospecting permit makes application for a further prospecting permit, the mining registrar may, instead of refunding the whole or part of the security deposited in respect of the existing or expired permit, retain that security or part thereof (together with any further security fixed by the mining registrar) as the security (in which case it shall be taken to be or to be part of the security) deposited by the applicant in respect of the application for the further prospecting permit.

**28 Compensation**

- (1) Notwithstanding section 26<sup>8</sup> the Crown, or an owner is entitled to recover from time to time, in the tribunal compensation in respect of damage or injury suffered or loss incurred by reason of a person acting or purporting to act under the authority of a prospecting permit but any moneys paid under that section in respect of rectification of damage the subject of the proceeding shall be taken into account in assessing any compensation.
- (2) The holder of a prospecting permit is not liable under this section in respect of damage or injury or loss caused by another person who is not a holder and is not a person authorised by the holder to be upon the land the subject of the prospecting permit.

**29 Term of prospecting permit**

- (1) A prospecting permit may be granted for—
  - (a) if it is a district prospecting permit—1 or more months but not longer than 1 year; or
  - (b) if it is a parcel prospecting permit—3 months.
- (2) A prospecting permit's term must—
  - (a) be stated in the permit; and
  - (b) not start before the day the permit is granted.

**30 Rights and obligations extended upon application for mining claim etc.**

- (1) The holder of a prospecting permit who, during the term of the prospecting permit, makes application for the grant of—
  - (a) a mining claim; or
  - (b) a mining lease;

in respect of any land to which the prospecting permit applies, shall, during the period from the expiration of the prospecting permit until the determination of the application, for so long as the provisions of this Act and the terms and conditions that would apply if the permit were current are complied with, have all the responsibilities, powers, authorities and duties that the holder would have had in respect of the land the subject of the application if the prospecting permit was current.

- (2) The entitlements of the holder of a prospecting permit are not reduced or limited by reason only of the holder's application for the grant of a mining claim or a mining lease in respect of any land to which the prospecting permit applies.

**31 Mining registrar to notify owners of occupied land of grant of parcel prospecting permit**

- (1) Upon granting a parcel prospecting permit, a mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the grant, advise the owner of any occupied land specified in the permit including occupied land (other than a reserve for public road) specified as access.
- (2) Where advice is not in writing, the advice shall be confirmed in writing as soon as practicable.

**32 Notice of entry under parcel prospecting permit**

- (1) A parcel prospecting permit holder must give the owner of the land covered by the permit notice of entry before initial entry is made under the permit.
- (2) The notice must be given at least 5 business days before the intended entry (or a shorter time acceptable to the owner and endorsed on the notice).

- (3) If the owner can not be easily contacted, the holder may notify the occupier of the land of the intended entry.

*Examples of the owner not being easily contacted—*

- 1 The owner does not live in Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
  - 2 The owner is travelling within Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
- (4) If the holder satisfies the mining registrar it is impracticable to give either the owner or occupier notice of the intended entry, the mining registrar may dispense with the need to give notice.
- (5) If the mining registrar dispenses with the need to give notice, the mining registrar must make an appropriate endorsement on the permit.
- (6) However, before making the endorsement, the mining registrar may require the holder to take the action the mining registrar considers appropriate to publicise the proposed entry, including, for example, publishing an advertisement in a newspaper or other publication.

### **33      Prospecting permit not transferable**

A prospecting permit is not transferable.

### **34      Report to mining registrar by owner of land**

- (1) Where a person purports to enter or be upon land under the authority of a prospecting permit, the owner of that land who considers that that person is not authorised to enter or be upon that land or is not complying with any condition of the prospecting permit or of any provision of this Act may report accordingly to the mining registrar of the mining district in which is situated the land.
- (2) The mining registrar shall have the report investigated and shall advise the owner of land who reports under subsection (1) of any action taken upon the report.



**35 Penalty for breach of conditions**

If the mining registrar considers on reasonable grounds that there has been a breach of any condition of a prospecting permit or of this Act by the holder of the permit or any person purporting to act under the authority of the prospecting permit, the mining registrar may determine that an amount (not exceeding 5 penalty units) fixed by the mining registrar shall be due and owing to the Crown by the holder by way of penalty for that breach.

**36 Cancellation of prospecting permit**

- (1) A mining registrar may at any time, by notice in writing in the approved form served on the holder of a prospecting permit or other person apparently acting under the authority of the permit, cancel the permit.
- (2) A notice cancelling a prospecting permit served pursuant to subsection (1) shall state the reasons for the cancellation.

**37 Surrender of prospecting permit**

- (1) The holder of a prospecting permit may, at any time before the expiration of its term, by notice in writing to the mining registrar surrender the permit.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the mining registrar is given the notice, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.

**38 Appeals about prospecting permits**

- (1) A person whose interests are adversely affected by a decision to which this section applies (the *aggrieved person*) may appeal against the decision to the tribunal.
- (2) This section applies to the following decisions of a mining registrar—
  - (a) a decision to refuse to grant a prospecting permit;
  - (b) a decision to impose a condition on a prospecting permit;

- (c) a decision to vary a condition imposed on a prospecting permit;
- (d) a decision to require an applicant for, or holder of, a prospecting permit to deposit security;<sup>9</sup>
- (e) a decision about the use of security deposited by a prospecting permit holder towards rectification of damage caused by noncompliance with permit conditions;<sup>10</sup>
- (f) a decision to require a prospecting permit holder to pay an amount to the State by way of penalty for a breach of a permit condition;
- (g) a decision to cancel a prospecting permit.

### **39 How to start an appeal**

- (1) An appeal is started by filing a written notice of appeal with the mining registrar.
- (2) The notice of appeal must be filed within 20 business days after the aggrieved person receives notice of the decision appealed against.
- (3) However, if—
  - (a) the decision did not state the reasons for the decision; and
  - (b) the person asked for a statement of reasons for the decision within the period mentioned in subsection (2);the person may make the application within 20 business days after the person is given the statement of reasons.
- (4) In addition, the tribunal may extend the period for filing the notice of appeal.
- (5) The notice of appeal must state the grounds of appeal.

---

9 See section 26 (Provision of security).

10 See section 35 (Penalty for breach of conditions).

**40 Stay of operation of decisions**

- (1) The tribunal may stay a decision appealed against to secure the effectiveness of the appeal.
- (2) A stay—
  - (a) may be given on conditions the tribunal considers appropriate; and
  - (b) operates for the period fixed by the tribunal; and
  - (c) may be revoked or amended by the tribunal.
- (3) The period of a stay fixed by the tribunal must not extend past the time when the tribunal decides the appeal.
- (4) A decision, or the carrying out of a decision, is affected by the starting of an appeal against the decision only if the decision is stayed.

**41 Hearing procedures**

- (1) In deciding an appeal, the tribunal—
  - (a) is not bound by the rules of evidence; and
  - (b) must observe natural justice.
- (2) An appeal is by way of rehearing.

**42 Powers of tribunal on appeal**

- (1) In deciding an appeal, the tribunal may—
  - (a) confirm the decision appealed against; or
  - (b) set the decision aside and substitute another decision; or
  - (c) set aside the decision and return the issue to the mining registrar with directions the tribunal considers appropriate.
- (2) In substituting another decision, the tribunal has the same powers as the mining registrar.

*Example—*

The tribunal may decide that an unsuccessful applicant for a prospecting permit be granted the permit and impose conditions on it.

- (3) If the tribunal substitutes another decision, the substituted decision is taken to be the decision of the mining registrar.

**43 Minerals taken become property of holder of prospecting permit**

All minerals mined as a result of hand mining activities lawfully carried on under the authority of a prospecting permit cease to be the property of the Crown or the person who had property therein and become the property of the holder of the prospecting permit subject however to the rights to royalty payments under this Act of the Crown or any other person.

**44 Royalties in respect of minerals taken under prospecting permit**

The holder of a prospecting permit shall pay in respect of all minerals mined or purported to be mined under the authority of that prospecting permit, the royalty prescribed pursuant to part 9.

**46 Production of prospecting permit**

- (1) A person purporting to be upon land under the authority of a prospecting permit shall upon demand made by the owner of that land, an agent of the owner or a person authorised in that behalf by the Minister for proof of the person's authority for being on the land, produce or cause to be produced to the person making the demand the prospecting permit or a written authorisation in a form acceptable to the mining registrar from the holder of the prospecting permit authorising the person to enter or be upon that land for prospecting purposes.
- (2) For so long as a person fails to comply with a demand lawfully made of the person under subsection (1) the person does not have any of the entitlements under this Act.

**47 Staying on occupied land**

- (1) A person entitled to enter occupied land under a district prospecting permit must not enter land at night without the written consent of the land's owner.

Maximum penalty—10 penalty units.

- (2) A person entitled to enter occupied land under a parcel prospecting permit must not enter the land at night without the written consent of the land's owner or the mining registrar.

Maximum penalty—10 penalty units.

- (3) In the absence of evidence to the contrary, the consent of an owner who is a joint tenant or tenant in common is taken to be the consent of all the owners.
- (4) If the owner of land can not be easily contacted, a consent may be given for the land by the land's occupier.

*Examples of the owner not being easily contacted—*

- 1 The owner does not live in Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
  - 2 The owner is travelling within Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
- (5) Consent under this section may be given on conditions.
- (6) The mining registrar's consent and any consent conditions must be endorsed on the permit.
- (7) A person who enters occupied land at night with a consent under this section must comply with conditions imposed by the owner or occupier of the land or the mining registrar.

Maximum penalty—10 penalty units.

## **Part 4 Mining claims**

### **48 Land subject to mining claim**

- (1) A mining claim may be granted over land comprised in a prospecting permit or prospecting permits to the holder thereof or to the holder thereof and other eligible persons.
- (2) A mining claim shall include the whole of the surface of the land within the boundaries of the mining claim.

**49 Only eligible persons to hold mining claims**

A mining claim shall not be held by a person who is not an eligible person.

**50 Entitlements under mining claim**

- (1) During the currency of a mining claim the holder of the mining claim and any person who actually works the mining claim as agent or employee of the holder—
  - (a) may, in, on or under the land comprised in the mining claim—
    - (i) prospect for any mineral to which the mining claim applies; and
    - (ii) hand mine in accordance with the conditions of the mining claim any mineral to which the mining claim applies;
  - (b) for the purpose of prospecting or hand mining as provided in paragraph (a) may—
    - (i) enter that land;
    - (ii) use such machinery, mechanical devices or other equipment as are authorised under this Act to be used for that purpose;
    - (iii) erect and maintain a structure (including, where authorised so to do by the mining claim, a temporary residence for a person who is bona fide using the land the subject of the mining claim for a purpose for which it was granted) not being of a permanent nature on that land;
  - (c) for the purpose of hand mining as provided in paragraph (a)(ii), may, subject to compliance with the conditions of the mining claim and any other Act or law, make moderate use of explosives where the mining claim specifically authorises that use.
- (2) During the currency of the mining claim, the rights of the holder relate, and are taken to have always related, to the whole of the land comprised in the claim.

- (3) During the currency of a mining claim, a person who delivers goods or substances or provides services to the holder may enter that land for that purpose.
- (4) Where any Act provides that water may be diverted or appropriated only under authority granted under that Act, the holder of a mining claim shall not divert or appropriate water unless the holder holds that authority.

## **51 Land for which mining claim not to be granted**

- (1) A mining claim may not be granted for land covered by—
  - (a) an existing mining claim; or
  - (b) a mining lease; or
  - (c) a mineral development licence; or
  - (d) an earlier application for a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease that has not been finally decided or withdrawn; or
  - (e) an exploration permit or earlier application for an exploration permit unless the applicant for the claim gives the mining registrar the written consent of the holder of, or applicant for, the permit on or before the last objection day; or
  - (f) a geothermal exploration permit, unless the applicant gives the mining registrar the written consent of the holder of the permit on or before the last objection day.
- (2) A mining claim may be granted over the surface of land that is restricted land when the application for the claim was lodged only if—
  - (a) the owner of the land where the relevant permanent building, or relevant feature, is situated, consents in writing to the application; and
  - (b) the applicant lodges the owner's written consent with the mining registrar before the last objection day ends.
- (3) The owner of the land can not withdraw his or her consent under subsection (2) once it has been lodged with the mining registrar.

**52 No mining claim in respect of coal**

A mining claim may be granted in respect of any specified minerals other than coal.

**53 Area and shape of mining claim land**

- (1) The land for which a mining claim may be granted—
  - (a) must be—
    - (i) rectangular in shape; or
    - (ii) of the dimensions prescribed under a regulation; and
  - (b) must be more or less the prescribed area.
- (2) However, the mining registrar may, for a particular mining claim, accept an application for a mining claim over land of a different shape.
- (3) The prescribed area of the land over which a mining claim may be granted is—
  - (a) 1 ha; or
  - (b) where the land is within a mining district or part of a mining district in respect of which, for the purposes of this section, an area is prescribed by regulation, that area;whichever is the smaller.
- (4) Where it is found that the land the subject of a mining claim exceeds the prescribed area the mining claim is not thereby invalidated but the following provisions of this subsection shall be complied with.
- (5) The mining registrar for the mining district in which the land the subject of the mining claim is situated shall notify the holder that the land exceeds the prescribed area.
- (6) If at the expiration of 20 business days after the giving of a notice pursuant to subsection (5)—
  - (a) the mining claim has not been varied, by agreement between the mining registrar and the holder, to reduce the area of land to or to less than the prescribed area; or



- (b) the holder has not made application to the tribunal to determine whether the subject area exceeds the prescribed area or to determine the variation thereof to reduce the area to the prescribed area;

the mining registrar shall without further notice cancel the mining claim.

#### **54 Mining claim over reserve only with consent**

A mining claim shall not be granted over land that is a reserve except with—

- (a) the consent of the owner of that land; or
- (b) the consent of the Governor in Council.

#### **55 Restriction upon number of mining claims**

- (1) A person shall not at any time be the holder of or have an interest, direct or indirect, in more than 2 mining claims.
- (2) The Minister may call upon a person to show cause why any mining claim or interest held by that person in contravention of subsection (1) should not be cancelled.
- (3) If the Minister is not satisfied that there is good reason why the Minister should not do so, the Minister may direct that any such mining claim or interest shall be cancelled and the mining registrar shall without further authority cancel that mining claim or interest.
- (4) Where, pursuant to subsection (3) an interest only in a mining claim is cancelled, each holder of any other interest in the mining claim shall hold an interest in the mining claim in the same proportion that the holder's original interest bears to the aggregate of the remaining interests.

#### **56 Marking out land before application for grant of mining claim**

- (1) The holder of a prospecting permit who wishes to apply for the grant of a mining claim shall mark out, in the prescribed manner the boundary of the land proposed to be the subject of the application.

- (2) The fact that the land marked out pursuant to subsection (1) is not a rectangular shape does not constitute a failure to comply with this section.

**57 Manner of marking out land proposed to be subject of mining claim**

- (1) Before making an application for the grant of a mining claim, the intending applicant or some person authorised on the intending applicant's behalf shall mark out the land by inserting firmly in the ground at each and every corner of the land applied for a round post which shall be not less than 10 cm in diameter or a square post each side of which shall be not less than 10 cm in width standing at least 1 m above the surface and sunk not less than 50 cm in the ground.
- (2) The part of each post above the surface shall be painted white.
- (3) Where posts are of timber construction they shall be barked and dried of sap before use.
- (4) One of the posts shall be selected to be the datum post for the purpose of the commencement of the description and from which a cadastral surveyor shall commence any survey of the land.
- (5) There shall be engraved or in some way durably marked on each post the applicant's initials and surname (or of 1 applicant should there be more than 1) and the numerals indicating the date on which the subject land was marked in accordance with this section and the engraving or marking shall be so maintained until action is taken in accordance with section 64B(1)(a) and (b).
- (6) Where the applicant is a company the initials of that company (or of any 1 company should there be more than 1) shall be engraved and marked as prescribed herein on the posts.
- (7) If a post can not be inserted in the manner prescribed there shall be erected a cairn of stones at least 50 cm high in the place where the post should have been inserted.
- (8) If cairns of stones are erected there shall be engraved or in some way durably marked thereon the particulars which would have been required had a post been inserted.

- (9) Where it is not practicable to insert a post or erect a cairn of stones in the manner prescribed at every corner of the land applied for, there may be inserted a datum post only and compass bearings shall be taken and distances measured, as required by section 62.<sup>11</sup>
- (10) Where it is impossible to insert a datum post or erect a cairn of stones in the manner prescribed by subsection (1) the land shall be marked by measuring a distance on a given bearing from a reference post to a point which shall be the nominal position of the starting point and from which any survey of the land shall commence and the reference post shall in all respects comply with the provisions of this Act relating to a datum post, except the provisions relating to position.

**58 Consent of mining registrar required to certain marking out of land**

- (1) Where the land the subject of a mining claim is marked out in accordance with section 57(9) or (10) the consent of the mining registrar is required and the mining registrar's consent may be given at any time prior to the issue of the certificate of application.
- (2) Where consent is so given the mining registrar shall note the register accordingly.

**59 Time for application for grant of mining claim**

The holder of a prospecting permit who marks out the boundary of land in accordance with this part, may, during the currency of the holder's permit but within 5 business days of so marking out, apply in the prescribed manner for the grant of a mining claim over that land.

---

11 Section 62 (Description of mining claim)

**60 If application for mining claim not made, is rejected or abandoned, posts etc. to be removed**

- (1) A person who marks out the boundary of land for the purpose of making an application for the grant of a mining claim shall remove or cause to be removed forthwith all posts, cairns and other things used by the person to mark out the boundary (not being a survey mark or other thing required by any other Act not to be removed)—
  - (a) where the person has not made the application within 5 business days of the marking out, upon the expiration of those 5 business days; or
  - (b) where the person has made the application as prescribed, upon the rejection or abandonment of the application.
- (2) For the purpose of removing posts, cairns and other things in compliance with subsection (1) a person may enter the relevant land.

**61 Application for grant of mining claim**

- (1) An application for the grant of a mining claim shall—
  - (a) be in the approved form;
  - (b) specify the name of each applicant;
  - (c) specify the name and address for service of 1 person upon whom any notice may be served on behalf of the applicant or the applicants;
  - (d) describe all parcels of land the whole or part of which are the subject of the application and specify the names and addresses of the owner or owners of the land and of land which is to be used as access thereto;
  - (e) identify in the prescribed manner the boundaries of the land applied for;
  - (f) describe and identify in the prescribed manner the land proposed to be used as access from a point outside the boundary of the mining claim acceptable to the mining registrar to the land over which the mining claim is sought;

- (g) be accompanied by a sketch, map or other graphic representation acceptable to the mining registrar setting out the boundaries of the land referred to in paragraphs (e) and (f);
  - (h) identify the mineral or minerals in respect of which the mining claim is sought;
  - (i) be lodged by the applicant personally at the office of the mining registrar for the mining district in which is situated the land in respect of which the mining claim is sought or, if that land is situated in more than 1 such district, at the office of the mining registrar for the district in which the major portion of the land is situated during the hours prescribed for the conduct of business at that office;
  - (j) be accompanied by—
    - (i) proof to the satisfaction of the mining registrar of the identity of the applicant; and
    - (ii) such additional copies of the application and other documents lodged therewith as the mining registrar requires; and
    - (iii) the prescribed application fee; and
    - (iv) an outline, to the mining registrar's satisfaction, of the activities to be conducted on the mining claim.
- (2) The mining registrar shall not be satisfied with the outline if it is inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (1)(i) an application is lodged personally if it is lodged by an individual who is—
- (a) the applicant; or
  - (b) a person authorised in writing in that behalf by the applicant.
- (4) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the application is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.

- (5) Subsection (4) ceases to apply if the application is rejected under this section or section 73.<sup>12</sup>
- (6) A person who lodges an application for the grant of a mining claim shall provide the mining registrar with such information and particulars relating to the requirements set out in subsection (1) as the mining registrar requires and on failure to provide that information the mining registrar may reject the application.
- (7) A mining registrar may reject an application for a mining claim in respect of land the whole or part of which appears, on the evidence available to the mining registrar, to be the subject of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease or of an application for the grant of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease.
- (8) For the purposes of subsection (7) where a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease is terminated or an application for a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease is abandoned or rejected, the relevant land shall be deemed to continue to be subject to the mining claim, mineral development licence, mining lease or application until the day next following that termination, abandonment or rejection.

## **62 Description of mining claim**

In an application for the grant of a mining claim—

- (a) the datum post shall be accurately related by measured distances and compass bearings (or other method acceptable to the mining registrar) to a survey mark or other fixed and well defined point acceptable to the mining registrar; and
- (b) the boundaries of the mining claim shall be described by accurately measured distances and compass bearings on the ground or other method acceptable to the mining registrar; and

---

12 Section 73 (Rejection of application for grant of mining claim for noncompliance)

- (c) the surface access from a point acceptable to the mining registrar to the land over which the mining claim is sought shall be described by measured distances and compass bearings along the centre line of that access together with the width of that access or by some other method acceptable to the mining registrar.

### **63 Priority of applications for grant of mining claims**

- (1) Applications for the grant of mining claims duly made in respect of or including the same land shall take priority for the purpose of consideration and determination of applications according to the order of the time on which they are lodged as prescribed.
- (2) If the mining registrar is or, where applications are lodged with different mining registrars, those registrars are of the opinion that the circumstances of the lodgment of some applications for the grant of mining claims made in respect of or including the same land are such that the applications should be treated as having been lodged simultaneously the mining registrar or registrars may treat the applications as having been lodged simultaneously and shall determine their respective priorities by ballot.
- (3) The mining registrar shall advise all applicants when and where the ballot is to be held.

### **64 Certificate of application etc.**

- (1) Upon being satisfied that the applicant for the grant of a mining claim is eligible to apply for the mining claim and that the applicant has complied with the requirements of this Act with respect to that application, the mining registrar shall prepare a certificate of application for a mining claim in the approved form.
- (2) The mining registrar must endorse on the certificate of application—
  - (a) the number of the proposed mining claim; and
  - (b) the date and time the application was lodged.

- (3) The person who lodged the application must sign the certificate.
- (4) The applicant for the proposed mining claim must, within the later of the following periods to end, give each owner of relevant land, a copy of the certificate and the application for the mining claim—
  - (a) 5 business days after the signing of the certificate;
  - (b) if the mining registrar at any time decides a longer period—the longer period.
- (5) In this section—

*relevant land* means the land the subject of the proposed mining claim or any other land necessary for access to that land.

#### **64A Issue of certificate of public notice**

- (1) This section applies only if—
  - (a) a certificate of application for an application for a mining claim has been endorsed under section 64(2); and
  - (b) either—
    - (i) under the Environmental Protection Act, the application for the relevant environmental authority (mining claim) is a code compliant application and the environmental authority has been issued;<sup>13</sup> or
    - (ii) under the Environmental Protection Act, the application for the relevant environmental authority (mining claim) is a non-code compliant application and the draft environmental authority for the non-code compliant application has, under

---

<sup>13</sup> See the Environmental Protection Act, section 164 (Automatic issuing of code compliant authority if no relevant mining claim or mining lease).



- the Environmental Protection Act, section 175,<sup>14</sup> been given to the mining registrar; and
- (c) if the proposed mining claim is a mining claim to which, under section 462, part 17, division 4, applies—
    - (i) at least 4 months have passed since the giving of the notice required under section 652; or
    - (ii) a negotiated agreement under part 17, division 4 has been reached.<sup>15</sup>
  - (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days—
    - (a) fix the last day (the *last objection day*) for lodging objections to the application; and
    - (b) give the applicant for the mining claim a certificate of public notice in the approved form; and
    - (c) give the EPA administering authority a copy of the certificate.
  - (3) The last objection day must be at least 20 business days after the certificate is given.
  - (4) The certificate must state the following—
    - (a) the number of the proposed mining claim;
    - (b) the day and time the application for the mining claim was lodged;
    - (c) the last objection day;
    - (d) where the application or any additional documents given to the mining registrar about the application may be inspected.
  - (5) The mining registrar must, from the giving of the certificate to the applicant until the end of the last objection day, post and keep posted at the registrar's office a copy of the certificate.

---

14 Environmental Protection Act, section 175 (Obligation to prepare draft environmental authority)

15 Sections 462 (Application of div 4) and 652 (Requirement to notify) Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases)

**64B Applicant's obligations for certificate of public notice**

- (1) The applicant for a proposed mining claim must, within the later of the following periods to end, take the actions mentioned in subsection (2)—
  - (a) 5 business days after the certificate is given to the applicant;
  - (b) if the mining registrar at any time decides a longer period—the longer period.
- (2) For subsection (1), the actions are—
  - (a) post a copy of the certificate of public notice on the datum post of land the subject of the proposed mining claim (*relevant land*); and
  - (b) durably engrave or mark the number of the proposed mining claim on the datum post; and
  - (c) give a copy of the certificate, the application for the mining claim and any additional document about the application given by the applicant to the mining registrar to—
    - (i) each owner of relevant land or any other land necessary for access to relevant land; and
    - (ii) the relevant local government.
- (3) The applicant must ensure the copy of the certificate posted on the datum post remains so posted until the end of the last objection day for the application.

**64C Declaration of compliance with obligations**

- (1) The applicant for a proposed mining claim must, within the later of the following periods to end, give the mining registrar a statutory declaration as to the applicant's compliance with section 64B—
  - (a) 5 business days after the last objection day for the application for the mining claim;
  - (b) if the mining registrar at any time decides a longer period—the longer period.
- (2) Until the declaration is given—

- (a) the mining registrar must not grant the mining claim; and
- (b) the tribunal may refuse to hear any matter about the application.

#### **64D Continuing obligation to notify**

- (1) This section applies for an application for a mining claim, if after the last objection day but before the hearing day for the application, the applicant gives the mining registrar an additional document about the application.
- (2) The applicant must give a copy of the document to each person mentioned in subsection 64B(2)(c).

#### **65 Mining registrar may call conference in some cases**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) within 5 business days before the last objection day for an application for a mining claim (or a shorter period allowed by the mining registrar) an owner of land affected by the application gives the mining registrar a written request for a conference, stating the things the owner wants to discuss about the application; or
  - (b) for another reason, the mining registrar considers it desirable to call a conference to discuss things about a mining claim or an application for a mining claim.
- (2) If subsection (1)(a) applies, the mining registrar must call a conference about the application, by written notice given to the owner of the land and the applicant.
- (3) If subsection (1)(b) applies, the mining registrar may call a conference about the mining claim or application, by written notice given to—
  - (a) the owners of land affected by the mining claim or application; or
  - (b) the claim holder or applicant; or
  - (c) anyone else the mining registrar considers should be given notice of the conference.

- (4) The notice must state when and where the conference will be held, and what is to be discussed at the conference.
- (5) If the conference is about an application, the conference must be held before the last objection day ends.

## **66 Who may attend conference**

- (1) Apart from the mining registrar, anyone given notice of a conference about an application for a mining claim or a mining claim (a *section 65 conference*) may attend and take part in the conference.
- (2) Also, with the mining registrar's approval, someone else may be present to help a person attending the conference.
- (3) However, a person may not be represented at the conference by a lawyer.

## **67 What happens if someone does not attend**

The mining registrar may hold a section 65 conference even though someone given notice of the conference does not attend the conference.

## **68 Mining registrar's function at section 65 conference**

The mining registrar must endeavour to help those attending a section 65 conference to reach an early, inexpensive settlement of the things discussed.

## **69 Agreements and statements at section 65 conference**

- (1) If parties to a section 65 conference reach agreement about something discussed at the conference, the parties must—
  - (a) put the agreement into writing; and
  - (b) sign the agreement; and
  - (c) if the agreement is about an application for a mining claim—lodge it with the mining registrar on or before the last objection day.

- (2) A person attending or present at the conference must not disclose or publish anything said at the conference other than in an agreement mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) Nothing said by a person at the conference is admissible in a proceeding without the person's consent.

## **70 Tribunal may award costs**

- (1) If—
  - (a) a person agrees to attend a section 65 conference but does not attend; and
  - (b) someone else does attend (the *attending party*);the attending party may apply to the tribunal for an order requiring the person who did not attend to pay the attending party's reasonable costs.
- (2) If the tribunal orders a person to pay the attending party's costs, the tribunal must decide the amount of the costs of attending.
- (3) However, the tribunal must not order a person to pay costs if the tribunal is satisfied the person had a reasonable excuse for not attending the conference.

## **71 Objection to application for grant of mining claim**

- (1) An entity may, on or before the last objection day ends, lodge a written objection in the approved form to an application for a mining claim.
- (2) An owner of land who attends a conference about an application for a mining claim may, even though the time for objecting to the application has ended, lodge an objection to the application within 5 business days after—
  - (a) the day the conference ends; or
  - (b) if the applicant did not attend the conference—the day the owner attended the conference.
- (3) An objection referred to in subsection (1) or (2) shall state the grounds of objection and the facts and circumstances relied on by the objector in support of those grounds.

- (4) Each objector to an application for the grant of a mining claim shall serve upon the applicant on or before the last date that the objector may lodge an objection to that application a copy of the objection lodged by the objector.

## **72 Referral to tribunal of application and objections**

- (1) This section applies if a properly made objection to an application for the grant of a mining claim is lodged.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the later of the following, refer the application and all properly made objections to it to the tribunal for hearing—
  - (a) the last objection day for the application;
  - (b) the day a section 65 conference about the application ends.
- (3) The tribunal must fix a date for the hearing and immediately give written notice of the date to each of the following—
  - (a) the mining registrar;
  - (b) the applicant;
  - (c) each person who has lodged a properly made objection to the application.
- (4) The hearing date must be at least 20 business days after the later of the following—
  - (a) the last objection day for the application;
  - (b) the day a section 65 conference about the application ends.
- (5) If the tribunal fixes a date for the hearing and all properly made objections are withdrawn before the hearing starts, the tribunal may remit the matter to the mining registrar.
- (6) In this section—

***properly made objection*** means an objection lodged as required under section 71(1) to (3) and for which section 71(4) has been complied with.

**73 Rejection of application for grant of mining claim for noncompliance**

- (1) An application for the grant of a mining claim may be rejected by the mining registrar if the applicant fails to comply with any of the applicable provisions of this part.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after deciding to reject, give the applicant and the EPA administering authority written notice of the decision and the reasons for it.

**74 Grant of mining claim to which no objection is lodged**

- (1) This section applies to an application for a mining claim for land if—
  - (a) no-one objects to the application on or before the last objection day; and
  - (b) at least 5 business days have passed since the end of any section 65 conference about the application.
- (2) The mining registrar may grant a mining claim for the land to an applicant for the mining claim only if the mining registrar is satisfied—
  - (a) the application complies with this part and the requirements of this Act have otherwise been complied with; and
  - (b) any consents needed in relation to the land have been obtained; and
  - (c) an environmental authority (mining claim) for all activities authorised by the proposed mining claim has been issued.
- (3) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the grant, give the holder of the mining claim and the EPA administering authority written notice of the grant.
- (4) The holder must give written notice of the grant to the owners of land covered by the claim.
- (5) The notice by the holder must be given within 20 business days after the holder receives notice of the grant.

**75 Referral to tribunal of application to which no objection lodged**

- (1) Despite section 74, the mining registrar may refer an application for the grant of a mining claim to the tribunal for hearing.
- (2) The tribunal must fix a date for the hearing and immediately give written notice of the date to each of the following—
  - (a) the mining registrar;
  - (b) the applicant;
  - (c) the EPA administering authority.
- (3) The date must be at least 20 business days after the later of the following—
  - (a) the last objection day for the application;
  - (b) the day a section 65 conference about the application ends.

**76 Referral to tribunal of issue of reserve owner's consent**

- (1) This section applies if the mining registrar is not satisfied an owner of a reserve consented to an application for a mining claim over the reserve.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the later of the following, refer the issue of consent to the tribunal for its consideration—
  - (a) the last objection day for the application;
  - (b) the day a section 65 conference about the application ends.
- (3) The tribunal must fix a date for the hearing and immediately give written notice of the date to each of the following—
  - (a) the mining registrar;
  - (b) the applicant;
  - (c) the EPA administering authority;
  - (d) the owner of the reserve.



- (4) The date must be at least 20 business days after the later of the following—
  - (a) the last objection day for the application;
  - (b) the day a section 65 conference about the application ends.

## **77 Tribunal hearing**

- (1) The tribunal must hear and decide all issues in relation to an application for a mining claim and any objections to the application at the same hearing.
- (2) At a hearing pursuant to subsection (1) the tribunal shall take such evidence, shall hear such persons and inform itself in such manner as it considers appropriate in order to determine the relative merits of the application, objections and other matters (if any) and shall not be bound by any rule or practice as to evidence.
- (3) The tribunal shall not entertain an objection to an application or any ground thereof or any evidence in relation to any ground if the objection or ground is not contained in an objection that has been duly lodged in respect of the application.
- (4) The tribunal may direct an inspection or view of the land the subject of the hearing.
- (5) Nothing in subsection (1) shall prevent the adjournment from time to time of a hearing.
- (6) Nothing in subsection (1) shall prevent the question of compensation being determined by the tribunal pursuant to section 85.<sup>16</sup>
- (7) The Minister may require at any time the tribunal to advise the reasons why a hearing under this section has not been finalised.

---

16 Section 85 (Compensation to be settled before granting of mining claim)

**78 Tribunal's determination on hearing**

- (1) Upon the hearing by the tribunal under this part of all matters in respect of an application for the grant of a mining claim the tribunal may—
  - (a) instruct the mining registrar to reject the application;
  - (b) instruct the mining registrar to grant the mining claim—
    - (i) upon compliance with any terms and conditions imposed by the mining registrar on the applicant with respect to the application or the grant; and
    - (ii) in the case where the application relates to land that is a reserve and the consent of the owner of the reserve to the grant has been obtained;
  - (c) in the case where the application relates to land that is a reserve and the owner of the reserve does not consent to the grant of the mining claim—
    - (i) make an instruction referred to in paragraph (a); or
    - (ii) recommend to the Minister that the Governor in Council should consent to the grant of the mining claim and, the terms and conditions (if any) to which the mining claim should be subject.
- (2) The tribunal shall not—
  - (a) give an instruction to the mining registrar directed towards the grant of a mining claim;
  - (b) make a recommendation to the Minister directed towards the giving of consent by the Governor in Council to the grant of a mining claim;if it is satisfied that—
  - (c) the provisions of this part have not been complied with; or
  - (d) the public right and interest would be adversely affected by the grant of the mining claim; or
  - (e) there is good reason to refuse to grant the mining claim.
- (3) The tribunal may give an instruction or make a recommendation referred to in subsection (2) notwithstanding

that the question of compensation has not been determined as provided in section 85.

- (4) The tribunal on the application of an objector or owner may award costs against an applicant for a mining claim who abandons the application or does not pursue the application at a hearing.
- (5) The tribunal on the application of an applicant for a mining claim may award costs against an objector who withdraws the objection or does not pursue the objection at a hearing.

**79 Consent to grant of mining claim over reserve by Governor in Council**

- (1) After considering a recommendation made pursuant to section 78(1)(c)(ii) by the tribunal in respect of the application for the grant of a mining claim, the Minister shall either instruct the mining registrar to reject the application or recommend to the Governor in Council that the Governor in Council consent to the grant.
- (2) The Governor in Council, upon the recommendation of the Minister may consent (subject to such terms and conditions as the Governor in Council determines) to the grant of a mining claim over land that is reserve.

**80 Grant of mining claim at instruction of tribunal or with consent of Governor in Council**

- (1) Upon the instruction of the tribunal so to do or the consent to the grant by the Governor in Council, the mining registrar shall grant the relevant mining claim if the mining registrar is satisfied that—
  - (a) all necessary consents to the grant have been obtained; and
  - (b) the question of compensation as provided in section 85 has been determined.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the grant, give the holder of the mining claim and the EPA administering authority written notice of the grant.

- (3) The holder of the mining claim must give written notice of the grant to the owners of land covered by the claim.
- (4) The notice must be given within 20 business days after the holder receives notice by the holder of the grant.

## **81 Conditions of mining claim**

- (1) Each mining claim shall be subject to—
    - (a) a condition that the holder shall use the land comprised in the mining claim bona fide for the purpose for which the mining claim was granted and in accordance with this Act and the conditions of the mining claim and for no other purpose;
    - (b) a condition that the holder shall not assign or mortgage the mining claim or any part thereof without the consent in writing of the mining registrar;
    - (c) a condition that the holder shall furnish at such times and in such manner as required by the mining registrar reports, returns, documents and statements and other materials whatever;
    - (d) a condition that the holder shall maintain the surface of the land comprised in the mining claim in a tidy state during the term of the mining claim;
    - (e) a condition that the holder must carry out improvement restoration for the mining claim;
    - (f) a condition that prospecting and mining shall be conducted on the land comprising the mining claim by such method or in such manner as is provided for in or applies in respect of the mining claim;
    - (g) a condition that the holder—
      - (i) shall not erect any permanent building or other structure whatever; and
      - (ii) prior to the termination of the mining claim, for whatever cause, shall remove any building or structure erected by the holder and all mining equipment and plant;
- on or in the land comprised in the mining claim;

- (h) a condition that without the prior approval of the mining registrar the holder shall not obstruct or interfere with any right of access had by any person in respect of land the subject of the mining claim;
  - (i) where the mining claim is in respect of land that is a reserve, a condition that the holder shall comply with the terms and conditions upon which the consent of the owner or of the Governor in Council to the grant of the mining claim was given;
  - (j) a condition that the holder shall make all payments of compensation and comply with all terms of any agreement or determination relating to compensation at the time or times as agreed or determined pursuant to section 85 or 86;
  - (k) a condition that the holder—
    - (i) shall pay the rental as prescribed; and
    - (ii) shall pay the royalty as prescribed; and
    - (iii) shall pay all local authority rates and charges lawfully chargeable against the holder in respect of the land comprised in the mining claim; and
    - (iv) shall deposit as required by the mining registrar any security from time to time under this Act;
  - (l) a condition that the holder shall maintain the marking out of the land the subject of the mining claim including any survey pegs during the term of the claim but that boundary posts or cairns need not be maintained after the land has been surveyed;
  - (m) a condition that the holder shall comply with this Act and other mining legislation;
  - (n) such other conditions as are prescribed;
  - (o) such other conditions as the mining registrar may impose (including such conditions as the tribunal may determine pursuant to this part).
- (2) If in any case there is conflict between a condition determined by the tribunal and a condition determined by the Governor in Council, then to the extent of the conflict the determination of the Governor in Council shall prevail.

- (3) Despite subsections (1) and (2), a condition must not be, determined, imposed or prescribed if it is the same, or substantially the same, or inconsistent with, a relevant environmental condition for the mining claim.
- (4) A mining claim shall contain a condition as to the work commitment required of the holder.
- (5) Notwithstanding subsection (1), if the applicant for a mining claim satisfies—
  - (a) the mining registrar; or
  - (b) the tribunal when giving an instruction under this part; or
  - (c) the Governor in Council when giving consent to the grant of a mining claim under this part;

that any of the conditions prescribed in subsection (1)(e), (g)(ii) and (l) should not be imposed the mining claim may be granted without the imposition of that condition or those conditions.

### **81A Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a negotiated agreement under part 17, division 4, provides for the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, a mining claim; and
  - (b) the agreement includes conditions to be complied with by 1 or more of the parties to the agreement; and
  - (c) the mining registrar consents to the mining claim being subject to 1 or more of the conditions (the *consent conditions*); and
  - (d) the act is done.
- (2) The mining claim is subject to the consent conditions.

**81B Other agreement conditions**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a registered indigenous use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, or an agreement mentioned in section 31(1)(b) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act, provides for the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, a mining claim; and
  - (b) the State is a party to the agreement; and
  - (c) the agreement includes a requirement that, if the act is done, the mining claim must be subject to conditions stated in the agreement (the *stated conditions*); and
  - (d) the act is done.
- (2) The mining claim is subject to the stated conditions.

**82 Variation of conditions of mining claim**

- (1) The conditions to which a mining claim is for the time being subject, may be varied by the mining registrar in terms not inconsistent with this Act upon the agreement in writing of the holder of the mining claim.
- (2) However, the mining registrar must not vary a condition of a mining claim if—
  - (a) the condition was decided or recommended by the tribunal under the native title provisions; or
  - (b) the condition as varied is the same, or substantially the same, or inconsistent with, a relevant environmental condition for the mining claim.
- (3) A mining claim that is duly varied pursuant to subsection (1) shall thereafter until again varied, be subject to its conditions as so varied.
- (4) Particulars of every variation of a mining claim shall be endorsed on the certificate of grant of that mining claim.
- (5) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after a variation under this section, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the variation.

**83 Provision of security**

- (1) Before a mining claim is granted or renewed, the mining registrar taking into consideration the outline under section 61(1)(j)(iv) shall determine the amount of the security to be deposited by the holder of that mining claim as reasonable security for—
  - (a) compliance with the conditions of the mining claim; and
  - (b) compliance with the provisions of this Act; and
  - (c) rectification of any actual damage that may be caused by any person whilst purporting to act under the authority of the mining claim to pre-existing improvements for the mining claim; and
  - (d) amounts (other than penalties) payable to the State under this Act.
- (2) The Governor in Council, when giving consent to the grant of a mining claim pursuant to section 79, may determine the amount of the security to be deposited by the holder of the mining claim.
- (3) The tribunal, when instructing the mining registrar to grant an application for the grant of a mining claim, may determine the amount of the security to be deposited by the holder of the mining claim.
- (4) Where, in respect of an application for the grant of a mining claim, an amount of security is determined by the Governor in Council pursuant to subsection (2) or by the tribunal pursuant to subsection (3), that amount shall be determined by the mining registrar as the security pursuant to subsection (1) in respect of that mining claim.
- (5) In respect of an application for the grant of a mining claim, an amount determined by the Governor in Council shall prevail over an amount determined by the tribunal.
- (6) A mining claim shall not be granted or renewed until the applicant for the grant or renewal of the mining claim deposits the security as determined under this section.



- (7) A mining registrar for the district in which a mining claim is granted who is satisfied that any condition of the mining claim or any provision of this Act has not been complied with or that damage referred to in subsection (1)(c) has been caused by any person purporting to act under the authority of the mining claim or who enters land upon the instruction of the holder may require that person to take all action necessary to rectify that noncompliance or damage and, save where the person was not the holder and was not upon the land with the holder's approval at the time the damage was caused, may utilise for that purpose the whole or part of the amount of the security deposited in respect of that mining claim.
- (8) If, at any time (whether during, or within 20 business days after the expiration of the term of a mining claim) the amount or any part of the amount deposited under this section is utilised under subsection (7) or the mining registrar considers that, in view of the damage caused or likely to be caused by any person purporting to act under the authority of the mining claim or upon the instruction of the holder or for any other reason, a further amount of security should be deposited in respect of that mining claim, the mining registrar shall require the holder or former holder of the mining claim, within the time specified by the mining registrar to deposit the further security.
- (9) A mining registrar may make a requirement referred to in subsection (8) notwithstanding that the amount of the security deposited was originally determined by the Governor in Council or the tribunal.
- (10) The mining registrar may accept a bond or a guarantee or indemnity by, or other financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or another credit provider approved by the mining registrar or other form of security acceptable to the mining registrar as the whole or part of the security to be deposited under this section.
- (11) It shall be a condition of a mining claim that the holder shall deposit security or further security from time to time in accordance with a requirement made as provided by this section.

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (12) If a mining claim terminates, the mining registrar may, not earlier than 20 business days after the termination, refund the amount of security held for the mining claim, after deducting any amount used under subsection (7).
- (13) The mining registrar must refund the amount to the holder of the claim or in accordance with any written direction the holder gives to the mining registrar.
- (14) However, before refunding the security, the mining registrar may also deduct the amount the mining registrar considers appropriate to apply in the following order towards—
  - (a) rectifying anything caused by noncompliance with—
    - (i) a condition of the mining claim; or
    - (ii) an order given to the holder by the mining registrar;
  - (b) amounts (other than penalties) the holder owes to the State under this Act or the conditions of the mining claim (including amounts that became payable before or after the termination of the claim);
  - (c) rates and charges (including interest on unpaid rates and charges) owing to a local government for the mining claim by the former holder.
- (15) Subsection (12) does not limit the mining registrar's powers under subsection (16).
- (16) If the mining registrar accepts a bond, guarantee or indemnity by, or another financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or credit provider as security under this section, any amount payable to the holder must be refunded to the financial institution, insurance company or credit provider and not to the holder of the mining claim to which the security relates.

**84 Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent mining claim**

If the holder of a mining claim or an expired mining claim makes application for a further mining claim, the mining registrar may, instead of refunding the whole or part of the security deposited in respect of the existing or expired mining claim, retain that security or part thereof (together with any further security fixed by the mining registrar) as the security (in which case it shall be taken to be or to be part of the security) deposited by the applicant in respect of the further mining claim.

**85 Compensation to be settled before grant or renewal of mining claim**

- (1) A mining claim shall not be granted or renewed unless—
  - (a) compensation has been determined (whether by agreement or by determination of the tribunal) between the applicant and each person who is the owner of land the subject of the application and of any surface access to that land; or
  - (b) there is no person (other than the applicant) who is the owner of any of the land referred to in paragraph (a);and the conditions of the agreement or determination have been or are being complied with by the applicant.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a), where the tribunal makes a determination of an amount of compensation, that compensation is not determined until—
  - (a) where no appeal against that determination is lodged within the period prescribed therefor—upon the expiration of that period; or
  - (b) where an appeal is duly lodged against that determination—upon the determination of that appeal.
- (3) An agreement made pursuant to subsection (1)(a) shall not be effective unless and until—
  - (a) it is in writing signed by or on behalf of the parties; and
  - (b) it is filed in the office of the mining registrar.

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (4) If an agreement referred to in subsection (3) is required by any law of Queensland to be stamped, it shall not be filed until it is stamped according to law.
- (5) At any time before an agreement is made pursuant to this section, a person who could be a party to such agreement may apply in writing to the mining registrar to have the tribunal determine the amount of compensation and the terms, conditions and times of payment thereof.
- (7) Upon an application made under subsection (5), or the referral of a matter under section 85A(2), the tribunal shall settle the amount of compensation an owner of land is entitled to as compensation for—
  - (a) deprivation of possession of the surface of land of the owner;
  - (b) diminution of the value of the land of the owner or any improvements thereon;
  - (c) diminution of the use made or which may be made of the land of the owner or any improvements thereon;
  - (d) severance of any part of the land from other parts thereof or from other land of the owner;
  - (e) any surface rights of access;
  - (f) all loss or expense that arises;as a consequence of the grant or renewal of the mining claim.
- (8) In assessing the amount of compensation payable under subsection (7)—
  - (a) where it is necessary for the owner of land to obtain replacement land of a similar productivity, nature and area or resettle himself or herself or relocate his or her livestock and other chattels on other parts of his or her land or on the replacement land, all reasonable costs incurred or likely to be incurred by the owner in obtaining replacement land, the owner's resettlement and the relocation of the owner's livestock or other chattels as at the date of the assessment shall be considered;
  - (b) no allowance shall be made for any minerals that are or may be on or under the surface of the land concerned;

- (c) if the owner of land proves that the status and use currently being made (prior to the application for the grant or renewal of the mining claim) of certain land is such that a premium should be applied, an appropriate amount of compensation may be determined;
  - (d) loss that arises may include loss of profits to the owner calculated by comparison of the usage being made of land prior to the lodgment of the relevant application for the grant or renewal of a mining claim and the usage that could be made of that land after the grant or renewal;
  - (e) an additional amount shall be determined to reflect the compulsory nature of action taken under this part which amount, together with any amount determined pursuant to paragraph (c), shall be not less than 10% of the aggregate amount determined under subsection (7).
- (9) In any case the tribunal may determine the amounts and the terms, conditions and times when payments aggregating the total compensation payable shall be payable.
- (10) The tribunal's determination of any matter under this section shall be deemed to be an agreement between the parties and shall be given effect accordingly.
- (11) The tribunal shall give written notice of its determination to all parties and may make such order as to costs between the parties to the determination as it thinks fit.
- (12) If compensation has not been agreed upon or the question of the amount of compensation earlier referred to the tribunal for determination pursuant to the preceding provisions of this section in respect of an application for the grant of a mining claim—
- (a) in the case where no objection to the application is duly lodged—upon the expiration of 3 months from the last date for the receipt of objection to the application; or
  - (b) in the case where the tribunal instructs the mining registrar to grant the mining claim—upon the expiration of 3 months from the date of giving the instructions; or
  - (c) in the case where the Governor in Council consents to the grant of the mining claim—upon the expiration of 3 months from the date of the giving of that consent;

the mining registrar shall refer the question of the amount of compensation payable to the tribunal which shall make a determination in accordance with this section.

- (13) An amount of compensation decided by agreement between the parties or the tribunal is binding on the parties and the parties' personal representatives, successors and assigns.

**85A Referral to tribunal of issue of compensation if not settled within 3 months after term of claim ends**

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if—
- (a) compensation is to be determined under section 85(1)(a) for the renewal of a mining claim; and
  - (b) the compensation is not determined within 3 months after the current term of the claim would, apart from section 93A, end.
- (2) The mining registrar must refer the issue of compensation to the tribunal for its determination.
- (3) The tribunal must fix a date for the hearing and immediately give written notice of the date to each of the following—
- (a) the mining registrar;
  - (b) the applicant;
  - (c) each of the land owners involved in the determination under section 85(1).
- (4) The date must be at least 20 business days after the day the tribunal fixes the date.

**86 Appeal against tribunal's determination upon compensation**

- (1) A party aggrieved by a determination of the tribunal (the *tribunal at first instance*) made under section 85 may, within 20 business days of the date of that determination or within such further period as the tribunal (appeal), on the application of that party in that behalf prior to the lodgment of the appeal, considers appropriate in any particular circumstances, appeal against the determination to the tribunal (appeal).

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (2) The appeal shall be instituted by, within the time and in the manner prescribed—
  - (a) lodging in the tribunal, written notice of appeal which shall include the grounds of appeal; and
  - (b) serving copies of the notice of appeal on the mining registrar and each other party; and
  - (c) giving security (approved by the registrar of the tribunal) for the costs of the appeal.
- (3) The tribunal (appeal) shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine an appeal under this section.
- (4) Upon hearing an appeal under subsection (1) the tribunal (appeal) may—
  - (a) vary the determination of the tribunal at first instance in such a way as it thinks just; or
  - (b) disallow the appeal and confirm the determination of the tribunal at first instance;and may make such order as to costs of the appeal as it thinks fit.
- (5) In deciding an appeal, the tribunal (appeal) must consider the things relevant to the appeal that the tribunal at first instance was required to consider in making the decision appealed against.
- (6) The tribunal (appeal) shall not admit further evidence upon an appeal from a determination of the tribunal at first instance under subsection (1) unless—
  - (a) it is satisfied that admission of the evidence is necessary to avoid grave injustice and there is sufficient reason that the evidence was not previously adduced; or
  - (b) the appellant and respondent agree to its admission.
- (7) The determination of the tribunal (appeal) on appeal shall be final and conclusive.
- (8) In this section—

***tribunal (appeal)*** means the tribunal constituted in the way required under the *Land and Resources Tribunal Act 1999* for an appeal under this section.

**87 Public trustee may act in certain circumstances**

- (1) If there is doubt as to the identity of the owner of land or the owner of land can not be found, the tribunal may determine that the public trustee shall represent the owner for the purpose of any negotiation or proceeding under section 85 or 86.
- (2) Any action taken or thing done or omitted to be done by the public trustee as representative of the owner of land pursuant to subsection (1) shall be taken for all purposes to be taken, done or omitted by that owner.
- (3) Where, pursuant to subsection (2) the public trustee represents an owner of land, for the purposes of this part any moneys paid to the public trustee under any agreement or determination made under section 85 or 86 shall be deemed to have been paid to the owner.

**88 Issue of certificate of grant of mining claim**

A mining registrar who grants a mining claim shall issue to the applicant for the grant a certificate of grant in the approved form which shall bear the number endorsed on the certificate of application for the mining claim.

**89 Reasons for rejection of application for grant of mining claim**

A mining registrar who rejects an application for the grant of a mining claim must, within 5 business days after deciding to reject, give the applicant and the EPA administering authority a written notice stating the decision and the reasons for it.

**90 Duty of holder of mining claim to mark boundary posts**

Unless the land the subject of a mining claim has been surveyed, the holder of a mining claim shall, within 5 business days of the date of grant of the mining claim, engrave or in some way durably mark on every boundary post of the land the subject of the mining claim or cairn erected as prescribed in lieu thereof, the number of that claim appearing on the certificate of grant of the mining claim and, until the land is



surveyed, shall maintain those posts or cairns duly engraved or marked while the mining claim subsists and the land is not surveyed.

### **91 Initial term of mining claim**

- (1) The initial term of a mining claim shall, unless the mining claim is sooner terminated, be for a period specified in the grant (not exceeding 10 years) commencing on the first day of the month which next follows the day on which the mining claim is granted but shall not be for a term longer than the period in respect of which compensation has been agreed or determined pursuant to section 85 or 86.<sup>17</sup>
- (2) From the grant of a mining claim to the commencement of the initial term thereof the holder shall have all the entitlements, powers, duties and functions the holder has during the term of the mining claim except section 95<sup>18</sup> shall not apply.

### **92 Mining claim may be specified it is not renewable**

- (1) If it is considered that the land the subject of the application for the grant or renewal of a mining claim is or will be required for some purpose other than mining, the mining claim may be granted or renewed subject to a condition that the holder is not entitled to have the mining claim renewed.
- (2) Where a mining claim is granted or renewed subject to a condition referred to in subsection (1), the applicant shall be advised the reasons therefor.

### **93 Renewal of mining claim**

- (1) The holder of a mining claim, including a mining claim that is subject to a condition referred to in section 92, may, at least 6 months (or such shorter period as the mining registrar in the particular case allows) prior to and not more than 12 months

---

17 Section 85 (Compensation to be settled before granting of mining claim) or 86 (Appeal against tribunal's determination upon compensation)

18 Section 95 (Rental payable on mining claim)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

before the expiration of the current term of the mining claim, make application for renewal of the mining claim.

- (2) An application for renewal of a mining claim shall—
  - (a) be made in the prescribed way to the mining registrar for the mining district in which is situated the land the subject of the mining claim;
  - (b) be accompanied by the prescribed application for renewal fee.
- (3) If, in respect of an application for renewal of a mining claim, the mining registrar is satisfied that—
  - (a) in a case where the mining claim is subject to a condition that the holder is not entitled to have the mining claim renewed, the mining claim should be renewed and, where the condition was imposed by the Governor in Council or the tribunal, the Governor in Council or tribunal consents to the renewal; and
  - (b) the holder has observed and performed all the conditions applicable to that mining claim and on the holder's part to be observed and performed; and
  - (c) the holder has complied with this Act and other mining legislation applicable to the holder in respect of that mining claim; and
  - (d) the land, the subject of the mining claim still contains workable quantities of mineral or mineral bearing ore;then the mining registrar must, subject to part 14, division 5, grant a renewal of that mining claim in the name of the holder for such further term, not exceeding 10 years, as the mining registrar thinks fit subject to the prescribed conditions and such further conditions as the mining registrar determines but the further term shall not include a period that is not covered by an agreement as to or a determination of compensation pursuant to section 85 or 86.
- (4) The mining registrar must give the EPA administering authority a copy of the application within 5 business days after the later of the following—
  - (a) the day the application is made;

- (b) when the mining registrar is satisfied under subsection (3).
- (5) The mining registrar shall not reject an application for renewal of a mining claim until the mining registrar has, by notice in writing in the approved form served on the holder of the mining claim, called upon the holder to show cause within the time specified therein why the application should not be rejected and such cause has not been shown to the satisfaction of the mining registrar.
- (8) The holder of a renewed mining claim must give written notice of the claim's renewal to the owners of the land covered by the claim.
- (9) The notice must be given within 20 business days after the holder receives notice of the renewal.

### **93A Continuation of claim while application being dealt with**

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if—
  - (a) a properly made application for renewal of a mining claim is not withdrawn, refused or granted before the claim's expiry day ends; and
  - (b) after the expiry day, the holder—
    - (i) continues to pay rental on the claim and other amounts required to be paid under this Act; and
    - (ii) otherwise complies with this Act and the claim conditions.
- (2) The claim continues in force subject to the rights, entitlements and obligations in effect immediately before the end of the expiry day until the application is withdrawn, refused or granted.
- (3) In this section—

***properly made application***, for renewal of a mining claim, means an application that complies with section 93(2).

**93B When term of renewed claim starts**

- (1) If a mining claim is renewed before its expiry day ends, the term of the renewed claim starts on the day after the expiry day.
- (2) If the claim is renewed after the expiry day, the term of the renewed claim is taken to have started on the day after the expiry day.

**93C When new conditions of renewed claim start**

- (1) If a renewed mining claim is subject to conditions (the *new conditions*) different from, or not included in, the claim conditions applying immediately before its renewal, the new conditions apply from the later of the following—
  - (a) the start of the term of the renewed claim;
  - (b) the day the renewal is granted.
- (2) However, if the claim is continued in force under section 93A, the holder must pay rental on the claim from the day after its expiry day at the rate that would have been payable, from time to time, if the renewed mining claim had been renewed on the day after the expiry day.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies even though payment of rental may be a condition of the claim.

**93D Renewal of claim must be in name of last recorded assignee**

- (1) This section applies if an assignment of a mining claim is approved and recorded under section 96(6)—
  - (a) after the date on which an application for renewal of the claim is made; and
  - (b) before the application is decided by the Minister.
- (2) Any renewal granted on the application must be in the name of the assignee under the last assignment approved and recorded before the grant of the renewal.

**94 Reasons for rejection of application for renewal of mining claim**

A mining registrar who rejects an application for the renewal of a mining claim must, within 5 business days after deciding to reject, give written notice to the applicant stating the reasons for rejection.

**95 Rental payable on mining claim**

- (1) Upon the grant of a mining claim rental shall first be payable thereon with respect to the period from the commencement of the term of the mining claim to 31 December of that year (the *first rental period*) and shall be paid within 20 business days (or such longer period as the mining registrar in the particular case approves) of the grant of the mining claim.
- (2) The amount of the rental payable in respect of the first rental period shall be an amount that bears to the yearly rental prescribed pursuant to subsection (4) for the year in which the first rental period falls the same proportion that the number of whole calendar months of the first rental period bears to 12.
- (3) In respect of each year or part thereof of the term of a mining claim (other than the first rental period) a full year's rental shall be payable in advance not later than 31 December of the previous year.
- (4) If the full year's rental is paid in advance as prescribed by subsection (3), the amount of the rental shall be the amount prescribed in respect of the year in which the rental period falls.
- (5) If rental is not paid in advance as prescribed by subsection (3)—
  - (a) the mining registrar shall, prior to 31 January of that year, notify the holder of and any person holding a recorded interest in the mining claim that the rental has not been paid as prescribed by subsection (3) and of the amount of rental payable as prescribed by paragraph (b); and

- (b) the amount of the full year's rental shall be payable before 1 April of that year and shall be an amount equal to the amount prescribed in respect of the year in which the rental period falls plus an amount equal to 15% of that prescribed amount.
- (6) Upon the renewal of a mining claim, no further rental shall be payable in respect of the period that, if the renewal was a grant of a mining claim, would be the first rental period except where that period commences on 1 January.
- (7) Except as provided in subsection (8), where in any year a mining claim is surrendered or terminated through effluxion of time and is not renewed, there shall be refundable to the last holder of the mining claim an amount that bears to the amount of the rental that was paid in respect of that year the same proportion that the number of whole calendar months from—
  - (a) the date of surrender or termination; or
  - (b) the date of rejection of the application for renewal;whichever is the later, to 31 December of that year bears to 12.
- (8) No amount shall be refunded pursuant to subsection (7) where a mining claim is surrendered within its first rental period after its original grant.

## **96 Assignment or mortgage of mining claim**

- (1) A mining claim, or an interest in a mining claim, may be assigned or mortgaged only if—
  - (a) the mining registrar has, under this section, approved the assignment or mortgage; and
  - (b) the assignment or mortgage is made in the approved form and lodged with the mining registrar; and
  - (c) the lodgment is accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after an assignment is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.

- (3) The holder of a mining claim desirous of assigning or mortgaging the holder's interest in the mining claim shall apply in writing to the mining registrar for the mining registrar's approval to that exercise and shall furnish to the mining registrar such information with respect thereof as the mining registrar requires.
- (4) An application under subsection (3) in respect of an assignment shall be accompanied by the consent in writing of an existing mortgagee.
- (5) Upon an application made pursuant to subsection (3) the mining registrar shall cause the applicant to be given notice—
  - (a) that, subject to compliance with this Act in respect thereof and with any conditions specified in the notice within 3 months from the date of the notice or such other period as is specified in the notice, the mining registrar will approve the exercise; or
  - (b) that the mining registrar does not approve the exercise.
- (6) If the mining registrar indicates that the mining registrar will approve the exercise, then upon receipt within the prescribed time of the appropriate document that gives effect to an assignment or mortgage referred to in the indication, compliance with this Act and all conditions specified in the notice given pursuant to subsection (5)(a) in respect thereof and payment of the prescribed fee, the assignment or mortgage shall be approved and such particulars thereof as are necessary to give effect to or evidence that assignment or mortgage shall be recorded in the appropriate register and endorsed on the certificate of grant of the mining claim.
- (7) Notwithstanding that subsections (3) and (5) have not been complied with in a particular case, the mining registrar may approve and record particulars of an assignment or mortgage as provided in subsection (5) if the mining registrar is satisfied that, if subsection (3) had been complied with the mining registrar would have approved the assignment or mortgage and any conditions the mining registrar would have specified under subsection (5) have been complied with.
- (8) An assignment or mortgage of a mining claim shall not be in respect of part only of the land the subject of the mining claim.

- (9) The mining registrar shall not approve the assignment of a mining claim unless it is accompanied by the approval in writing of any existing mortgagee and a duly completed royalty return prescribed by part 9 together with royalty payable to the Crown or evidence of payment to the person entitled thereto as prescribed in part 9.
- (10) A purported assignment or mortgage of a mining claim or of an interest therein shall not be effective unless it is made and approved in accordance with this section and shall take effect on the day next following its approval by the mining registrar under subsection (6) or (7).
- (11) Within 20 business days of the mining registrar granting approval of an assignment under this section, the assignee shall notify the owners of the relevant land of that approval.

## **97 Lodgment of caveat**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person who claims a right or interest in or in respect of a mining claim may by a caveat in the approved form forbid the approval of any assignment or mortgage in respect of the mining claim (save any assignment or mortgage the approval of which is excepted in the caveat) either absolutely or until after notice of intention to approve such an assignment or mortgage is served on the caveator.
- (2) A caveat duly lodged pursuant to this section does not apply in respect of—
  - (a) an assignment or mortgage duly lodged with the mining registrar before the lodgment of the caveat; or
  - (b) an assignment or mortgage the application for approval of which was lodged with the mining registrar before the lodgment of the caveat.
- (3) A caveat referred to in subsection (1) shall—
  - (a) be in the approved form; and
  - (b) specify the name and address for service of 1 person upon whom any notice may be served on behalf of the caveator or caveators; and
  - (c) identify the mining claim concerned; and



- (d) specify the nature of the right or interest claimed by the caveator; and
- (e) specify the period during which it is to continue in force; and
- (f) be signed by the caveator, the caveator's solicitor or other person authorised in writing by the caveator; and
- (g) if any person consents to the lodging of the caveat, be endorsed with that person's consent; and
- (h) be lodged at the office of the mining registrar for the mining district in which is situated the land the subject of the mining claim concerned; and
- (i) be accompanied by the prescribed lodgment fee.

#### **98 Mining registrar's functions upon receipt of caveat**

Upon receipt of a duly lodged caveat referred to in section 97, a mining registrar shall—

- (a) notify the holder or holders of the affected mining claim; and
- (b) notify all other persons who have an interest in the mining claim recorded in the register including any subsisting prior caveator; and
- (c) record the existence of the caveat in the register.

#### **99 Effect of caveat**

- (1) For so long as a caveat remains in force, a mining registrar shall not approve any assignment or mortgage in respect of the mining claim identified in the caveat unless—
  - (a) the assignment or mortgage is specifically excepted in the caveat; or
  - (b) the written consent of the caveator in the approved form to the approval of the assignment or mortgage is lodged with the mining registrar.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), unless and until a caveat is removed or withdrawn as prescribed, a caveat continues in force—

- (a) in a case where the consent of each holder of the mining claim concerned has been lodged with the caveat, for the term specified in the caveat or, if no term is specified, indefinitely; or
- (b) in a case where the caveat (not being a caveat referred to in paragraph (a)) specifies a period of not more than 3 months during which it is to continue in force, until the expiration of that period; or
- (c) in a case where the tribunal so orders for so long as that order remains in force; or
- (d) in any other case, until the expiration of 3 months from the date of lodgment of the caveat.

#### **100 Second caveat not available to same person**

When a caveat has lapsed or has been removed or withdrawn as prescribed, it shall not be competent to the caveator to lodge in respect of the same mining claim another caveat whereby the caveator claims the same or substantially the same right or interest unless—

- (a) the consent of each holder of the mining claim has been lodged with the last mentioned caveat; or
- (b) the tribunal so orders.

#### **101 Removal or withdrawal of caveat**

- (1) A caveat lodged pursuant to section 97 that has lapsed shall be removed by the mining registrar and the register noted accordingly.
- (2) Upon the application of a person who has a right or interest (present or prospective) in a mining claim affected by a caveat or whose right (present or prospective) to deal with a mining claim is affected by a caveat lodged in respect of the mining claim, the caveator may be summonsed to attend the tribunal to show cause why the caveat should not be removed.
- (3) The tribunal may, upon the return of a summons referred to in subsection (2) or at any later time to which the hearing may be adjourned, make such order either *ex parte* or otherwise as the tribunal deems just.

- (4) If the tribunal orders that a caveat be removed, the mining registrar shall give effect to the order.
- (5) A caveator may withdraw his or her caveat at any time by notifying the mining registrar in writing.
- (6) The removal or withdrawal of a caveat shall be effected by the mining registrar recording the removal or withdrawal in the register.

### **102 Compensation for lodging caveat without reasonable cause**

A person who lodges a caveat in respect of a mining claim without reasonable cause is liable to pay such damages as may be recovered at law by any person aggrieved.

### **103 Correction of certificate of grant of mining claim**

- (1) If, at any time, the mining registrar is of the opinion that a certificate of grant of a mining claim should be corrected by reason that—
  - (a) the boundaries and area of the land comprised in the mining claim have been more accurately ascertained; or
  - (b) facts have appeared or been established since the grant of the mining claim justifying correction of the certificate to more accurately reflect the holder's entitlements under the claim; or
  - (c) the certificate is defective owing to error in its preparation;

the mining registrar may correct the certificate and shall record details thereof in the register of mining claims kept by the mining registrar and endorse the certificate accordingly.

- (2) Where a certificate of grant of a mining claim is corrected under this section the certificate shall be construed and operate as if it had originally been issued as corrected.

**104 Replacement of certificate of grant of mining claim**

- (1) Where the mining registrar is satisfied that a certificate of grant of a mining claim should be cancelled and a replacement certificate issued in its place, the mining registrar shall cancel the certificate in question and cause a replacement certificate to be issued in its place.
- (2) A replacement certificate of grant of a mining claim issued under this section—
  - (a) shall be the certificate of grant issued in respect of the mining claim concerned in place of the certificate previously issued in respect thereof and cancelled under this section which last mentioned certificate shall, upon the issue of the fresh certificate, cease to be of any force or effect; and
  - (b) may bear a form of endorsement which briefly traces the devolution of the title from the original holder of the mining claim to the person appearing as holder thereof at the time the replacement certificate is issued; and
  - (c) shall bear endorsement of all apparently subsisting mortgages affecting the mining claim and endorsed on the certificate so cancelled; and
  - (d) shall be delivered to the person who appears to the mining registrar to be lawfully entitled to possession thereof.
- (3) The mining registrar shall cause the certificate so cancelled to be suitably endorsed and a suitable recording made in the register that a replacement certificate has been issued in its place.
- (4) The cancelled certificate shall be retained by the mining registrar.

**105 Mining other minerals**

- (1) The holder of a mining claim may lodge an application in writing with the mining registrar for approval to mine specified minerals, being minerals not specified in the mining claim, in respect of the land the subject of the mining claim.
- (2) The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

- (3) An application referred to in subsection (1) and any other application for the grant of a mining lease in respect of the same minerals shall take priority according to the order of the time and date the applications are lodged as prescribed.
- (4) Upon the mining registrar approving an application under this section and compliance by the applicant with any conditions imposed by the mining registrar, the relevant mining claim shall be deemed to include the specified minerals and shall be subject to such additional conditions as are prescribed in respect of such mining claim or as the mining registrar considers appropriate.
- (5) The mining registrar shall not approve an application under this section that could adversely affect any conditions imposed in respect of the mining claim by the tribunal or the Governor in Council.
- (6) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after approving an application under this section, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the approval.

### **106 Contravention by holder of mining claim**

- (1) A mining registrar who considers that the holder of a mining claim—
  - (a) has carried out activities that are not bona fide for the purposes for which the mining claim was granted; or
  - (b) has failed to pay the royalty or any other moneys payable thereunder (other than rental) or in respect thereof by the due date for payment; or
  - (c) has failed to comply with any condition that is to be observed and performed by the holder under or in respect of the mining claim, other than a condition with respect to matters referred to in subsection (2)(a) or (b);may—
  - (d) cancel the mining claim; or
  - (e) impose on the holder a penalty not exceeding 100 penalty units.

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (2) A mining registrar who considers that the holder of a mining claim—
- (a) in any year has failed after notice given to the holder in accordance with section 95(5) to pay before 1 April of that year the amount of the rental payable under that section by that date in respect of that mining claim; or
  - (b) has failed to pay a penalty imposed on the holder pursuant to subsection (1)(e) within the time allowed for the payment by the mining registrar;
- may cancel the mining claim.
- (3) A mining registrar shall not act pursuant to subsection (1) until the mining registrar has, by notice in writing in the approved form served on the holder of the mining claim, called upon the holder to show cause within the time specified therein why the mining claim should not be cancelled or a penalty imposed and served a copy of the notice on every person who currently holds a recorded interest in respect of the mining claim at the person's address last recorded by the mining registrar and such cause has not been shown to the satisfaction of the mining registrar.
- (4) A mining registrar who pursuant to this section cancels a mining claim shall notify the holder accordingly stating the reason for the cancellation.
- (5) The cancellation of a mining claim under this section shall take effect on the day next following the mining registrar's determination to cancel the mining claim.
- (6) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the cancellation takes effect, give written notice of it to the EPA administering authority.

**107 Surrender of mining claim**

- (1) The holder of a mining claim may surrender the mining claim by lodging with the mining registrar—
  - (a) a notice of surrender in the approved form; and
  - (b) a duly completed royalty return prescribed by part 9<sup>19</sup> together with the royalty payable to the Crown as prescribed by part 9 or evidence of payment to the person entitled thereto; and
  - (c) the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after a notice of surrender is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (3) Upon a surrender of a mining claim, all adjustments between the holder and the Crown in respect of the payment of rental, fees and other moneys shall be at the discretion of the mining registrar.
- (4) Where any moneys are specified pursuant to subsection (3) as a debt due to the Crown, the mining registrar may utilise the security deposited in accordance with section 83 for payment thereof.
- (5) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Crown from recovering moneys from a person specified in subsection (3) as liable to pay and unpaid (whether directly or through utilisation of the security deposit) by action in the tribunal.
- (6) In an action under subsection (5) for the recovery of a debt due to the Crown, the production to the tribunal of a certificate by the mining registrar certifying the amount of that debt shall be evidence and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, conclusive evidence of the debt and the amount thereof.

- (7) Where, at the time when the holder of a mining claim purports to surrender the mining claim, the holder duly makes application for a new mining claim or a mining lease in respect of the whole or part of the land comprised in the current mining claim, the purported surrender shall not take effect unless and until the new mining claim or the mining lease is granted.
- (8) Nothing in section 48 or 232<sup>20</sup> shall prevent the holder of a mining claim, at the time the holder surrenders the mining claim, from applying for the grant of a mining claim or mining lease over the whole or part of the land comprised in the surrendered mining claim and the grant of the mining claim or mining lease applied for.
- (9) A surrender of a mining claim (other than a surrender referred to in subsection (7)) shall take effect on the day next following its acceptance by the mining registrar.
- (10) However, the mining registrar may accept the surrender only if the mining registrar is satisfied—
- (a) the holder has complied with the condition to carry out improvement restoration for the mining claim; and
  - (b) the relevant environmental authority (mining claim) has been cancelled or surrendered under the Environmental Protection Act.
- (11) If the mining registrar is not satisfied the holder has complied with the condition, the mining registrar may, by written notice, give the holder reasonable directions about carrying out improvement restoration for the mining claim.
- (12) The holder must comply with the directions.
- Maximum penalty for subsection (12)—300 penalty units.

### **108 Abandonment of application for mining claim**

- (1) The applicant for the grant of a mining claim may, at any time before the grant of the mining claim, by notice in writing to the mining registrar abandon the application in respect of the whole of the land to which the application relates.

---

20 Section 48 (Land subject to mining claim) or 232 (Land subject to mining lease)



- (2) The applicant for the grant of a mining claim who gives a notice referred to in subsection (1) to the mining registrar shall forthwith serve a copy of that notice on all other persons upon whom the applicant was required under this Act to give a copy of the certificate of public notice for the mining claim.
- (3) The abandonment of an application for the grant of a mining claim shall take effect on the day next following its receipt by the mining registrar.
- (4) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the abandonment, give written notice of it to the EPA administering authority.

### **109 Improvement restoration for mining claim**

- (1) This section applies on the termination of a mining claim, other than—
  - (a) by surrender under section 107; or
  - (b) for the granting of a new mining claim or mining lease over the land the subject of the terminated mining claim.
- (2) If the mining registrar is not satisfied the holder has satisfactorily complied with the condition to carry out improvement restoration for the mining claim, the mining registrar may, by written notice, give the holder reasonable directions about carrying out the restoration.
- (3) The holder must comply with the directions.  
Maximum penalty—300 penalty units.
- (4) The holder and the holder's employees or agents may, to the extent reasonably necessary to comply with the directions—
  - (a) enter land stated in the notice; and
  - (b) bring on to the land vehicles, vessels, machinery and equipment that are approved by the mining registrar for the purpose.

**110 Use of machinery on mining claim land**

- (1) The Governor in Council may, by regulation, declare with respect to a particular mining claim, all mining claims, all mining claims situated in a specified area of the State, all mining claims in respect of a specified mineral or all mining claims in respect of a specified mineral in a specified area of the State—
  - (a) the types of machinery, mechanical devices or other equipment (if any) that may or may not be used for prospecting or hand mining;
  - (b) the methods by which prospecting or operations for mining may or may not be carried on.
- (2) A person purporting to act under a mining claim to which a declaration under subsection (1) applies must comply with the declaration.
- (3) The Crown shall not be civilly liable on account of the effect of any regulation made pursuant to this section or section 111.<sup>21</sup>

**111 Declaration of prohibited machinery on mining claim land**

The Governor in Council may by regulation with respect to any part of the State, declare that certain types of machinery, mechanical devices or other equipment may not be used in, on or under land the subject of any mining claim within that area.

**112 Mining registrar may authorise use of prohibited machinery for purposes other than mining etc.**

- (1) Despite section 111, the mining registrar may authorise the use of prohibited machinery for purposes other than prospecting, exploring or mining in, on or under land the subject of a mining claim within an area specified in a declaration under that section.

---

<sup>21</sup> Section 111 (Declaration of prohibited machinery on mining claim land)

(2) In subsection (1)—

*prohibited machinery* means machinery, mechanical devices and other equipment specified in the declaration under section 111.

**113 Prohibited machinery etc. not to be used on mining claim land**

A person shall not, without the written prior authority of a mining registrar given pursuant to section 112, have or use any machinery, mechanical device or other equipment the use of which has been prohibited by a declaration under section 111 in, on or under land the subject of a mining claim within an area specified in the declaration.

Maximum penalty—

- (a) for a first offence—200 penalty units;
- (b) for a second offence—400 penalty units;
- (c) for a third or subsequent offence—1 000 penalty units.

**114 Minerals taken become property of holder of mining claim**

All minerals lawfully mined under the authority of a mining claim cease to be the property of the Crown or person who had property therein and become the property of the holder of the mining claim subject however to the rights to royalty payments under this Act of the Crown or any other person.

**115 Royalties in respect of minerals taken under mining claim**

The holder of a mining claim shall pay in respect of all minerals mined or purported to be mined under the authority of the mining claim, the royalty prescribed pursuant to part 9.

**116 Appeals about mining claims**

- (1) An applicant for a mining claim who is dissatisfied with a decision of a mining registrar to refuse to grant the mining claim (the *aggrieved person*) may appeal against the decision to the tribunal.
- (2) A holder of a mining claim who is dissatisfied with any of the following decisions of a mining registrar (also an *aggrieved person*) may appeal against the decision to the tribunal—
  - (a) a decision to impose a condition on a mining claim;
  - (b) a decision to require an applicant for, or holder of, a mining claim to deposit security;<sup>22</sup>
  - (c) a decision about carrying out improvement restoration for the mining claim;
  - (d) a decision to refuse to renew a mining claim.
- (3) However, an applicant may not appeal against a decision of a mining registrar made in accordance with a consent of the Governor in Council or decision of the tribunal.

**117 How to start an appeal**

- (1) An appeal is started by filing a written notice of appeal with the mining registrar.
- (2) The notice of appeal must be filed within 20 business days after the aggrieved person receives notice of the decision appealed against.
- (3) However, if—
  - (a) the decision did not state the reasons for the decision; and
  - (b) the person asked for a statement of reasons for the decision within the period mentioned in subsection (2);the person may make the application within 20 business days after the person is given the statement of reasons.

---

<sup>22</sup> See section 83 (Provision of security).

- (4) In addition, the tribunal may extend the period for filing the notice of appeal.
- (5) The notice of appeal must state the grounds of appeal.

### **118 Stay of operation of decisions**

- (1) The tribunal may stay a decision appealed against to secure the effectiveness of the appeal.
- (2) A stay—
  - (a) may be given on conditions the tribunal considers appropriate; and
  - (b) operates for the period fixed by the tribunal; and
  - (c) may be revoked or amended by the tribunal.
- (3) The period of a stay fixed by the tribunal must not extend past the time when the tribunal decides the appeal.
- (4) A decision, or the carrying out of a decision, is affected by the starting of an appeal only if the decision is stayed.

### **119 Hearing procedures**

- (1) In deciding an appeal, the tribunal—
  - (a) is not bound by the rules of evidence; and
  - (b) must observe natural justice.
- (2) An appeal is by way of rehearing.

### **120 Powers of tribunal on appeal**

- (1) In deciding an appeal, the tribunal may—
  - (a) confirm the decision appealed against; or
  - (b) set the decision aside and substitute another decision; or
  - (c) set aside the decision and return the issue to the mining registrar with directions the tribunal considers appropriate.

- (2) In substituting another decision, the tribunal has the same powers as the mining registrar.

*Example—*

The tribunal may decide that an unsuccessful applicant for a mining claim be granted the claim and impose conditions on it.

- (3) If the tribunal substitutes another decision, the substituted decision is, for this Act, taken to be the decision of the mining registrar.

## **121 Effect of termination of mining claim**

- (1) This section applies on the termination of a mining claim.
- (2) However, this section (other than subsection (3)) does not apply to a mining claim if the termination is for granting a new mining claim or a mining lease over the same land to the holder of the terminated mining claim.
- (3) The person who was the holder of the terminated mining claim immediately before its termination must immediately remove each post or other thing used to mark the land under this Act (other than a survey mark or anything else required under another Act not to be removed).
- (4) On the termination of a mining claim, the ownership of all mineral, ore, tailings and other material (*mineral*), and structures, machinery and equipment (*property*), on the land covered by the terminated mining claim, divests from the owner and vests in the State.
- (5) However, subsection (4) applies to property only if it was brought on to the land under the terminated claim.

## **122 Application may be made for approval to remove mineral and property**

- (1) This section applies to mineral and property that vests in the State on the termination of a mining claim.
- (2) Anyone who had an interest in the mineral or property immediately before its ownership vests in the State may apply in writing to the mining registrar for permission to remove the mineral or property from the land.

- (3) The application—
  - (a) must be made within 20 business days after the mineral or property vests in the State (or a longer period, of not more than 3 months, allowed by the mining registrar); and
  - (b) may be made even though a subsequent grant of a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease has been made over the land.
- (4) The mining registrar may approve or refuse to approve the application.
- (5) However, the mining registrar must approve the application if the mining registrar is satisfied—
  - (a) the person was entitled to the mineral or property immediately before it vested in the State; and
  - (b) there is enough security held for the mining claim to meet the costs for which it was deposited.<sup>23</sup>
- (6) The approval may be given on conditions stated in it.
- (7) If the application is approved, the person named in the approval may enter the land and remove mineral or property (other than covers, fencing, casings, linings, timbering or other things securing the safety of the land) stated in the application before the time stated in the approval ends.
- (8) Anything removed under subsection (7) divests from the State and vests in the person entitled to it immediately before the termination of the mining claim.
- (9) However, mineral divests from the State and forms part of the land if it is not removed before the later of—
  - (a) the end of the time stated in an approval under this section; or
  - (b) 3 months after the termination of the mining claim.

---

<sup>23</sup> See section 83 (Provision of security).

**123 Property remaining on former mining claim may be sold etc.**

- (1) This section applies if the mining registrar has not received, or has received but not granted, an application for approval to remove property from land covered by a terminated mining claim within 3 months after the claim's termination.
- (2) The mining registrar may—
  - (a) sell the property by public auction or in another way; or
  - (b) if the property has no commercial value—dispose of or destroy it.
- (3) Proceeds of a sale are to be applied in the following order towards—
  - (a) the reasonable expenses incurred in the sale;
  - (b) the cost of rectifying actual damage for which an amount of security deposited for the mining claim could have been used but was not used, or was inadequate;
  - (c) any costs or expenses under the Environmental Protection Act, section 367(1)<sup>24</sup> for a relevant environmental authority (mining claim);
  - (d) amounts owing to the State under this Act by the former holder;
  - (e) any other amounts owing to the State under the Environmental Protection Act for a relevant environmental authority (mining claim);
  - (f) rates and charges (including interest on unpaid rates and charges) owing to a local government by the former holder for the mining claim;
  - (g) amounts owing to a mortgagee by the former holder under a mortgage registered under this Act over the mining claim.
- (4) Any balance must be paid to the former holder.

---

<sup>24</sup> Environmental Protection Act, section 367 (Claims on financial assurances)



- (5) If the mining registrar can not decide the identity of, or locate, a person entitled to the proceeds or a part of the proceeds, the mining registrar may pay the amount to the public trustee as unclaimed moneys.
- (6) Compensation is not payable for a sale, disposal or destruction under this section.

#### **124 Approval for prospecting on reserve subject of mining claim application**

- (1) The holder of a prospecting permit who makes application for the grant of a mining claim in respect of land that is a reserve and who is unable to obtain the consent of the owner to prospect on that land for the purposes of obtaining information necessary to further the application may apply to the mining registrar for permission to so prospect upon that land.
- (2) The mining registrar may reject the application or may recommend to the Minister that, subject to the views of the owner being obtained and taken into account, permission be given to the holder to prospect accordingly.
- (3) Where the Minister gives the holder of a prospecting permit permission pursuant to subsection (2), the holder, for as long as the holder complies with any conditions imposed by the Minister, shall be deemed to have the consent of the owner of the relevant land to be on that land for prospecting purposes until the application for the grant of the mining claim is determined or the Minister otherwise determines.

#### **125 Variation of access to mining claim land**

- (1) The holder of a mining claim may apply to the mining registrar in the approved form for a variation of the land used or proposed to be used as access in relation to the land the subject of the mining claim.

- (2) An application for a variation of the land used or proposed to be used as access under this section shall be accompanied by—
  - (a) such particulars as are, by sections 61 and 62, required to accompany an application for the grant of a mining claim in so far as those particulars relate to the land used or proposed to be used as access in relation to the land the subject of the mining claim; and
  - (b) the prescribed application fee.
- (3) Where, in respect of an application for a variation of the land used or proposed to be used as access under this section, the mining registrar is not satisfied that the owner of the land proposed to be used as access consents to the use, the mining registrar must refer the issue of consent to the tribunal for its consideration.
- (4) The tribunal must fix a date for the hearing and immediately give written notice of the date to each of the following—
  - (a) the mining registrar;
  - (b) the applicant;
  - (c) the land owner.
- (4A) The date must be at least 20 business days after the day the tribunal fixes the date.
- (5) The tribunal shall hear and determine the matter by determining—
  - (a) that consent to the proposed variation should or should not be given; and
  - (b) if consent should be given, the amount (if any) of compensation payable by the holder in respect of the proposed use of that land as access.
- (6) Subject to subsection (7), the provisions of section 85(7) to (11)<sup>25</sup> apply in respect of a matter referred to the tribunal under this section as if the matter were an application referred to the tribunal under section 85(5).

---

25 Section 85 (Compensation to be settled before granting of mining claim)

- (7) In determining compensation payable under subsection (5), allowance shall be made for compensation agreed or determined to be payable in respect of the current land used as access in respect of the mining claim.
- (8) The determination of the tribunal of a matter under this section shall be final and conclusive.
- (9) In respect of an application made under this section, upon—
- (a) where the proposed access is over land of which there is an owner—
    - (i) lodgment with the mining registrar of the consent in writing of the owner or owners of that land; or
    - (ii) where the tribunal determines that consent should be granted, whether with or without compensation, compliance with any terms and conditions imposed by the tribunal to be complied with before consent is given; and
  - (b) where the proposed access is over land of which there is no owner, the mining registrar determining that the variation is, in the circumstances, appropriate;
- the mining registrar shall record the variation of that access in the register and advise the holder and the owner accordingly.
- (10) An agreement made between a holder and an owner of land regarding compensation payable in respect of the proposed use of the land as access in respect of a mining claim as a result of a variation under this section shall not be effective unless and until—
- (a) it is in writing signed by or on behalf of the parties; and
  - (b) it is filed in the office of the mining registrar.
- (11) If an agreement referred to in this subsection is required by any law of Queensland to be stamped, it shall not be filed until it is stamped according to law.
- (12) The mining registrar shall notify the chief executive of full particulars of applications, actions and determinations made under this section.

## **Part 5**                      **Exploration permits**

### **126**      **Blocks and sub-blocks of land**

- (1) For the purposes of this Act the surface of the earth shall be deemed to be divided into blocks and sub-blocks.
- (2) A block shall be the land contained within 2 meridians 5' of longitude apart each meridian being a multiple of 5' of longitude from the meridian of Greenwich and within 2 parallels of latitude 5' apart each parallel of latitude being a multiple of 5' of latitude from the equator.
- (3) A block shall be divided into 25 sub-blocks each sub-block being bounded by 2 meridians 1' of longitude apart and 2 parallels of latitude and 1' of latitude apart.
- (4) Each block and sub-block shall be identified by a means approved for the time being by the chief executive.

### **127**      **Land subject to exploration permit**

- (1) An exploration permit authorises entry to sub-blocks of land specified therein.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), an exploration permit shall be granted in respect of specified sub-blocks of land each sub-block to have at least 1 side in common with another sub-block within the subject land.
- (3) If the Minister in a particular case is satisfied that the program of work proposed in the application for an exploration permit can be undertaken in accordance with competent and efficient mineral exploration practice, an exploration permit may be granted in respect of sub-blocks of land notwithstanding that those sub-blocks do not have a common boundary.
- (4) Unless otherwise approved by the Minister either generally or in a particular case, the area of land in respect of which an exploration permit may be granted shall not exceed the area prescribed in respect of the mineral or minerals concerned.

**128 Only eligible persons to hold exploration permits**

An exploration permit shall not be held by a person who is not an eligible person.

**129 Entitlements under exploration permit**

- (1) During the term of an exploration permit—
- (a) the holder of the exploration permit and any person who acts for the purpose of carrying out any activity authorised by the exploration permit, with or by such vehicles, vessels, machinery and equipment as may be necessary or expedient for the purpose of exploring for any mineral to which the exploration permit applies, may, subject to compliance with section 163,<sup>26</sup> enter—
    - (i) any part of the land comprised in the exploration permit that is not the surface area of a reserve; and
    - (ii) with the consent of the owner, or the consent of the Governor in Council, any part of the land comprised in the exploration permit that is the surface area of a reserve;for the purposes of facilitating that exploration;
  - (b) in respect of any land (or part thereof) to which the exploration permit applies the holder of the exploration permit, subject to compliance with this Act, may have considered for grant, in priority to all other persons, any number of mineral development licences and mining leases relating to any minerals specified in the exploration permit or mining leases for other purposes for which mining leases may be granted and may enter that land for the purpose of doing all acts necessary to comply with this Act relating to an application therefor.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1)(a) the holder of an exploration permit is not required to obtain consent in respect of the entry or being upon land that is a reserve for public road where the entry of or being upon that land is solely as access in respect of land the subject of the exploration permit.

---

26 Section 163 (Notice of entry to be given)

- (3) An exploration permit authorises a person to enter the surface of restricted land only if—
  - (a) the owner of the land where the relevant permanent building, or relevant feature, is situated consents in writing to entry; and
  - (b) the exploration permit holder gives the consent to the chief executive.
- (4) Consent given pursuant to subsection (3) shall specify the period of the consent and any conditions applicable to the consent and once given that consent can not be withdrawn.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a)(ii), the holder of an exploration permit has the consent of an owner of land if that consent in writing has been previously lodged with the chief executive and has not been withdrawn as provided for in subsection (6).
- (6) Consent referred to in subsection (1)(a)(ii) can only be withdrawn by the owner of the relevant land giving notice in writing to the chief executive and shall only be effective when the Minister accepts the withdrawal or, if not accepted, after the holder of the exploration permit has been given the opportunity by the Minister to apply for the consent of the Governor in Council in lieu of the owner's consent—
  - (a) if, within the time allowed by the Minister for the holder to do so, the holder does not apply for that consent, that time expires; or
  - (b) if, within the time allowed by the Minister for the holder to do so, the holder applies for that consent, the Governor in Council gives or refuses to give that consent.
- (7) The holder of an exploration permit, and each person who enters or is upon land under the authority of that exploration permit, shall comply with the terms and conditions upon which any consent required to be given under this Act in respect thereof was given by the owner of that land.

- (8) If an owner of land that is a reserve refuses or fails within a reasonable time to give a consent required by subsection (1)(a)(ii) or imposes terms and conditions thereon that the holder of the relevant exploration permit considers to be so harsh as to be unreasonable, the holder of the exploration permit may apply in writing to the Minister who may refuse the application or may recommend to the Governor in Council that consent be given.
- (9) Upon receipt of an application under subsection (6) or (8), the Minister shall seek the views of the owner of the relevant land on the application.
- (10) If the Minister is satisfied that it is unreasonable for an owner of land that is a reserve to refuse to give to the holder of an exploration permit the consent required by subsection (1)(a)(ii), to withdraw consent previously given or to have imposed the terms and conditions upon which that consent was given, the Governor in Council may, upon the recommendation of the Minister—
- (a) subject to such terms and conditions as the Governor in Council thinks appropriate, give that consent in lieu of the consent of the owner; or
  - (b) set aside or vary as the Governor in Council thinks fit the terms and conditions upon which the consent is subject;
- whereupon the owner of the land shall, subject to compliance by the holder of the exploration permit with any terms and conditions set by the Governor in Council, be deemed to have given the consent or, as the case may be, have set aside or varied the terms and conditions in accordance with the Governor in Council's determination.
- (11) The Governor in Council may make a determination under subsection (10) whether or not an owner of land makes any submission to the Minister pursuant to subsection (9).

- (12) The chief executive shall notify the holder of an exploration permit and the owner of land that is a reserve of particulars of any relevant determination made by the Governor in Council pursuant to subsection (10) before any entry of that land is made under the authority of the exploration permit except where the entry is in accordance with any consent given by the owner.
- (13) Consent given as required by subsection (1)(a)(ii) may be restricted as to time or to a part only of the land in question.
- (14) The terms and conditions upon which consent required by subsections (1)(a)(ii) and (3) is given shall be deemed to be part of the terms and conditions of the relevant exploration permit.
- (15) For the purpose of exercising his or her entitlements under this part a person who enters or is upon land under the authority of an exploration permit may stay at night thereon and for that purpose may set up temporary accommodation thereon.
- (16) During the term of an exploration permit, the rights of the holder of the permit relate, and are taken to have always related, to the whole of the land to which the permit applies.

### **130 Exploration permit to specify minerals sought**

- (1) Except where subsection (2) is applied, an exploration permit shall be granted in respect of—
  - (a) all minerals other than coal; or
  - (b) coal.
- (2) If, in the exceptional circumstances of a particular case, the Minister considers good reason exists therefor, an exploration permit may be granted in respect of the mineral or minerals specified therein.
- (3) Minerals may be specified by indicating other minerals to which the exploration permit does not apply.



**131 Restriction on grant of exploration permits over same sub-block**

- (1) An exploration permit shall not be granted in respect of a sub-block over which a current exploration permit authorises the exploration for a mineral in respect of which the exploration permit is sought.
- (2) The lodgment of an application for an exploration permit that includes a sub-block over which, pursuant to subsection (1), the exploration permit shall not be granted may be accepted but, except where the application is made by the holder of the current exploration permit, that sub-block shall be excised from the application.

**132 Exclusion of land from exploration permit if subject to other authority under Act**

- (1) Where, at the time the lodgment of an application for the grant of an exploration permit is accepted, land is the subject of—
  - (a) a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease; or
  - (b) an application for a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease;that land and the surface of that land shall be taken to be excluded from the land specified in the exploration permit—
  - (c) in the case of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease referred to in paragraph (a)—for so long as the land remains subject thereto; and
  - (d) in the case of an application referred to in paragraph (b)—
    - (i) for so long as the application is not rejected or abandoned; and
    - (ii) if a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease is granted, for so long as the land remains subject thereto;

except where the Minister, in exceptional circumstances in the Minister's absolute discretion otherwise determines.

- (2) Upon—
- (a) the termination of a mining claim or mining lease granted; or
  - (b) the rejection or abandonment of an application for—
    - (i) a mining claim; or
    - (ii) a mineral development licence; or
    - (iii) a mining lease;
- in respect of land within the external boundaries of an exploration permit that land shall become part of the land in respect of which the exploration permit is granted except—
- (c) to the extent that the land is the subject of a current mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease or application for a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease; or
  - (d) in the case of a rejection or abandonment of an application for a mineral development licence where the applicant is not the holder of the exploration permit; or
  - (e) where the exploration permit provides otherwise.
- (3) Land (the *relevant land*) does not, under subsection (2), become part of the land in respect of which an exploration permit is granted if—
- (a) the relevant land is non-exclusive land under the native title provisions; and
  - (b) the exploration permit was granted after 23 December 1996.

### **133 Application for exploration permit**

- (1) An application for an exploration permit may be made by an eligible person and shall—
- (a) be in the approved form; and
  - (b) specify the name of each applicant; and
  - (c) specify the name and address for service of 1 person upon whom any notice may be served on behalf of the applicant or the applicants; and

- (d) identify in the prescribed manner the land in respect of which an exploration permit is sought; and
  - (e) specify the mineral or minerals in respect of which the exploration permit is sought; and
  - (f) be lodged at an office prescribed for the time being for the receipt of applications for exploration permits in respect of the land the subject of the application; and
  - (g) be accompanied by a statement acceptable to the Minister—
    - (i) specifying a description of the program of work proposed to be carried out under the authority of the exploration permit, if granted; and
    - (ii) specifying the estimated human, technical and financial resources proposed to be committed to exploration work during each year of the exploration permit, if granted; and
    - (iii) detailing exploration data captured by the applicant prior to the application in relation to that land; and
  - (h) be accompanied by—
    - (i) a statement, acceptable to the Minister, but separate from the statement mentioned in paragraph (g), detailing the applicant's financial and technical resources; and
    - (ii) proof of the applicant's identity; and
    - (iii) the application fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) The chief executive must, within the following period, give the EPA administering authority a copy of the application—
- (a) if section 134A(2) applies—10 business days after the Minister decides the priority of the application under that section;
  - (b) otherwise—5 business days after the chief executive receives the application.

- (3) Subsection (2) ceases to apply if—
- (a) the application is rejected under section 137; or
  - (b) the Minister decides, under section 134A(2), another application takes priority over the application.
- (4) In this section—
- financial resources*, for subsection (1)(g)(ii), includes the financial resources necessary to comply with each of the following—
- (a) the native title provisions;
  - (b) any registered indigenous land use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act for the area to which the application relates;
  - (c) the right to negotiate provisions.

### **134 Application to be numbered**

An application for an exploration permit shall be numbered as prescribed which number, if the exploration permit is granted, shall become the number of that permit.

### **134A Priority of applications for grant of exploration permit**

- (1) Applications for the grant of exploration permits in respect of the same mineral, duly made in respect of or including the same land take priority, for the purpose of considering and deciding the applications, according to the day on which they are lodged under section 133(1)(f).
- (2) If applications are lodged on the same day, they take the priority the Minister decides, after considering the relative merits of each application.
- (3) If an application is lodged by mail, courier service or similar means, it is taken to be lodged on the day the application is received at the prescribed office under section 133(1)(f).

**135 No application for exploration permit within 2 months of land ceasing to be subject to exploration permit**

- (1) Upon land, for whatever reason, ceasing to be the subject of an exploration permit, a person is not competent to apply for an exploration permit in respect of any mineral specified in the first mentioned exploration permit in respect of any of that land until the expiration of 2 calendar months following the end of the month in which that cessation occurs.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person applying for a new exploration permit in respect of land over which the person held an exploration permit which the person had surrendered for the purpose of being granted a further exploration permit in respect of the whole or part of that land.

**136 Upon rejection of application, application fee or part may be retained**

If the Minister rejects an application for the grant of an exploration permit the Minister may determine, at the Minister's discretion whether all or part of the application fee that accompanied the application shall be retained.

**137 Grant of exploration permit**

- (1) If the Minister is satisfied that—
  - (a) the requirements of section 133 have been complied with for an application for an exploration permit and that the requirements of this Act have otherwise been complied with; and
  - (b) the applicant is an eligible person; and
  - (c) the application is made bona fide for the purposes of this Act;

the Minister may, subject to compliance by the applicant with the provisions of section 144, grant and issue to the applicant an exploration permit in respect of all the land included in the application or such part or parts of it as the Minister specifies in the permit.

- (2) However, the Minister must not grant an exploration permit for land in a fossicking area, or for land that includes the

whole or part of a fossicking area, unless the application was made, but not decided, before the land became a fossicking area.

- (3) An exploration permit shall be in the approved form and shall specify—
  - (a) the identification number of the permit; and
  - (b) the name of the holder; and
  - (c) the address for service of notices on the holder; and
  - (d) the description of land in respect of which the permit is granted; and
  - (e) the term and date of commencement of the permit; and
  - (f) the conditions (other than conditions prescribed by this Act) to which the permit is subject; and
  - (g) the minerals the subject of the permit; and
  - (h) the programs of works and studies to be carried out under the permit.
- (4) If the Minister is of the opinion on reasonable grounds that an applicant for an exploration permit had previously contravened or failed to comply with any provision of this Act, the repealed Acts or other mining legislation, the Minister may, whether or not that person had been charged or convicted of an offence in respect of that contravention or failure to comply, refuse to grant the exploration permit.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (4) an applicant which is a company is deemed to have contravened or failed to comply with a provision of an Act if a person who is an officer or employee of the company or who, in the opinion of the Minister, is in a position to control or influence substantially the affairs of the company has contravened or failed to comply with the provision.
- (6) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after making a grant or refusal under this section, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the grant or refusal.

**138 Rental payable on exploration permit**

- (1) On the grant of an exploration permit (the *original permit*), rental is payable—
  - (a) for the first year of the term of the permit (its *first rental period*); and
  - (b) within 20 business days after the grant.
- (2) On the renewal of an exploration permit, rental is payable—
  - (a) for the first year of the term of the renewed permit; and
  - (b) within 20 business days after the renewal is granted.
- (3) For each year an exploration permit is in force, rental for the whole year (other than its first rental period) is payable on or before the anniversary of—
  - (a) for an original permit—the grant of the permit; or
  - (b) for a renewed permit—the day the term of the renewed permit started.<sup>27</sup>
- (4) The amount of the rental payable for each year is calculated by multiplying the number of sub-blocks to which the permit applies by the amount prescribed under a regulation for the year.

**139 Periodic reduction in land covered by exploration permit**

- (1) Unless the Minister otherwise decides, whether before the grant of an exploration permit or during its term the area of the permit must be reduced—
  - (a) for a permit for a mineral other than coal—
    - (i) by 50% by the end of the first 2 years after the permit is granted; and
    - (ii) by a further 50% by the end of each subsequent year; or
  - (b) for a permit for coal—in the way and to the extent decided by the Minister when the permit is granted or renewed.

---

<sup>27</sup> See section 147D (When term of renewed permit starts)

- (1A) The reduction under subsection (1)(b) must not be greater than the extent to which a permit for other minerals must be reduced.
- (2) The area remaining after the reduction must consist of whole sub-blocks.
- (3) If the Minister so directs on reasonable grounds, the reduction of the area of land in respect of which a particular exploration permit applies may be more or less than that prescribed by subsection (1).
- (4) At least 20 business days (or such shorter period as the Minister in the particular case allows) prior to the date when, pursuant to subsection (1), the area of land is to be reduced in respect of an exploration permit, the holder of the permit shall make a submission to the chief executive identifying the sub-blocks of land to which the holder desires the exploration permit to apply after that reduction.
- (5) If a submission made in accordance with subsection (4) proposes a reduction of the area of land in respect of which the exploration permit applies which reduction complies with subsection (1), then on and from the date when the area of land is to be reduced, the exploration permit shall apply only in respect of the land specified in the submission.
- (6) If a submission that is made for the purposes of subsection (4) is not made in accordance with subsection (4) or does not comply with subsection (1), then the Minister may determine as the Minister considers reasonable that an exploration permit shall apply on and from the date of the Minister's determination or the date when pursuant to subsection (1) the reduction should take effect, whichever is the later in respect of land specified in the Minister's determination, and on and from that date the exploration permit shall apply only in respect of that land.
- (7) If the holder of an exploration permit fails to make a submission in accordance with subsection (4) the Minister may proceed as provided in subsection (6) or may cancel the exploration permit.
- (8) Compensation is not payable for a reduction in the area covered by an exploration permit under this section.



- (9) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after a reduction under this section takes effect, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the reduction.

**140 Voluntary reduction in land covered by exploration permit**

- (1) In addition to the requirement under section 139 to reduce the area of an exploration permit, the holder of the permit may, at any time during its term, make a submission to the chief executive—
- (a) voluntarily reducing the area of land to which the permit applies; and
  - (b) identifying the sub-blocks of land to which the holder no longer wants the permit to apply.
- (2) The area remaining after the reduction must consist of whole sub-blocks.
- (3) The Minister may approve the reduction, with or without conditions, or refuse the reduction.
- (4) If the Minister approves the reduction, the Minister must give the holder a written notice stating—
- (a) the reduction is approved; and
  - (b) the date of the approval; and
  - (c) if the Minister decides to approve the reduction on conditions—the conditions and reasons for the decision.
- (5) If the Minister refuses the reduction, the Minister must give the holder a written notice stating the reasons for the decision.
- (6) The reduction takes effect on the date it is approved.
- (7) Compensation is not payable for the reduction.
- (8) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after the reduction takes effect, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the reduction.

**141 Conditions of exploration permit**

- (1) Each exploration permit shall be subject to—

- (a) a condition that the holder shall carry out such programs of work and such studies for the purposes for which the exploration permit was granted and in accordance with this Act and the conditions of the exploration permit and for no other purpose; and
- (b) a condition that the holder must carry out improvement restoration for the exploration permit; and
- (c) a condition that the holder prior to the termination for whatever cause of the exploration permit shall remove all equipment and plant on or in the land comprised in the exploration permit unless otherwise authorised by the Minister; and
- (d) a condition that without the prior approval in writing of the Minister the holder shall not obstruct or interfere with any right of access had at any time during the term of the exploration permit by any person in respect of land the subject of the exploration permit for so long as that right of access is exercised; and
- (e) a condition that the holder shall not assign the exploration permit without the consent in writing of the Minister; and
- (f) a condition that the holder must, when and in the way the Minister requires, give to the Minister—
  - (i) progress, relinquishment and final reports, accompanied by maps, sections, charts and other data giving full particulars and results of the exploration program and investigations carried out on the area specified by the Minister, including details of costs incurred for specified periods within the term of the exploration permit; and
  - (ii) materials obtained because of the holder's activities under the exploration permit; and
- (g) a condition that the holder—
  - (i) shall pay the rental as prescribed; and
  - (ii) shall deposit as required by the Minister any security from time to time under this Act; and

- (h) a condition that the holder shall comply with this Act and other mining legislation; and
  - (i) such other conditions as are prescribed; and
  - (j) such other conditions as are determined by the Minister.
- (2) The Minister may from time to time, with the agreement of the holder of an exploration permit vary any condition imposed by the Minister.
  - (3) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after the Minister makes a variation under subsection (2), give the EPA administering authority written notice of the variation.
  - (4) The holder of an exploration permit and all persons acting under the authority of the permit shall comply with the conditions for the time being of the permit.
  - (5) Conditions may be imposed in respect of an exploration permit that require compliance with specified codes.
  - (6) Despite subsections (1), (2) and (5), a condition must not be determined, imposed, prescribed or varied if the condition, or the condition as varied, is the same, or substantially the same, or inconsistent with, a relevant environmental condition for the exploration permit.

#### **141AA Additional conditions of exploration permit relating to native title**

- (1) Conditions determined for an exploration permit by the Minister under section 141(1)(j) may include native title protection conditions for the permit.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit section 141(1)(j).
- (3) In this section—

*native title protection conditions*, for an exploration permit, means conditions that—

- (a) are about ways of minimising the impact of the permit on native title in relation to the land affected by the permit, including ways of accessing the land and ways anything authorised under the permit may be done; and

- (b) are identified in the permit as native title protection conditions for the permit.

### **141A Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a negotiated agreement under part 17, division 4,<sup>28</sup> provides for the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, an exploration permit; and
  - (b) the agreement includes conditions to be complied with by 1 or more of the parties to the agreement; and
  - (c) the Minister consents to the exploration permit being subject to 1 or more of the conditions (the *consent conditions*); and
  - (d) the act is done.
- (2) The exploration permit is subject to the consent conditions.

### **141B Other agreement conditions**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a registered indigenous land use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, or an agreement mentioned in section 31(1)(b) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act, provides for the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, an exploration permit; and
  - (b) the State is a party to the agreement; and
  - (c) the agreement includes a requirement that, if the act is done, the exploration permit must be subject to conditions stated in the agreement (the *stated conditions*); and
  - (d) the act is done.
- (2) The exploration permit is subject to the stated conditions.

---

28 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases)

**141C Application to vary conditions of existing permit**

- (1) The holder of an exploration permit (the *existing permit*) may apply to the Minister for a variation of the conditions of the existing permit.
- (2) The provisions of this part apply, with necessary changes, to an application under subsection (1) as if it were an application under section 133.<sup>29</sup>
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), in deciding the application, the Minister may—
  - (a) vary the conditions of the existing permit by imposing conditions under section 141(1)(j)<sup>30</sup> in addition to any conditions that apply under the existing permit; and
  - (b) fix an amount of security to be deposited under section 144<sup>31</sup> in addition to any security for the existing permit.
- (4) On the granting of the application, the varied conditions, including imposed conditions mentioned in subsection (3)(a), are included in the existing permit.

**144 Provision of security**

- (1) Before an exploration permit is granted or renewed or a condition of the permit is varied, the Minister, taking into consideration the program of work, or activities, proposed to be carried out under the permit, must determine the amount of the security to be deposited by the holder of that permit as reasonable security for—
  - (a) compliance with the conditions of the exploration permit; and
  - (b) compliance with the provisions of this Act; and
  - (c) rectification of any actual damage that may be caused by any person whilst purporting to act under the authority

---

29 Section 133 (Application for exploration permit)

30 Section 141 (Conditions of exploration permit)

31 Section 144 (Provision of security)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- of the exploration permit to pre-existing improvements for the exploration permit; and
- (d) amounts (other than penalties) payable to the State under this Act.
- (2) A person who holds more than 1 exploration permit may elect to deposit a single amount of security for all exploration permits held by the person.
- (3) The Minister is to decide the amount of security to be deposited under subsection (2).
- (4) An exploration permit must not be granted or renewed, and a condition of an exploration permit must not be varied, until the applicant for the grant, renewal or variation deposits the security decided under this section.
- (5) If the Minister is satisfied—
- (a) a condition of an exploration permit has not been complied with; or
  - (b) a provision of this Act has not been complied with in relation to an exploration permit; or
  - (c) someone claiming to act under an exploration permit, or to have entered land on the permit holder's instructions, caused damage mentioned in subsection (1)(c);
- the Minister may require the permit holder to take the steps necessary to stop the noncompliance or repair the damage.
- (6) Also, the Minister may use any of the security deposited by the holder to stop the noncompliance or repair the damage.
- (7) Subsections (5) and (6) do not apply if the holder satisfies the Minister that the person responsible for the noncompliance or damage was not on the land with the holder's approval or on the holder's instructions when the noncompliance or damage happened.
- (8) If, at any time (whether during or within 20 business days after the expiration of the term of an exploration permit) the amount or any part of the amount deposited under this section is utilised as provided by subsection (5) or (6) or the Minister considers that, in view of the damage caused or likely to be caused by any person purporting to act under the authority of the exploration permit or upon the instruction of the holder or

for any other reason, a further amount of security should be deposited in respect of that exploration permit, the Minister shall require the holder or former holder of the exploration permit, within the time specified by the Minister, to deposit the further specified security.

- (9) The Minister may accept a bond or a guarantee or indemnity by, or other financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or another credit provider approved by the Minister or other form of security acceptable to the Minister as the whole or part of the security to be deposited under this section.
- (10) It shall be a condition of an exploration permit that the holder shall deposit security or further security from time to time in accordance with a requirement made as provided by this section.
- (11) Subject to subsections (13) and (14), if an exploration permit terminates, the Minister may, not earlier than 6 months after the termination, refund to the permit holder the amount of security deposited for the permit and not used after deducting the amounts the Minister considers should be kept towards—
  - (a) remedying anything caused by noncompliance with the conditions of the permit or an order or direction given by the Minister to the permit holder; and
  - (b) amounts (other than penalties) the holder owes to the State under this Act (whether they become owing before or after the termination).
- (12) If the Minister accepts a bond, guarantee or indemnity by, or another financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or credit provider as security under this section, any amount payable to the holder under subsection (11) must be refunded to the financial institution, insurance company or credit provider and not to the holder of the exploration permit to which the security relates.
- (13) Subsection (11) does not apply to a person who elects to deposit security for all exploration permits held by the person if the person continues to hold an exploration permit for which the security is held.

- (14) However, the Minister may, at the person's written request, reduce the amount of security held for the person's exploration permits to an amount decided by the Minister.
- (15) If the security deposited was money, an amount equal to the reduction is to be refunded to the person or in accordance with any written direction the holder gives to the mining registrar.

#### **145 Compensation**

- (1) Notwithstanding section 144, the Crown, or an owner is entitled to recover from time to time, in the tribunal compensation in respect of damage or injury suffered or loss incurred by reason of a person acting or purporting to act under the authority of an exploration permit but any moneys paid under that section in respect of rectification of damage the subject of the proceeding shall be taken into account in assessing any compensation.
- (2) The holder of an exploration permit is not liable under this section in respect of damage or injury or loss caused by another person who is not a holder and is not a person authorised by the holder to be upon the land the subject of the exploration permit.

#### **146 Initial term of exploration permit**

Unless the Minister in the particular case otherwise determines the initial term of an exploration permit shall, unless the permit is sooner surrendered or cancelled, be for a period not exceeding 5 years commencing on the date specified in the permit (being a date not earlier than the date of grant of the permit).

#### **147 Application for renewal of exploration permit**

- (1) The holder of an exploration permit may, within the renewal period, apply to the chief executive for a renewal of the permit.
- (2) The application must be made in the approved form and accompanied by the information and the fee prescribed under a regulation.



(3) In this section—

*renewal period* means the period that is—

- (a) at least 3 months, or any shorter period allowed by the Minister in the particular case, before the current term of the permit expires; and
- (b) not more than 6 months before the current term expires.

### **147A Decision on application**

(1) The Minister may renew an exploration permit if the Minister is satisfied of each of the following—

- (a) the holder of the permit has—
  - (i) observed and performed all the covenants and conditions applying to the permit and required to be observed and performed by the holder; and
  - (ii) complied with this Act in relation to the permit;
- (b) the activities proposed to be carried out during the renewed term are appropriate and acceptable;
- (c) the financial and technical resources available to the holder to carry out the proposed activities during the renewed term are appropriate;
- (d) the public interest will not be adversely affected by the renewal.

(2) The renewal may be granted for the further term of not more than 5 years decided by the Minister.

(3) The renewed permit is subject to—

- (a) any conditions prescribed under a regulation; and
- (b) any conditions decided by the Minister.

(4) The Minister may refuse to renew the permit if the Minister—

- (a) has served on the holder a notice in the approved form asking the holder to show cause, within the period stated in the notice, why the renewal should not be refused; and
- (b) after considering the holder's response, is satisfied the renewal should be refused.

- (5) As soon as practicable after deciding the application for the renewal, the Minister must give the holder a written notice stating—
- (a) the decision; and
  - (b) if the decision is to grant the renewal on conditions, or to refuse the renewal, the reasons for the decision.

**147B Chief executive must give copy of application to EPA administering authority**

If the Minister renews an exploration permit, the chief executive must give the EPA administering authority a copy of the application for the renewal within 5 business days after the Minister is satisfied of the matters mentioned in section 147A(1) concerning the permit.

**147C Continuation of permit while application being dealt with**

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if—
- (a) a properly made application for renewal of an exploration permit is not withdrawn, refused or granted before the permit's expiry day ends; and
  - (b) after the expiry day, the holder—
    - (i) continues to pay rental on the permit and other amounts required to be paid under this Act; and
    - (ii) otherwise complies with this Act and the permit conditions.
- (2) The permit continues in force subject to the rights, entitlements and obligations in effect immediately before the end of the expiry day until the application is withdrawn, refused or granted.
- (3) In this section—
- properly made application*, for renewal of an exploration permit, means an application that complies with section 147(2).

**147D When term of renewed permit starts**

- (1) If an exploration permit is renewed before its expiry day ends, the term of the renewed permit starts on the day after the expiry day.
- (2) If the permit is renewed after the expiry day, the term of the renewed permit is taken to have started on the day after the expiry day.

**147E When new conditions of renewed permit start**

- (1) If a renewed exploration permit is subject to conditions (the *new conditions*) different from, or not included in, the permit conditions applying immediately before its renewal, the new conditions apply from the later of the following—
  - (a) the start of the term of the renewed permit;
  - (b) the day the renewal is granted.
- (2) However, if the permit is continued in force under section 147C, the holder must pay rental on the permit from the day after its expiry day at the rate that would have been payable, from time to time, if the renewed exploration permit had been renewed on the day after the expiry day.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies even though payment of rental may be a condition of the permit.
- (4) If the application for renewal of the permit is withdrawn or is refused, the chief executive must refund the overpaid rental to the applicant.
- (5) In this section—

*overpaid rental* means the annual rental overpaid because of the withdrawal or refusal, worked out proportionately for the whole months remaining after the withdrawal or refusal until the end of the year for which the rental was paid.

**147F Renewal of permit must be in name of last recorded assignee**

- (1) This section applies if an assignment of an exploration permit is approved and recorded under section 151(5)—

- (a) after the date on which an application for renewal of the permit is made; and
  - (b) before the application is decided by the Minister.
- (2) Any renewal granted on the application must be in the name of the assignee under the last assignment approved and recorded before the grant of the renewal.

#### **148 Rights and obligations upon application for mining lease or mineral development licence**

- (1) The holder of an exploration permit who, during the term of the exploration permit, makes application for the grant of—
- (a) a mining lease; or
  - (b) a mineral development licence;
- in respect of any land to which the exploration permit applies, shall, during the period from the expiration of the exploration permit until the determination of the application, for so long as the provisions of this Act and the terms and conditions that would apply if the permit were current are complied with, have all the responsibilities, powers, authorities and duties that the holder would have had in respect of the land the subject of the application if the exploration permit was current but during that period no rental shall be payable under this part in respect of any whole sub-blocks of land the subject of the application.
- (2) The entitlements of the holder of an exploration permit are not reduced or limited by reason only of the holder's application for the grant of a mineral development licence or a mining lease in respect of any land to which the exploration permit applies.

#### **149 Correction of instrument of exploration permit**

If, at any time, the Minister is of the opinion that the instrument of an exploration permit should be corrected by reason that—

- (a) facts have appeared or been established since the grant of the exploration permit justifying a correction of the

instrument to more accurately reflect the holder's entitlements under the permit; or

- (b) the instrument is defective owing to error in its preparation;

the Minister may correct the instrument and shall record details thereof in the register of exploration permits kept by the chief executive and endorse the instrument which shall take effect accordingly.

### **150 Replacement of instrument of exploration permit**

- (1) Where the Minister is satisfied that the instrument of an exploration permit should be cancelled and a replacement instrument issued in its place, the Minister shall cancel the instrument and cause a replacement instrument to be issued in its place.
- (2) A replacement instrument of an exploration permit issued under this section—
  - (a) shall be the instrument in place of the instrument previously issued and cancelled under this section which last mentioned instrument shall, upon the issue of the fresh instrument, cease to be of any force or effect; and
  - (b) may bear a form of endorsement which briefly traces the devolution of the permit from the original holder of the exploration permit to the person appearing as holder thereof at the time the replacement instrument is issued; and
  - (c) shall be delivered to the person who appears to the Minister to be lawfully entitled to possession thereof.
- (3) The chief executive shall cause the instrument so cancelled to be suitably endorsed and a suitable recording made in the register kept by the chief executive that a replacement instrument has been issued in its place.
- (4) The cancelled instrument shall be retained by the chief executive.

**151 Assignment of exploration permit**

- (1) The holder of an exploration permit desirous of assigning the holder's interest in the exploration permit shall apply to the chief executive for the Minister's approval to that exercise and shall furnish to the chief executive such information with respect thereof as the Minister requires.
- (2) Where there are 2 or more holders of an exploration permit, an application under subsection (1) shall be made by all the holders.
- (3) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after an application under subsection (1) is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (4) Upon an application made pursuant to subsection (1) the Minister may cause the applicant to be given notice—
  - (a) that, subject to compliance with this Act in respect thereof and with any conditions specified in the notice, within 3 months from the date of the notice or such other period as is specified in the notice the Minister will approve the exercise; or
  - (b) that the Minister does not approve the exercise.
- (5) Upon receipt within the prescribed time of the prescribed document of assignment that gives effect to an assignment referred to in subsection (1) and upon compliance with this Act and all conditions specified in the notice given pursuant to subsection (4)(a) in respect of that assignment and payment of the prescribed fee, the assignment shall be approved and such particulars as are necessary to give effect to or evidence that assignment shall be recorded in the appropriate register and endorsed on the exploration permit.
- (6) The Minister may approve, and record particulars of, the exercise of a power mentioned in subsection (1) even though subsections (1) and (4) have not been complied with if the Minister would have approved the exercise of the power if the subsections had been complied with.
- (7) An assignment of an exploration permit shall not be in respect of part only of the land the subject of the exploration permit.
- (8) A purported assignment of an exploration permit or of an interest shall not be effective unless it is made in accordance

with this section and approved as provided in subsection (5) and shall take effect on the day next following its approval by the Minister under subsection (5).

## **152 Lodgment of caveat**

- (1) A person who claims a right or interest in or in respect of an exploration permit may by a caveat in the approved form forbid the approval of any assignment in respect of the exploration permit (save any assignment the approval of which is excepted in the caveat) either absolutely or until after notice of intention to approve such an assignment is served on the caveator.
- (2) A caveat duly lodged pursuant to this section does not apply in respect of an assignment the application for approval of which was lodged with the Minister before the lodgment of the caveat.
- (3) A caveat referred to in subsection (1) shall—
  - (a) be in the approved form; and
  - (b) specify the name and address for service of 1 person upon whom any notice may be served on behalf of the caveator or caveators; and
  - (c) identify the exploration permit concerned; and
  - (d) specify the nature of the right or interest claimed by the caveator; and
  - (e) specify the period during which it is to continue in force; and
  - (f) be signed by the caveator, the caveator's solicitor or other person authorised in writing by the caveator; and
  - (g) if any person consents to the lodging of the caveat, be endorsed with that person's consent; and
  - (h) be lodged with the chief executive; and
  - (i) be accompanied by the prescribed lodgment fee.

**153 Chief executive's functions upon receipt of caveat**

Upon receipt of a duly lodged caveat referred to in section 152, the chief executive shall—

- (a) notify the holder or holders of the affected exploration permit; and
- (b) notify all other persons who have an interest (other than an interest recorded pursuant to section 158) in the exploration permit recorded in the register including any subsisting prior caveator; and
- (c) record the existence of the caveat in the register.

**154 Effect of caveat**

- (1) For so long as a caveat remains in force, the Minister shall not approve any assignment of the exploration permit identified in the caveat unless—
  - (a) the assignment is specifically excepted in the caveat; or
  - (b) the written consent of the caveator in the approved form to the approval of the assignment is lodged with the chief executive.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), unless and until a caveat is removed or withdrawn as prescribed, a caveat continues in force—
  - (a) in a case where the consent of each holder of the exploration permit concerned has been lodged with the caveat—for the term specified in the caveat or, if no term is specified, indefinitely; or
  - (b) in a case where the caveat (not being a caveat referred to in paragraph (a)) specifies a period of not more than 3 months during which it is to continue in force—until the expiration of that period; or
  - (c) in a case where the tribunal so orders—for so long as that order remains in force; or
  - (d) in any other case—until the expiration of 3 months from the date of lodgment of the caveat.



**155 Second caveat not available to same person**

When a caveat has lapsed or has been removed or withdrawn as prescribed, it shall not be competent to the caveator to lodge in respect of the same exploration permit another caveat whereby the caveator claims the same or substantially the same right or interest unless—

- (a) the consent of each holder of the exploration permit has been lodged with the last mentioned caveat; or
- (b) the tribunal so orders.

**156 Removal or withdrawal of caveat**

- (1) A caveat lodged pursuant to section 152 that has lapsed shall be removed by the chief executive and the register noted accordingly.
- (2) Upon the application of a person who has a right or interest (present or prospective) in an exploration permit affected by a caveat or whose right (present or prospective) to deal with an exploration permit is affected by a caveat lodged in respect of the exploration permit, the caveator may be summonsed to attend the tribunal to show cause why the caveat should not be removed.
- (3) The tribunal may, upon the return of a summons referred to in subsection (2) or at any later time to which the hearing may be adjourned, make such order either ex parte or otherwise as the tribunal deems just.
- (4) If the tribunal orders that a caveat be removed, the chief executive shall give effect to the order.
- (5) A caveator may withdraw his or her caveat at any time by notifying the chief executive in writing.
- (6) The removal or withdrawal of a caveat shall be effected by the chief executive recording the removal or withdrawal in the register.

**157 Compensation for lodging caveat without reasonable cause**

A person who lodges a caveat in respect of an exploration permit without reasonable cause is liable to pay such damages as may be recovered at law by any person aggrieved.

**158 Recording of agreements, arrangements, dealings or interests**

- (1) Upon application made in the approved form, payment of the prescribed fee, and production of a document purporting to evidence an agreement, arrangement or other dealing or interest (legal or equitable) in or in relation to an exploration permit (other than an assignment of the exploration permit) to the chief executive, the chief executive shall—
  - (a) record in the register maintained by the chief executive, the relevant particulars set out in the application form; and
  - (b) retain the document or a copy thereof.
- (2) The chief executive shall make the recordings prescribed by subsection (1) in the order of time in which applications are lodged with the chief executive.
- (3) The chief executive is not required to examine any document produced under this section or to determine the validity of any agreement, arrangement, dealing or interest alleged in an application made under subsection (1).
- (4) An agreement, arrangement, dealing or interest, particulars of which are recorded under this section shall, subject to being otherwise legally enforceable, take priority over any other agreement, arrangement, dealing or interest—
  - (a) particulars of which have not been recorded under this section; or
  - (b) particulars of which have been recorded under this section after particulars of the first mentioned agreement, arrangement, dealing or interest had been recorded.
- (5) Subsection (4) does not apply in respect of—

- (a) an interest that is a charge that, under the Corporations Act, part 2K.1, is required to be registered; or
- (b) an estate or interest in land (whether freehold or leasehold) or a dealing therein which is registered or registrable by the registrar of titles or other like registering authority.

### **159 Abandonment of application for exploration permit**

- (1) The applicant for an exploration permit may, at any time before the grant of the exploration permit, by notice in writing to the chief executive abandon the application in relation to all or part of the land to which it relates.
- (2) The abandonment of an application for the grant of an exploration permit shall take effect on the day next following its receipt by the chief executive.
- (2A) If the application is abandoned in relation to part only of the land to which it relates, the application must be amended to identify the area in relation to which the application is to remain in force (the *remaining area*).
- (2B) The remaining area must be identified in the way required under section 133(1)(d).<sup>32</sup>
- (3) Upon the abandonment of an application for an exploration permit, the Minister, at the Minister's discretion, may retain the whole or part of the application fee.
- (4) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after the abandonment, give written notice of it to the EPA administering authority.

### **160 Contravention by holder of exploration permit**

- (1) If the Minister considers that the holder of an exploration permit—
  - (a) has carried out activities that are not bona fide for the purposes for which the exploration permit was granted; or

---

<sup>32</sup> Section 133 (Application for exploration permit)

- (b) has failed to pay any moneys (other than rental) payable thereunder or in respect thereof by the due date for payment; or
- (c) has failed to comply with any condition that is to be observed and performed by the holder under or in respect of the exploration permit, other than a condition with respect to matters referred to in subsection (2)(a) or (b); or
- (d) has failed to report to the Minister upon the discovery of any mineral as required by section 176;

the Minister may—

- (e) cancel the exploration permit; or
  - (f) impose on the holder a penalty not exceeding 500 penalty units.
- (2) If the Minister considers that the holder of an exploration permit—
- (a) has failed to pay the rental payable thereunder by the date due for payment; or
  - (b) has failed to pay a penalty imposed on the holder pursuant to subsection (1)(f) within the time allowed for the payment by the Minister;

the Minister may cancel the exploration permit and shall notify the holder of the exploration permit and every person who currently holds a recorded interest in respect of the exploration permit accordingly.

- (3) The Minister shall not act pursuant to subsection (1) until the Minister has, by notice in writing in the approved form served on the holder of the exploration permit, called upon the holder to show cause within the time specified therein why the exploration permit should not be cancelled or a penalty imposed and served a copy of the notice on every person who currently holds a recorded interest in the exploration permit and such cause has not been shown to the satisfaction of the Minister.
- (4) When the Minister pursuant to this section cancels an exploration permit the Minister shall notify the holder and

every person who holds a recorded interest in the exploration permit accordingly.

- (5) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after the cancellation, give written notice of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (6) For the purposes of this section a recorded interest in an exploration permit does not include an interest recorded pursuant to section 158.

### **161 Surrender of exploration permit**

- (1) The holder of an exploration permit may, by notice in writing to the chief executive, surrender the permit.
- (2) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after a notice of surrender is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (3) A surrender of an exploration permit shall take effect on the day next following its acceptance by the Minister except in respect of sub-blocks the subject of an application for a new exploration permit made under subsection (4).
- (4) Where, at the time when the holder of an exploration permit purports to surrender the permit, the holder duly makes application for a new exploration permit in respect of the whole or part of the land to which the first mentioned exploration permit applies, the purported surrender shall take effect immediately prior to the grant of the new exploration permit.
- (5) The Minister may accept a surrender of an exploration permit only if the Minister is satisfied—
  - (a) the holder has complied with the condition to carry out improvement restoration for the permit; and
  - (b) the relevant environmental authority (exploration) has been cancelled or surrendered under the Environmental Protection Act.
- (6) If the Minister is not satisfied the holder has complied with the condition, the Minister may, by written notice, give the holder reasonable directions about carrying out improvement restoration for the exploration permit.

- (7) The holder must comply with the directions.

Maximum penalty for subsection (7)—200 penalty units.

**162 Adjustment of rental etc. upon surrender etc. of exploration permit**

- (1) Upon a surrender of an exploration permit or the reduction in the area to which the permit applies such adjustments as the Minister approves shall be made with respect to the rental payable under the exploration permit and security deposited and to the terms and conditions of the permit.
- (2) Any moneys payable to the Crown under the adjustments approved by the Minister pursuant to subsection (1) which have not been recovered by utilisation of the security deposit may be recovered as a debt due and owing to the Crown by action in the tribunal.
- (3) In an action under subsection (2) for recovery of a debt due to the Crown, the production to the tribunal of a certificate by the chief executive certifying the amount of that debt shall be evidence and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, conclusive evidence of the debt and the amount thereof.

**163 Notice of entry to be given**

- (1) An exploration permit holder must give the owner of the land covered by the permit written notice of entry before initial entry is made under the permit.
- (2) The notice must be given at least 5 business days before the intended entry (or a shorter period acceptable to the owner and endorsed on the notice).
- (3) The notice must—
- (a) describe the activities proposed to be carried out on the land under the exploration permit; and
  - (b) state when the activities are to be carried out; and
  - (c) be accompanied by a copy of—
    - (i) the codes of conduct or practice applying to activities under the permit; and

- (ii) any statement given to the Minister about proposals to protect the environment and rehabilitate the land.
- (4) The holder must give the mining registrar a copy of the notice immediately after the notice is given and before entry is made under the permit.

Maximum penalty—10 penalty units.

- (5) Contravention of subsection (4) does not affect the validity of the notice.
- (6) If the owner can not easily be contacted, the holder may notify the occupier of the land of the intended entry.

*Examples of owner not being easily contacted—*

- 1 The owner does not live in Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
  - 2 The owner is travelling within Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
- (7) If the holder satisfies the mining registrar it is impracticable to give either the owner or occupier notice of the intended entry, the mining registrar may dispense with the need to give notice.
- (8) If the mining registrar dispenses with the need to give notice, the mining registrar must—
- (a) make an appropriate endorsement on the permit; and
  - (b) ask the chief executive to make an appropriate note in the register.
- (9) However, before making the endorsement, the mining registrar may require the holder to take the action the mining registrar considers appropriate to publicise the proposed entry, including, for example, publishing an advertisement in a newspaper or other publication.

## **164 Term and renewal of notice**

- (1) If an exploration permit holder gives notice of initial entry for land, the notice—
- (a) permits entry for 3 months from the day stated in the notice; and

- (b) may permit entry for a longer period if the owner's written consent to the longer period is lodged with the mining registrar.<sup>33</sup>
- (2) The notice may be renewed.
- (3) A notice of renewal must—
  - (a) be given to the owner at least 5 business days (or a shorter period acceptable to the owner and endorsed on the notice), but not more than 15 business days, before the current notice ends; and
  - (b) contain information of the kind mentioned in section 163(3) that is relevant to the period of renewal.
- (4) The holder must give the mining registrar a copy of the notice of renewal immediately after the notice is given and before entry is made under the permit.

Maximum penalty—10 penalty units.

- (5) Contravention of subsection (4) does not affect the validity of the notice of renewal.
- (6) If the owner of the land can not easily be contacted, the holder may notify the occupier of the land of the intended entry.

*Examples of owner not being easily contacted—*

- 1 The owner does not live in Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
  - 2 The owner is travelling within Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
- (7) If the holder satisfies the mining registrar it is impracticable to give either the owner or occupier notice of the intended entry, the mining registrar may dispense with the need to give notice.
  - (8) If the mining registrar dispenses with the need to give notice, the mining registrar must make an appropriate endorsement on the permit.
  - (9) However, before making the endorsement, the mining registrar may require the holder to take the action the mining registrar considers appropriate to publicise the proposed

---

33 See section 163 (Notice of entry to be given).



entry, including, for example, publishing an advertisement in a newspaper or other publication.

### **166 Improvement restoration for exploration permit**

- (1) This section applies on the termination of an exploration permit, other than—
  - (a) by surrender under section 161; or
  - (b) for the granting of a new exploration permit, a mineral development licence or a mining lease over the land the subject of the terminated permit.
- (2) If the Minister is not satisfied the holder has satisfactorily complied with the condition to carry out improvement restoration for the exploration permit, the Minister may, by written notice, give the holder reasonable directions about carrying out the restoration.
- (3) The holder must comply with the directions.  
Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.
- (4) The holder and the holder's employees or agents may, to the extent reasonable and necessary to comply with the directions—
  - (a) enter land stated in the notice; and
  - (b) bring on to the land vehicles, vessels, machinery and equipment.

### **167 Production of exploration permit**

- (1) A person purporting to be upon land under the authority of an exploration permit shall upon demand made by the owner of that land, an agent of the owner or a person authorised in that behalf by the Minister for proof of the person's authority for being on the land, produce or cause to be produced to the person making the demand the exploration permit or a written authorisation in a form acceptable to the Minister from the holder of the exploration permit authorising the person to enter or be upon that land for exploration purposes.

- (2) For so long as a person fails to comply with a demand lawfully made of the person under subsection (1) the person does not have any of the entitlements under this part.
- (3) This section does not apply to prevent a person entering land for the purpose of delivering goods or substances or providing services ancillary to the purpose for which an exploration permit is granted to a person who is lawfully on that land under this part.

### **168 Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent exploration permit**

Where the holder of an exploration permit makes application for a further exploration permit, the Minister, if satisfied that the whole or part of the security deposited in respect of the existing permit is or will be refundable under section 144, notwithstanding that the period of 6 months after the termination of that permit may not have elapsed, may retain that security or part thereof (together with any further security fixed by the Minister) as the security (in which case it shall be taken to be or to be part of the security) deposited by the applicant in respect of the application for the further exploration permit and not refund that amount to the holder.

### **169 Mining registrar may call conference in some cases**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) an owner of land who is concerned about any of the following gives the mining registrar for the mining district written notice of the concerns—
    - (i) that someone claiming to act under an exploration permit, or to have entered land on the permit holder's instructions, is not authorised to be on the land or is not complying with a provision of this Act or a condition of the permit;
    - (ii) activities being, or proposed to be, carried out on the land apparently under an exploration permit (including when the activities are being, or are to be, carried out);

- (iii) the conduct on the land of someone apparently acting under an exploration permit; or
  - (b) an exploration permit holder who is concerned about something relevant to the permit involving the holder and the owner of land gives the mining registrar written notice of the concerns; or
  - (c) for another reason, the mining registrar considers it desirable to call a conference to discuss concerns about an exploration permit.
- (2) If subsection (1)(a) or (b) applies, the mining registrar—
  - (a) must investigate the concerns; and
  - (b) may call a conference about the concerns, by written notice given to the owner of the land and the exploration permit holder.
- (3) If subsection (1)(c) applies, the mining registrar may call a conference about the exploration permit, by written notice given to—
  - (a) the owners of land covered by the permit who appear to the mining registrar to be affected by the concerns; and
  - (b) the exploration permit holder; and
  - (c) anyone else the mining registrar considers should be given notice of the conference.
- (4) The notice must state when and where the conference will be held and what is to be discussed at the conference.

## **170 Who may attend conference**

- (1) Apart from the mining registrar, anyone given notice of a conference about an exploration permit (a *section 169 conference*) may attend and take part in the conference.
- (2) Also, with the mining registrar's approval, someone else may be present to help a person attending the conference.
- (3) However, a person may not be represented at the conference by a lawyer.

**171 What happens if someone does not attend**

The mining registrar may hold a section 169 conference even though someone given notice of the conference does not attend the conference.

**172 Mining registrar's function at section 169 conference**

The mining registrar must endeavour to help those attending a section 169 conference to reach an early, inexpensive settlement of the things discussed.

**173 Agreements and statements at section 169 conference**

- (1) If parties to a section 169 conference reach agreement about something discussed at the conference, the parties must put it into writing, sign it and lodge it with the mining registrar.
- (2) A person attending the conference must not disclose or publish anything said at the conference other than in an agreement mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) Nothing said by a person at the conference is admissible in a proceeding without the person's consent.

**174 Tribunal may award costs**

- (1) If—
  - (a) a person agrees to attend a section 169 conference but does not attend; and
  - (b) someone else does attend (the *attending party*);the attending party may apply to the tribunal for an order requiring the person who did not attend to pay the attending party's reasonable costs of attending.
- (2) If the tribunal orders a person to pay the attending party's costs, the tribunal must decide the amount of the costs.
- (3) However, the tribunal must not order a person to pay costs if the tribunal is satisfied the person had a reasonable excuse for not attending the conference.

**175 Mining registrar may recommend action to ease concerns or other action**

- (1) If the mining registrar considers an exploration permit holder should take action to ease concerns of an owner of land or another exploration permit holder, or should take some other action, the mining registrar may recommend the action to the Minister.
- (2) The Minister may give the exploration permit holder the directions the Minister considers appropriate about the recommended action.
- (3) A failure by the holder to comply with the Minister's directions is taken to be a breach of a condition of the exploration permit.
- (4) If the Minister gives a direction under subsection (2), the chief executive must give a copy to—
  - (a) if the recommended action under subsection (1) relates only to native title protection conditions under section 141AA—any person identified in the conditions as a native title party; or
  - (b) if the recommended action under subsection (1) relates only partly to the native title protection conditions—
    - (i) any person identified in the conditions as a native title party; and
    - (ii) the owner of the land; or
  - (c) otherwise—the owner of the land.
- (5) If the recommended action under subsection (1) is action to ease concerns of an owner of land or another exploration permit holder, the mining registrar must give the land's owner and the exploration permit holder written notice of—
  - (a) the substance of any recommendation made to the Minister under subsection (1) or, if the mining registrar decides not to make a recommendation, the mining registrar's decision; and
  - (b) any other action the mining registrar has taken to ease the concerns of the owner or exploration permit holder.

**176 Discovery of minerals to be reported**

- (1) The holder of an exploration permit shall, within 14 days after discovery of any mineral of commercial value in what appears to be payable quantities within the area specified in the exploration permit by any person acting under the authority of the exploration permit, report to the Minister the fact of that discovery and such other particulars as the Minister requires.
- (2) The Minister may direct the holder of an exploration permit to apply for a mineral development licence or mining lease over all or part of the land specified in the exploration permit as the Minister directs in respect of any mineral discovered.
- (3) If the holder of an exploration permit to whom a notice under subsection (2) is given does not apply for a mineral development licence or a mining lease as directed within the specified time, the Minister may in the Minister's discretion cancel the exploration permit.
- (4) Any refund of moneys held in respect of an exploration permit that is cancelled pursuant to subsection (3) (including any security deposited) shall be at the Minister's discretion.

**176A Application to add excluded land to existing permit**

- (1) The holder of an exploration permit (the *existing permit*) may apply to the Minister to add excluded land to the existing permit.
- (2) The provisions of this part apply, with necessary changes, to an application under subsection (1) as if it were an application under section 133.<sup>34</sup>
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), in deciding the application, the Minister may—
  - (a) impose conditions under section 141(1)(j)<sup>35</sup> in addition to any conditions that apply under the existing permit; and

---

34 Section 133 (Application for exploration permit)

35 Section 141 (Conditions of exploration permit)

- (b) fix an amount of security to be deposited under section 144<sup>36</sup> in addition to any security for the existing permit.
- (4) On the granting of the application, the excluded land is included in the existing permit.
- (5) In this section—

*excluded land* means land that was the subject of a specific exclusion when the existing permit was granted or that was taken to be excluded under section 132.

### **177 Reduction of land under exploration permit upon grant of mineral development licence or mining lease**

Upon the grant of a mineral development licence or mining lease consequent upon an application made by the holder of an exploration permit granted in respect of the same land for the same mineral (whether or not at the direction of the Minister) or by an eligible person with the consent of the holder, the land to which the exploration permit applies shall be reduced accordingly and the terms and conditions applying to the exploration permit may be varied as the Minister directs.

### **178 Discovery etc. of mineral does not vest property**

A person who whilst acting under the authority of an exploration permit discovers or takes any mineral does not thereby acquire property therein and shall not dispose of any such mineral except with the consent of the Minister whose consent may be subject to such terms and conditions as the Minister thinks fit (including prescribed conditions as to the payment of royalties).

---

36 Section 144 (Provision of security)

## **Part 6 Mineral development licences**

### **179 Mineral development licence**

Unless otherwise approved by the Minister pursuant to section 226(3), a mineral development licence in respect of a mineral occurrence may be applied for by an eligible person in respect of land which, at the time the application for the grant is made, is comprised in—

- (a) an exploration permit; or
- (b) a mineral development licence;

in respect of the same mineral of which the applicant or, where more than 1 person is the applicant, at least 1 of them is, with or without others, the holder.

### **180 Only eligible persons to hold mineral development licences**

A mineral development licence shall not be held by a person who is not an eligible person.

### **181 Obligations and entitlement under mineral development licence**

- (1) During the currency of a mineral development licence, the holder shall carry out or cause to be carried out such activities as are specified in the licence by the Minister.
- (2) The Minister may specify in a mineral development licence that no activity need be carried out for the term of the licence or for such period as is specified therein.
- (3) Without in any way limiting the activities that the Minister may specify in a mineral development licence, activities leading to the evaluation and economic development of an ore body by or on behalf of the holder may include—
  - (a) geological, geophysical and geochemical programs and other works as are reasonably necessary to evaluate the potential for development of any mineral occurrence of possible economic potential occurring in or on land comprised in the mineral development licence; and



- (b) mining feasibility studies; and
  - (c) metallurgical testing; and
  - (d) environmental studies; and
  - (e) marketing studies; and
  - (f) engineering and design studies; and
  - (g) such other activities as the Minister considers appropriate.
- (4) During the currency of a mineral development licence—
- (a) the holder—
    - (i) may carry out or cause to be carried out any activities (including activities referred to in subsection (2)) as are appropriate for the purpose for which the licence is granted; and
    - (ii) may, in relation to the land comprised in the mineral development licence, do all such things as are authorised or were authorised, at the time of the application for the mineral development licence, under the relevant exploration permit then held by the applicant for the mineral development licence; and
  - (b) the holder and any person who acts for the purpose of carrying out any activity authorised by the mineral development licence with or by such vehicles, vessels, machinery and equipment as may be necessary or expedient for the purpose may, subject to compliance with section 211, enter—
    - (i) any part of the land comprised in the mineral development licence that is not the surface area of a reserve; and
    - (ii) with the consent of the owner, or the consent of the Governor in Council, any part of the land comprised in the mineral development licence that is the surface area of a reserve;

for any purpose permitted or required under the licence or by this Act; and

- (c) the holder of the mineral development licence, subject to compliance with this Act, may have considered for grant, in priority to all other persons, any number of mineral development licences and mining leases relating to any minerals specified in the mineral development licence in respect of any land (or part thereof) to which the mineral development licence applies and may enter that land for the purpose of doing all acts necessary to comply with this Act relating to an application therefor.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (4)(b)(ii), the holder of a mineral development licence has the consent of an owner of land if that consent in writing has been previously lodged with the chief executive and has not been withdrawn as provided for in subsection (11).
- (6) Consent given as required by subsection (4)(b)(ii) may be restricted as to time or to a part of the land in question.
- (7) Notwithstanding subsection (4)(b) the holder of a mineral development licence is not required to obtain consent in respect of the entry or being upon land that is a reserve for public road where the entry of or being upon that land is solely as access in respect of land the subject of the exploration permit.
- (8) A mineral development licence authorises a person to enter the surface of land that was restricted land when the application for the licence is lodged only if—
- (a) the owner of the land where the relevant permanent building, or relevant feature, is situated, consents in writing to the application; and
- (b) the applicant gives the consent to the chief executive.
- (9) Consent given pursuant to subsection (8) shall specify the period of the consent and any conditions applicable to the consent and once given that consent can not be withdrawn.
- (10) In subsection (8)—

***building*** or ***dwelling house*** means a fixed structure that is wholly or partly enclosed by walls and is roofed.

- (11) Consent referred to in subsection (4)(b)(ii) can only be withdrawn by the owner of the relevant land giving notice in writing to the chief executive and shall only be effective when the Minister accepts the withdrawal or, if not accepted, after the holder of the mineral development licence has been given an opportunity by the Minister to apply for the consent of the Governor in Council in lieu of the owner's consent—
- (a) if, within the time allowed by the Minister for the holder to do so, the holder does not apply for that consent, that time expires; or
  - (b) if, within the time allowed by the Minister for the holder to do so, the holder applies for that consent, the Governor in Council gives or refuses to give that consent.
- (12) The holder of a mineral development licence, and each person who enters or is upon land under the authority of the licence, shall comply with the terms and conditions upon which any consent required to be given under this Act in respect thereof was given by the owner of that land.
- (13) If an owner of land that is a reserve refuses or fails within a reasonable time to give a consent required by subsection (4)(b)(ii) or imposes terms and conditions thereon that the holder of the relevant mineral development licence considers to be so harsh as to be unreasonable, the holder of the mineral development licence may apply in writing to the Minister who may refuse the application or may recommend to the Governor in Council that consent be given.
- (14) Upon receipt of an application under subsection (11) or (13), the Minister shall seek the views of the owner of the relevant land on the application.
- (15) If the Minister is satisfied that it is unreasonable for an owner of land that is a reserve to refuse to give to the holder of a mineral development licence the consent required by subsection (4)(b)(ii), to withdraw consent previously given or to have imposed the terms and conditions upon which that consent was given, the Governor in Council may, upon the recommendation of the Minister—

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (a) subject to such terms and conditions as the Governor in Council thinks appropriate, give that consent in lieu of the consent of the owner; or
- (b) set aside or vary as the Governor in Council thinks fit the terms and conditions upon which the consent is subject;

whereupon the owner of the land shall, subject to compliance by the holder of the mineral development licence with any terms and conditions set by the Governor in Council, be deemed to have given the consent or, as the case may be, have set aside or varied the terms and conditions in accordance with the Governor in Council's determination.

- (16) The Governor in Council may make a determination under subsection (15) whether or not an owner of land makes any submission to the Minister pursuant to subsection (14).
- (17) The chief executive shall notify the holder of a mineral development licence and the owner of land that is a reserve of particulars of any relevant determination made by the Governor in Council pursuant to subsection (15) before any entry of that land is made under the authority of the mineral development licence except where the entry is in accordance with any consent given by the owner.
- (18) For the purposes of exercising entitlements under this part a person who enters or is upon land under the authority of a mineral development licence may stay at night thereon and for that purpose may set up temporary accommodation thereon.
- (19) During the currency of a mineral development licence, the rights of the holder of the licence relate, and are taken to have always related, to the whole of the land comprised in the licence.
- (20) The terms and conditions upon which consent required by subsections (4)(b)(ii) and (8) is given shall be deemed to be part of the terms and conditions of the relevant mineral development licence.
- (21) Consent given as required by subsection (4)(b)(ii) may be restricted as to time or to a part only of the land in question.

**182 Land is excluded from mineral development licence if covered by other authority under Act**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) the mining registrar accepts lodgment of an application for a mineral development licence for particular land; and
  - (b) all or some of the land covered by the accepted application is—
    - (i) covered by an existing mining claim or mining lease; or
    - (ii) included in an earlier application for a mining claim or mining lease.
- (2) Land mentioned in subsection (1)(b) that is within the boundaries of the accepted application, and its surface, (*excluded land*) is taken to be excluded from the land covered by a mineral development licence granted for the land on the accepted application.
- (3) However, the land is excluded land—
  - (a) if subsection (1)(b)(i) applies—only while it is covered by an existing mining claim or mining lease; or
  - (b) if subsection (1)(b)(ii) applies—
    - (i) until the earlier application is abandoned or rejected; or
    - (ii) while it is covered by a mining claim or mining lease granted on the earlier application.
- (4) If excluded land within the boundaries of the mineral development licence ceases to be excluded land, it is taken to be included in the mineral development licence unless the mineral development licence provides otherwise.
- (5) Subsections (3) and (4) do not apply to land that is non-exclusive land under the native title provisions if the mineral development licence was granted after 23 December 1996.

**183 Application for mineral development licence**

- (1) An application for the grant of a mineral development licence shall—
  - (a) be in the approved form; and
  - (b) specify the name of each applicant; and
  - (c) specify the name and address for service of 1 person upon whom any notice may be served on behalf of the applicant or the applicants; and
  - (d) describe all parcels of land the whole or part of which are the subject of the application and specify the current use of the land and the names and addresses of the owner or owners of the land and of land which is to be used as access thereto; and
  - (e) identify in the prescribed manner the boundaries of the land applied for; and
  - (f) specify the mineral or minerals in respect of which the mineral development licence is sought; and
  - (g) give reasons why the mineral development licence should be granted in respect of the area and shape of the land described in the application; and
  - (h) be accompanied by a sketch, map or other graphic representation acceptable to the mining registrar setting out the boundaries of any land referred to in paragraphs (d) and (i); and
  - (i) describe and identify in the prescribed manner any land proposed to be used as access from a point outside the boundary of the mineral development licence acceptable to the mining registrar to any part on the surface of the land sought to be included in the mineral development licence; and
  - (j) nominate the term of the mineral development licence sought and give reasons therefor; and
  - (k) be accompanied by the consent in writing of each person who alone or with others is the holder of the exploration permit or the mineral development licence in respect of the land and the mineral the subject of the application and is not the applicant; and

- (l) be lodged with the mining registrar; and
- (m) be accompanied by—
  - (i) a statement, acceptable to the Minister—
    - (A) giving a detailed description and technical particulars of the mineral occurrence for which the mineral development licence is sought together with any necessary supporting documents; and
    - (B) stating the activities (if any) proposed to be conducted under the mineral development licence, including, for example, work programs, amounts to be spent and studies to be performed; and
  - (ii) a statement, acceptable to the Minister, separate from the statement mentioned in subparagraph (i), detailing the applicant's financial and technical resources; and
  - (iii) the application fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within the following period after the application is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority—
  - (a) if section 185 applies—10 business days;
  - (b) otherwise—5 business days.
- (3) Subsection (2) ceases to apply if—
  - (a) the application is rejected under section 186; or
  - (b) the Minister decides, under section 185, another application takes priority over the application.

**184 Description of mineral development licence**

In an application for the grant of a mineral development licence—

- (a) the commencement point for the description shall be accurately related by measured distances and compass bearings (or other method acceptable to the mining registrar) to a survey mark or other fixed and well defined point acceptable to the mining registrar; and
- (b) the boundaries of the mineral development licence shall be described by accurately measured distances and compass bearings or other method acceptable to the mining registrar; and
- (c) the surface access from a point acceptable to the mining registrar to the land over which the mineral development licence is sought shall be described by measured distances and compass bearings along the centre line of that access together with the width of that access or by some other method acceptable to the mining registrar; and
- (d) the datum post or commencement point of the description of any land the subject of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease or application for the grant of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease, in any case wholly or partly within the land sought for the mineral development licence shall be related by measured distances and compass bearings (or other method acceptable to the mining registrar) to the commencement point of the description of the land the subject of the application.

**185 Priority of applications for grant of mineral development licences**

Applications for the grant of mineral development licences duly made in respect of or including the same land shall take priority according to the Minister's determination.



**186 Minister may grant or reject application for mineral development licence**

- (1) If, in respect of an application for a mineral development licence, the Minister is satisfied that—
- (a) the applicant has complied with the provisions of this Act with respect to the application; and
  - (b) there exists to a high degree of definition on or in the land in respect of which the application is made a significant mineral occurrence of possible economic potential; and
  - (c) the area of land in respect of which the application is made is appropriate to further investigation of that occurrence; and
  - (d) the financial and technical resources available to the applicant and any activities proposed pursuant to section 183(1)(m)(i) and (ii) are appropriate and acceptable to the Minister;

the Minister may grant and issue to the applicant a mineral development licence over all or part of the land in respect of which the application is made.

- (2) However, the Minister must not grant a mineral development licence for land in a fossicking area, or for land that includes the whole or part of a fossicking area, unless the application—
- (a) was made, but not decided, before the land became a fossicking area; or
  - (b) is for land in an exploration permit.
- (3) The Minister may reject an application for the grant of a mineral development licence.
- (4) Where the Minister rejects an application for the grant of a mineral development licence in whole or in part the Minister shall, as soon as practicable after making the decision, notify the applicant in writing of the Minister's reasons.
- (5) Where the Minister grants a mineral development licence in respect of part only of the land applied for, the application in so far as it relates to the balance of that land shall be taken to be rejected.

- (6) A mineral development licence shall be in the approved form and shall specify—
- (a) the identification number of the licence; and
  - (b) the name of the holder; and
  - (c) the address for service of notices on the holder; and
  - (d) the description of land in respect of which the licence is granted; and
  - (e) the term and date of commencement of the licence; and
  - (f) the conditions (other than conditions prescribed by this Act) to which the licence is subject; and
  - (g) the minerals the subject of the licence.
- (7) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after making a grant or rejection under this section, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the grant or rejection.

**187 Holder to notify owners of land of grant or renewal**

Within 20 business days, or such longer period as the Minister shall in the particular case allow, after the grant or renewal of a mineral development licence, the holder shall give notice in the approved form to the owners of the parcels of land subject to the licence.

**188 Upon rejection of application, application fee or part may be retained**

If the Minister rejects an application for the grant of a mineral development licence the Minister may determine, at the Minister's discretion whether all or part of the application fee that accompanied the application for the licence shall be retained.

**189 Abandonment of application for mineral development licence**

- (1) The applicant for the grant of a mineral development licence may, at any time before the grant of the mineral development licence, by notice in writing to the mining registrar abandon the application in relation to all or part of the land to which it relates.
- (2) The abandonment of an application for the grant of a mineral development licence shall take effect on the day next following its receipt by the mining registrar.
- (2A) If the application is abandoned in relation to part only of the land to which it relates, the application must be amended to identify the area in relation to which the application is to remain in force (the *remaining area*).
- (2B) The remaining area must be identified in the way required under section 183(1)(d) and (e).<sup>37</sup>
- (3) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the abandonment, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the abandonment.
- (4) Upon the abandonment of an application for the grant of a mineral development licence, the Minister, at the Minister's discretion, may retain the whole or part of the application fee.
- (5) Upon the abandonment of an application for the grant of a mineral development licence taking effect the land that ceases to be comprised in that application shall form part of any existing exploration permit or mineral development licence over that land of which the applicant is holder.

**190 Provision of security**

- (1) Before a mineral development licence is granted or renewed or a condition of the licence is varied or approval is given to add stated minerals to the licence, the Minister, taking into consideration the matters outlined in section 183(1)(m)(i)(A) and (B), shall determine the amount of security to be

---

37 Section 183 (Application for mineral development licence)

deposited by the holder of that licence as reasonable security for—

- (a) compliance with the conditions of the licence; and
  - (b) compliance with the provisions of this Act; and
  - (c) rectification of any actual damage that may be caused by any person whilst purporting to act under the authority of the mineral development licence to pre-existing improvements for the licence; and
  - (d) amounts (other than penalties) payable to the State under this Act.
- (2) A mineral development licence must not be granted or renewed, a condition of a mineral development licence must not be varied, and an approval must not be given to add stated minerals to a mineral development licence, until the applicant for the grant, renewal, variation or approval deposits the security decided under this section.
- (3) The Minister, if satisfied that any condition of the mineral development licence or any provision of this Act has not been complied with or that damage referred to in subsection (1)(c) has been caused by any person purporting to act under the authority of a mineral development licence or who enters land upon the instruction of the holder, the Minister may require that person to take all action necessary to rectify that noncompliance or damage and, save where the person was not the holder and was not upon the land with the holder's approval at the time the damage was caused, may utilise for that purpose the whole or part of the amount of the security deposited in respect of that mineral development licence.
- (4) If, at any time (whether during or within 20 business days after the expiration of the term of a mineral development licence) the amount or any part of the amount deposited under this section is utilised as provided by subsection (3) or the Minister considers that, in view of the damage caused or likely to be caused by any person purporting to act under the authority of the mineral development licence or upon the instruction of the holder or for any other reason, a further amount of security should be deposited in respect of that mineral development licence, the Minister shall require the holder or former holder of the mineral development licence,

within the time specified by the Minister, to deposit the further security.

- (5) The Minister may accept a bond or a guarantee or indemnity by, or other financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or another credit provider approved by the Minister or other form of security acceptable to the Minister as the whole or part of the security to be deposited under this section.
- (6) It shall be a condition of a mineral development licence that the holder shall deposit security or further security from time to time in accordance with a requirement made as provided by this section.
- (7) Within 20 business days after termination of a mineral development licence, the person who was the holder shall notify all owners of land comprised in the mineral development licence that any claims for rectification of actual damage to land caused under the authority or purported authority of the mineral development licence must be lodged within 6 months of termination with the mining registrar.
- (8) Where a mineral development licence has expired or been terminated, the Minister—
  - (a) in a case where every owner of land the subject of the mineral development licence certifies that there is no actual damage to land that should be rectified—at any time; or
  - (b) in any other case—not earlier than 6 months after the expiration or the termination;

shall, subject to subsection (9), refund to the holder of the licence (or as the holder in writing directs) any security deposited and not utilised as provided by subsection (4) less any amount determined by the Minister to be retained towards—

- (c) rectification of any matters caused by the noncompliance with any of the conditions of the mineral development licence or with any order or direction made or given by the Minister under this Act and directed to the holder; and

- (d) amounts (other than penalties) the holder owes to the State under this Act (whether the amounts became owing before or after the termination).
- (9) If the Minister accepts a bond, guarantee or indemnity by, or another financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or another credit provider as security under this section, any amount payable to the holder under subsection (8) must be refunded to the financial institution, insurance company or credit provider and not to the holder of the mineral development licence to which the security relates.

## **191 Compensation**

- (1) Notwithstanding section 190, the Crown or an owner is entitled to recover from time to time, in the tribunal compensation in respect of damage or injury suffered or loss incurred by reason of a person acting or purporting to act under the authority of a mineral development licence but any moneys paid under that section in respect of rectification of damage the subject of the proceeding shall be taken into account in assessing the compensation.
- (2) The holder of a mineral development licence is not liable under this section in respect of damage or injury or loss caused by another person who is not a holder and is not a person authorised by the holder to be upon the land the subject of the mineral development licence.

## **192 Initial term of mineral development licence**

- (1) The initial term of a mineral development licence shall, unless the licence is sooner terminated, be for a period not exceeding 5 years (or such longer period as the Minister approves) commencing on the first day of the month which next follows the day on which the mineral development licence is granted.
- (2) From the grant of a mineral development licence to the commencement of the initial term thereof the holder shall have all the entitlements, powers, duties and functions that the holder has during the term of the licence except section 193 shall not apply.

**193 Rental payable on mineral development licence**

- (1) Upon the grant of a mineral development licence rental shall first be payable thereon with respect to the period from the commencement of the term of the licence to 31 December of that year (the *first rental period*) and shall be paid within 20 business days (or such longer period as the Minister in the particular case approves) of the grant of the mineral development licence.
- (2) The amount of the rental payable in respect of the first rental period shall be an amount that bears to the yearly rental prescribed pursuant to subsection (4) for the year in which the first rental period falls the same proportion that the number of whole calendar months of the first rental period bears to 12.
- (3) In respect of each year or part thereof of the term of a mineral development licence (other than the first rental period) a full year's rental shall be payable in advance not later than 31 December of the previous year.
- (4) If the full year's rental is paid in advance as prescribed by subsection (3), the amount of the rental shall be the amount prescribed in respect of the year in which the rental period falls.
- (5) If rental is not paid in advance as prescribed by subsection (3)—
  - (a) the Minister shall, prior to 31 January of that year, notify the holder of and any person holding a recorded interest in the mineral development licence (other than an interest recorded pursuant to section 205) that the rental has not been paid as prescribed by subsection (3) and of the amount of rental as prescribed by paragraph (b); and
  - (b) the amount of the full year's rental shall be payable before 1 April of that year and shall be an amount equal to the amount prescribed in respect of the year in which the rental period falls plus an amount equal to 15% of that prescribed amount.
- (6) Upon the renewal of a mineral development licence, no further rental shall be payable in respect of the period that, if the renewal was a grant of a mineral development licence,

would be the first rental period, except where that period commences on 1 January.

- (7) Except as provided in subsection (8), where in any year a mineral development licence is surrendered or terminated through effluxion of time and is not renewed there shall be refundable to the last holder of the mineral development licence an amount that bears to the amount of the rental that was paid in respect of that year the same proportion that the number of whole calendar months from—
- (a) the date of surrender or termination; or
  - (b) the date of rejection of the application for renewal;
- whichever is the later, to 31 December of that year bears to 12.
- (8) No amount shall be refunded pursuant to subsection (7) where a mineral development licence is surrendered within its first rental period after its original grant.

## **194 Conditions of mineral development licence**

- (1) Each mineral development licence shall be subject to—
- (a) a condition that the holder shall carry out such activities (if any) for which the mineral development licence was granted and in accordance with this Act and the conditions of the mineral development licence and for no other purpose; and
  - (b) a condition that the holder must carry out improvement restoration for the mineral development licence; and
  - (c) a condition that the holder, prior to the termination of the mineral development licence for whatever cause, shall remove all equipment and plant on or in the land comprised in the mineral development licence unless otherwise authorised in writing by the Minister; and
  - (d) a condition that without the prior approval in writing of the Minister the holder shall not obstruct or interfere with any right of access had at any time during the term of the mineral development licence by any person in respect of land the subject of the mineral development licence for so long as that right of access is exercised; and



*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (e) a condition that the holder shall not assign or mortgage the mineral development licence or any part thereof without the consent in writing of the Minister; and
- (f) a condition that the holder must, when, and in the way, the Minister requires, give to the Minister—
  - (i) progress and final reports, accompanied by maps, sections, charts and other data giving full particulars and results of activities carried out on the area specified by the Minister, including details of costs incurred for specified periods within the term of the mineral development licence; and
  - (ii) materials obtained because of the holder's activities under the mineral development licence; and
- (g) a condition that the holder—
  - (i) shall pay the rental as prescribed; and
  - (ii) shall deposit as required by the Minister any security from time to time under this Act; and
- (h) a condition that the holder shall comply with this Act and other mining legislation; and
  - (i) such other conditions as are prescribed; and
  - (j) such other conditions as are determined by the Minister.
- (2) The Minister may from time to time, with the agreement of the holder of a mineral development licence vary any condition imposed by the Minister.
- (3) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after the Minister makes a variation under subsection (2), give the EPA administering authority written notice of the variation.
- (4) The holder of a mineral development licence and all persons acting under the authority of the licence shall comply with the conditions for the time being of the licence.
- (5) Conditions may be imposed in respect of a mineral development licence that require compliance with specified codes or industry agreements.
- (6) Despite subsections (1), (2) and (5), a condition must not be determined, imposed, prescribed or varied if the condition, or

the condition as varied, is the same, or substantially the same, or inconsistent with, a relevant environmental condition for the mineral development licence.

- (7) A mineral development licence granted after the commencement of the *Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1998* is subject to a condition that the holder comply with the At Risk agreement.

### **194AAA Additional conditions of mineral development licence relating to native title**

- (1) Conditions determined for a mineral development licence by the Minister under section 194(1)(j) may include native title protection conditions for the licence.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit section 194(1)(j).
- (3) In this section—

*native title protection conditions*, for a mineral development licence, means conditions that—

- (a) are about ways of minimising the impact of the licence on native title in relation to the land affected by the licence, including ways of accessing the land and ways anything authorised under the licence may be done; and
- (b) are identified in the licence as native title protection conditions for the licence.

### **194AA Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a negotiated agreement under part 17, division 4,<sup>38</sup> provides for the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, a mineral development licence; and
- (b) the agreement includes conditions to be complied with by 1 or more of the parties to the agreement; and

---

38 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases)

- (c) the Minister consents to the mineral development licence being subject to 1 or more of the conditions (the *consent conditions*); and
  - (d) the act is done.
- (2) The mineral development licence is subject to the consent conditions.

### **194AB Other agreement conditions**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a registered indigenous use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, or an agreement mentioned in section 31(1)(b) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act, provides for the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, a mineral development licence; and
  - (b) the State is a party to the agreement; and
  - (c) the agreement includes a requirement that, if the act is done, the mineral development licence must be subject to conditions stated in the agreement (the *stated conditions*); and
  - (d) the act is done.
- (2) The mineral development licence is subject to the stated conditions.

### **194AC Application to vary conditions of existing licence**

- (1) The holder of a mineral development licence (the *existing licence*) may apply to the Minister for a variation of the conditions of the existing licence.
- (2) The provisions of this part apply, with necessary changes, to an application under subsection (1) as if it were an application under section 183.<sup>39</sup>
- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), in deciding the application, the Minister may—

---

39 Section 183 (Application for mineral development licence)

- (a) vary the conditions of the existing licence by imposing conditions under section 194(1)(j)<sup>40</sup> in addition to any conditions that apply under the existing licence; and
  - (b) fix an amount of security to be deposited under section 190<sup>41</sup> in addition to any security for the existing licence.
- (4) On the granting of the application, the varied conditions, including imposed conditions mentioned in subsection (3)(a), are included in the existing licence.

### **194A Tribunal's jurisdiction for At Risk agreement**

- (1) The tribunal has jurisdiction to hear and decide a proceeding about the following matters under a condition of a mineral development licence requiring compliance with the At Risk agreement—
- (a) whether hardship, as defined under the agreement, exists;
  - (b) the fair market value of a property for the purposes of the agreement.
- (2) In a proceeding under subsection (1)(a), the tribunal must consider—
- (a) all relevant matters put before the committee in any mediation under the agreement; and
  - (b) the final recommendation made by the committee in the mediation.
- (3) In a proceeding, a copy of the agreement as at a particular date, certified as a true copy by the chief executive, is admissible as evidence of the agreement at that date until the contrary is proved.
- (4) Despite the *Limitations of Actions Act 1974*, a proceeding must start—
- (a) for a matter that arose before the commencement of this section—within 1 year after the commencement; or

---

40 Section 194 (Conditions of mineral development licence)

41 Section 190 (Provision of security)

- (b) for a matter that arose after the commencement of this section—within 1 year after the committee gives notice of its final recommendation about whether hardship, as defined under the agreement, exists.
- (5) In this section—
- committee* means the committee mentioned in the At Risk agreement.

### **197 Application for renewal of mineral development licence**

- (1) The holder of a mineral development licence may, within the renewal period, apply to the Minister for a renewal of the licence.
- (2) The application must be made in the approved form and accompanied by the information and the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) In this section—

*renewal period* means the period that is—

  - (a) at least 6 months, or any shorter period allowed by the Minister in the particular case, before the current term of the permit expires; and
  - (b) not more than 1 year before the current term expires.

### **197A Decision on application**

- (1) The Minister may renew a mineral development licence if the Minister is satisfied of each of the following—
  - (a) the holder of the licence has complied with—
    - (i) the licence; and
    - (ii) this Act in relation to the licence;
  - (b) there exists on or in the land in relation to which the application is made a mineral occurrence of possible economic potential to sustain a mining operation;
  - (c) the activities proposed to be undertaken during the renewed term are appropriate;

- (d) the financial and technical resources available to the holder to carry out the proposed activities during the renewed term are appropriate;
  - (e) the public interest will not be adversely affected by the renewal.
- (2) The renewal may be granted for the further term of not more than 5 years decided by the Minister.
  - (3) The renewed licence is subject to—
    - (a) any conditions prescribed under a regulation; and
    - (b) any conditions decided by the Minister, for the licence.
  - (4) The Minister may refuse to renew the licence if the Minister—
    - (a) has served on the holder a notice in the approved form asking the holder to show cause, within the period stated in the notice, why the renewal should not be refused; and
    - (b) after considering the holder's response, is satisfied the renewal should be refused.
  - (5) As soon as practicable after deciding the application for the renewal, the Minister must give the holder a written notice stating—
    - (a) the decision; and
    - (b) if the decision is to grant the renewal on conditions, or to refuse the renewal, the reasons for the decision.

**197B Chief executive must give copy of application to EPA administering authority**

If the Minister renews a mineral development licence, the chief executive must give the EPA administering authority a copy of the application for the renewal within 5 business days after the Minister is satisfied of the matters mentioned in section 197A(1) concerning the licence.

**197C Continuation of licence while application being dealt with**

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if—
  - (a) a properly made application for renewal of a mineral development licence is not withdrawn, refused or granted, before its expiry day ends; and
  - (b) after the expiry day, the holder—
    - (i) continues to pay rental on the licence and other amounts required to be paid under this Act; and
    - (ii) otherwise complies with this Act and the licence conditions.
- (2) The licence continues in force subject to the rights, entitlements and obligations in effect immediately before the end of the expiry day until the application is withdrawn, refused or granted.
- (3) In this section—

*properly made application*, for renewal of a mineral development licence, means an application that complies with section 197(2).

**197D When term of renewed licence starts**

- (1) If a mineral development licence is renewed before its expiry day ends, the term of the renewed licence starts on the day after the expiry day.
- (2) If the licence is renewed after the expiry day, the term of the renewed licence is taken to have started on the day after the expiry day.

**197E When new conditions of renewed licence start**

- (1) If a renewed mineral development licence is subject to conditions (the *new conditions*) different from, or not included in, the licence conditions applying immediately before its renewal, the new conditions apply from the later of the following—
  - (a) the start of the term of the renewed licence;

- (b) the day the renewal is granted.
- (2) However, if the licence is continued in force under section 197C, the holder must pay rental on the licence from the day after its expiry day at the rate that would have been payable, from time to time, if the renewed mineral development licence had been renewed on the day after the expiry day.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies even though payment of rental may be a condition of the licence.

**197F Renewal of licence must be in name of last recorded assignee**

- (1) This section applies if an assignment of a mineral development licence is approved and recorded under section 198(6)—
  - (a) after the date on which an application for renewal of the licence is made; and
  - (b) before the application is decided by the Minister.
- (2) Any renewal granted on the application must be in the name of the assignee under the last assignment approved and recorded before the grant of the renewal.

**198 Assignment or mortgage of mineral development licence**

- (1) A mineral development licence, or an interest in a mineral development licence, may be assigned or mortgaged only if—
  - (a) the Minister has, under this section, approved the assignment or mortgage; and
  - (b) the assignment or mortgage is made in the approved form lodged with the chief executive; and
  - (c) the lodgment is accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after an assignment is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.



- (3) Where there are 2 or more holders of a mineral development licence, an application for assignment under subsection (1) shall be made by all the holders and, if a mortgage is recorded in respect of the mineral development licence, shall be accompanied by the mortgagee's consent.
- (4) The holder of a mineral development licence desirous of exercising a power referred to in subsection (1) shall apply in writing to the chief executive for the Minister's approval to that exercise and shall furnish to the chief executive such information with respect thereto as the Minister requires.
- (5) Upon an application made pursuant to subsection (4) the Minister shall cause the applicant to be given notice—
  - (a) that, subject to compliance with this Act in respect thereof and with any conditions specified in the notice within 3 months from the date of the notice or such other period as is specified in the notice, the Minister will approve the exercise; or
  - (b) that the Minister does not approve the exercise.
- (6) Upon receipt within the prescribed time of the prescribed document of assignment or mortgage that gives effect to an assignment or mortgage referred to in subsection (1) and upon compliance with this Act and all conditions specified in the notice given pursuant to subsection (5)(a) in respect of that assignment or mortgage and payment of the prescribed fee, the assignment or mortgage shall be approved and such particulars as are necessary to give effect to or evidence that assignment or mortgage shall be recorded in the appropriate register and endorsed on the mineral development licence.
- (7) The Minister may approve, and record particulars of, the exercise of a power mentioned in subsection (1) even though subsections (4) and (5) have not been complied with if the Minister would have approved the exercise of the power if the subsections had been complied with.
- (8) An assignment or mortgage of a mineral development licence shall not be in respect of part only of the land the subject of the mineral development licence.
- (9) A purported assignment or mortgage of a mineral development licence or of an interest shall not be effective

unless it is made in accordance with this section and approved as provided in subsection (6) and shall take effect on the day next following its approval by the Minister under subsection (5).

- (10) Within 20 business days of the Minister granting approval of an assignment under this section, the assignee shall notify the owners of the relevant land of that approval.

### **199 Lodgment of caveat**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person who claims a right or interest in or in respect of a mineral development licence may by a caveat in the approved form forbid the approval of any assignment or mortgage in respect of the mineral development licence (save any assignment or mortgage the approval of which is excepted in the caveat) either absolutely or until after notice of intention to approve such an assignment or mortgage is served on the caveator.
- (2) A caveat duly lodged pursuant to this section does not apply in respect of an assignment or mortgage the application for approval of which was lodged with the chief executive before the lodgment of the caveat.
- (3) A caveat referred to in subsection (1) shall—
  - (a) be in the approved form; and
  - (b) specify the name and address for service of 1 person upon whom any notice may be served on behalf of the caveator or caveators; and
  - (c) identify the mineral development licence concerned; and
  - (d) specify the nature of the right or interest claimed by the caveator; and
  - (e) specify the period during which it is to continue in force; and
  - (f) be signed by the caveator, the caveator's solicitor or other person authorised in writing by the caveator; and
  - (g) if any person consents to the lodging of the caveat, be endorsed with that person's consent; and

- (h) be lodged with the chief executive; and
- (i) be accompanied by the prescribed lodgment fee.

## **200 Chief executive's functions upon receipt of caveat**

Upon receipt of a duly lodged caveat referred to in section 199, the chief executive shall—

- (a) notify the holder or holders of the affected mineral development licence; and
- (b) notify all other persons who have an interest (other than an interest recorded pursuant to section 205)<sup>42</sup> in the mineral development licence recorded in the register including any subsisting prior caveator; and
- (c) record the existence of the caveat in the register.

## **201 Effect of caveat**

- (1) For so long as a caveat remains in force, an assignment or mortgage, in respect of the mineral development licence identified in the caveat shall not be approved unless—
  - (a) the assignment or mortgage is specifically excepted in the caveat; or
  - (b) the written consent of the caveator in the approved form to the approval of the assignment or mortgage is lodged with the chief executive.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), unless and until a caveat is removed or withdrawn as prescribed, a caveat continues in force—
  - (a) in a case where the consent of each holder of the mineral development licence concerned has been lodged with the caveat—for the term specified in the caveat or, if no term is specified, indefinitely; or
  - (b) in a case where the caveat (not being a caveat referred to in paragraph (a)) specifies a period of not more than

---

42 Section 205 (Recording of agreements, arrangements, dealings or interests)

- 3 months during which it is to continue in force—until the expiration of that period; or
- (c) in a case where the tribunal so orders—for so long as that order remains in force; or
  - (d) in any other case—until the expiration of 3 months from the date of lodgment of the caveat.

## **202 Second caveat not available to same person**

When a caveat has lapsed or has been removed or withdrawn as prescribed, it shall not be competent to the caveator to lodge in respect of the same mineral development licence another caveat whereby the caveator claims the same or substantially the same right or interest unless—

- (a) the consent of each holder of the mineral development licence has been lodged with the last mentioned caveat; or
- (b) the tribunal so orders.

## **203 Removal or withdrawal of caveat**

- (1) A caveat lodged pursuant to section 199 that has lapsed shall be removed by the chief executive and the register noted accordingly.
- (2) Upon the application of a person who has a right or interest (present or prospective) in a mineral development licence affected by a caveat or whose right (present or prospective) to deal with a mineral development licence is affected by a caveat lodged in respect of the mineral development licence, the caveator may be summonsed to attend the tribunal to show cause why the caveat should not be removed.
- (3) The tribunal may, upon the return of a summons referred to in subsection (2) or at any later time to which the hearing may be adjourned, make such order either *ex parte* or otherwise as the tribunal deems just.
- (4) If the tribunal orders that a caveat be removed, the chief executive shall give effect to the order.

- (5) A caveator may withdraw his or her caveat at any time by notifying the chief executive in writing.
- (6) The removal or withdrawal of a caveat shall be effected by the chief executive recording the removal or withdrawal in the register.

**204 Compensation for lodging caveat without reasonable cause**

A person who lodges a caveat in respect of a mineral development licence without reasonable cause is liable to pay such damages as may be recovered at law by any person aggrieved.

**205 Recording of agreements, arrangements, dealings or interests**

- (1) Upon application made in the approved form, payment of the prescribed fee, and production of a document purporting to evidence an agreement, arrangement or other dealing or interest (legal or equitable) in or in relation to a mineral development licence (other than an assignment or mortgage of the mineral development licence) to the chief executive, the chief executive shall—
  - (a) record in the register maintained by the chief executive, the relevant particulars set out in the application form; and
  - (b) retain the document or a copy thereof.
- (2) The chief executive shall make the recordings prescribed by subsection (1) in the order of time in which applications are lodged with the chief executive.
- (3) The chief executive is not required to examine any document produced under this section or to determine the validity of any agreement, arrangement, dealing or interest alleged in an application made under subsection (1).
- (4) An agreement, arrangement, dealing or interest, particulars of which are recorded under this section shall, subject to being otherwise legally enforceable, take priority over any other agreement, arrangement, dealing or interest—

- (a) particulars of which have not been recorded under this section; or
  - (b) particulars of which have been recorded under this section after particulars of the first mentioned agreement, arrangement, dealing or interest had been recorded.
- (5) Subsection (4) does not apply in respect of—
- (a) an interest that is a charge that, under the Corporations Act, part 2K.1, is required to be registered; or
  - (b) an estate or interest in land (whether freehold or leasehold) or a dealing therein which is registered or registrable by the registrar of titles or other like registering authority.

## **206 Correction of instrument of mineral development licence**

If, at any time the Minister is of the opinion that the instrument of a mineral development licence should be corrected by reason that—

- (a) the boundaries and area of the land comprised in the mineral development licence have been more accurately ascertained; or
- (b) facts have appeared or been established since the grant of the mineral development licence justifying a correction of the instrument to more accurately reflect the holder's entitlements under the licence; or
- (c) the instrument is defective owing to error in its preparation;

the Minister may correct the instrument and shall record details thereof in the register of mineral development licences kept by the chief executive and endorse the instrument which shall take effect accordingly.

## **207 Replacement of instrument of mineral development licence**

- (1) Where the Minister is satisfied that the instrument of a mineral development licence should be cancelled and a

replacement instrument issued in its place, the Minister shall cancel the instrument and cause a replacement instrument to be issued in its place.

- (2) A replacement instrument of a mineral development licence issued under this section—
  - (a) shall be the instrument in place of the instrument previously issued and cancelled under this section which last mentioned instrument shall, upon the issue of the fresh instrument, cease to be of any force or effect; and
  - (b) may bear a form of endorsement which briefly traces the devolution of the licence from the original holder of the mineral development licence to the person appearing as holder thereof at the time the replacement instrument is issued; and
  - (c) shall bear endorsement of all apparently subsisting mortgages affecting the mineral development licence and endorsed on the instrument so cancelled; and
  - (d) shall be delivered to the person who appears to the Minister to be lawfully entitled to possession thereof.
- (3) The chief executive shall cause the instrument so cancelled to be suitably endorsed and a suitable recording made in the register kept by the chief executive that a replacement instrument has been issued in its place.
- (4) The cancelled instrument shall be retained by the chief executive.

## **208 Adding other minerals to licence**

- (1) The holder of a mineral development licence for particular minerals may lodge a written application with the mining registrar for the Minister's approval to add stated minerals to the licence.
- (2) The application must be accompanied by the application fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) The Minister may approve or reject the application.

- (4) The approval may be given on the conditions the Minister considers appropriate, including conditions requiring the holder to deposit a stated amount of additional security.
- (5) If the Minister approves the application, the mineral development licence is taken to include the stated minerals from the day the Minister approves the application.
- (6) Particulars of an approval under this section must be recorded in the appropriate register and endorsed on the holder's licence.
- (7) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after approving an application under this section, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the approval.

## **209 Contravention by holder of mineral development licence**

- (1) If the Minister considers that the holder of a mineral development licence—
  - (a) has carried out activities that are not bona fide for the purposes for which the mineral development licence was granted; or
  - (b) has failed to pay any moneys (other than rental) payable thereunder or in respect thereof by the due date for payment; or
  - (c) has failed to comply with any condition that is to be observed and performed by the holder under or in respect of the mineral development licence, other than a condition with respect to matters referred to in subsection (2)(a) or (b);the Minister may—
  - (d) cancel the mineral development licence; or
  - (e) impose on the holder a penalty not exceeding 1 000 penalty units.
- (2) If the Minister considers that the holder of a mineral development licence—
  - (a) in any year has failed after notice given to the holder in accordance with section 193(5) to pay before 1 April of that year the amount of the rental payable under that



section by that date in respect of that mineral development licence; or

- (b) has failed to pay a penalty imposed on the holder pursuant to subsection (1)(e) within the time allowed for the payment by the Minister;

the Minister may cancel the mineral development licence and shall notify the holder and each person who currently holds a recorded interest in respect of the mineral development licence accordingly.

- (3) The Minister shall not act pursuant to subsection (1) until the Minister has, by notice in writing in the approved form served on the holder of the mineral development licence, called upon the holder to show cause within the time specified therein why the mineral development licence should not be cancelled or a penalty imposed and served a copy of the notice on every person who currently holds a recorded interest in respect of the mineral development licence and such cause has not been shown to the satisfaction of the Minister.
- (4) When the Minister pursuant to this section cancels a mineral development licence the Minister shall notify the holder and every person who holds a recorded interest in respect of the mineral development licence accordingly.
- (5) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after the cancellation, give written notice of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (6) For the purposes of this section a recorded interest in a mineral development licence does not include an interest recorded pursuant to section 205.<sup>43</sup>

## **210 Surrender of mineral development licence**

- (1) The holder of a mineral development licence may apply to surrender the mineral development licence or any part of the land comprised therein at any time before the expiration of its term.

---

43 Section 205 (Recording of agreements, arrangements, dealings or interests)

- (2) The chief executive must, within 5 business days after a notice of surrender is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (3) The holder of a mineral development licence who desires to surrender a mineral development licence or any part of the land comprised therein shall lodge with the chief executive—
  - (a) a notice of surrender in the approved form; and
  - (b) in the case of a surrender of part of the land comprised in a mineral development licence—
    - (i) a plan prepared in a manner acceptable to the chief executive of that part of the land to be retained in the mineral development licence; and
    - (ii) identification in the prescribed manner of the boundaries of the land to be retained; and
    - (iii) if land other than land specified in the mineral development licence is required as access from a point outside the boundary of the land to be retained to any part on the surface of that land—a description and identification in the prescribed manner of that land; and
  - (c) the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (4) A purported surrender of a mineral development licence or of any part of the land comprised in a mineral development licence shall not be effective unless—
  - (a) the holder has complied with this section; and
  - (b) the Minister consents to the surrender;and shall, except in the case of a surrender referred to in subsection (13), take effect on the day next following the Minister's consent.
- (5) However, the Minister may give the consent only if the Minister is satisfied—
  - (a) the holder has complied with the condition to carry out improvement restoration for the mineral development licence; and

- (b) the relevant environmental authority (mineral development) has been cancelled or surrendered under the Environmental Protection Act.
- (6) If the Minister is not satisfied the holder has complied with the condition, the Minister may, by written notice, give the holder reasonable directions about carrying out improvement restoration for the mineral development licence.
- (7) The holder must comply with the directions.  
Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.
- (8) Where a mineral development licence is surrendered in respect of part only of the land comprised in the mineral development licence, the licence issued in respect thereof shall be corrected by excising that part and taking any other steps required to conform with this Act and thereupon the mineral development licence shall continue in force in respect of the land retained.
- (9) Upon a surrender of a mineral development licence, all adjustments between the holder and the Crown in respect of the payment of rental, fees and other moneys shall be at the discretion of the Minister.
- (10) Where any moneys are specified pursuant to subsection (9) as a debt due to the Crown, the Minister may direct that the security deposited in accordance with section 190 may be utilised for payment thereof.
- (11) Any moneys specified pursuant to subsection (9) by the Minister to be payable or that part thereof not recovered under subsection (10) shall be a debt due by the person specified as liable to pay to the Crown.
- (12) In an action under subsection (11) for recovery of a debt due to the Crown, the production of a certificate by the chief executive certifying the amount of that debt shall be evidence and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, conclusive evidence of the debt and the amount thereof.
- (13) Where, at the time when the holder of a mineral development licence purports to surrender the mineral development licence or a part of the land comprised therein, that holder duly makes application for a new mineral development licence in respect of the whole or part of the land comprised in the current

mineral development licence the purported surrender shall take effect immediately prior to the grant of the new mineral development licence.

## **211 Notice of entry to be given**

- (1) A mineral development licence holder must give the owner of the land covered by the licence written notice of entry before initial entry is made under the licence.
- (2) The notice must be given at least 5 business days before the entry (or a shorter period acceptable to the owner and endorsed on the notice).
- (3) The notice must—
  - (a) describe the activities proposed to be carried out on the land under the mineral development licence; and
  - (b) state when the activities are to be carried out; and
  - (c) be accompanied by a copy of—
    - (i) the codes of conduct or practice applying to activities under the licence; and
    - (ii) any statement given to the Minister about proposals to protect the environment and rehabilitate the land.
- (4) The holder must give the mining registrar a copy of the notice immediately after the notice is given and before entry is made under the licence.
- (5) Contravention of subsection (4) does not affect the validity of the notice.
- (6) If the owner can not easily be contacted, the holder may notify the occupier of the land of the intended entry.

*Examples of owner not being easily contacted—*

- 1 The owner does not live in Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
  - 2 The owner is travelling within Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
- (7) If the holder satisfies the mining registrar it is impracticable to give either the owner or occupier notice of the intended entry,

the mining registrar may dispense with the need to give notice.

- (8) If the mining registrar dispenses with the need to give notice, the mining registrar must make an appropriate endorsement on the notice.
- (9) However, before making the endorsement, the mining registrar may require the holder to take the action the mining registrar considers appropriate to publicise the proposed entry, including, for example, publishing an advertisement in a newspaper or other publication.

## **212 Term and renewal of notice**

- (1) If a mineral development licence holder gives an owner of land notice of initial entry, the notice—
  - (a) permits entry for 3 months from the day stated in the notice; and
  - (b) may permit entry for a longer period if the owner's written consent to the longer period of entry is lodged with the mining registrar.<sup>44</sup>
- (2) The notice may be renewed.
- (3) A notice of renewal must—
  - (a) be given to the owner at least 5 business days (or a shorter period acceptable to the owner and endorsed on the notice), but not more than 15 business days, before the earlier notice expires; and
  - (b) contain information of the kind mentioned in section 211(3) that is relevant to the period of renewal.
- (4) The holder must give the mining registrar a copy of the notice of renewal immediately after the notice is given and before entry is made under the licence.

Maximum penalty—10 penalty units.

- (5) Contravention of subsection (4) does not affect the validity of the notice of renewal.

---

44 See section 211 (Notice of entry to be given).

- (6) If the owner of the land can not easily be contacted, the holder may notify the occupier of the land of the intended entry.

*Examples of owner not being easily contacted—*

- 1 The owner does not live in Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
  - 2 The owner is travelling within Australia and there is no known current address for the owner.
- (7) If the holder satisfies the mining registrar it is impracticable to give either the owner or occupier notice of the intended entry, the mining registrar may dispense with the need to give notice.
- (8) If the mining registrar dispenses with the need to give notice, the mining registrar must make an appropriate endorsement on the licence.
- (9) However, before making the endorsement, the mining registrar may require the holder to take the action the mining registrar considers appropriate to publicise the proposed entry, including, for example, publishing an advertisement in a newspaper or other publication.

## **214 Improvement restoration for mineral development licence**

- (1) This section applies on the termination of a mineral development licence, other than—
- (a) by surrender under section 210; or
  - (b) for the granting of a new mineral development licence or mining lease over the land the subject of the terminated licence.
- (2) If the Minister is not satisfied the holder has satisfactorily complied with the condition to carry out improvement restoration for the mineral development licence, the Minister may, by written notice, give the holder reasonable directions about carrying out the restoration.
- (3) The holder must comply with the directions.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (4) The holder and the holder's employees or agents may, to the extent reasonable and necessary to comply with the directions—
- (a) enter land stated in the notice; and
  - (b) bring on to the land vehicles, vessels, machinery and equipment.

### **215 Rights and obligations extended upon application for mining lease**

- (1) The holder of a mineral development licence who, during the term of the licence makes application for the grant of a mining lease in respect of any land to which the licence applies, shall, during the period from the expiration of the licence until the determination of the application, for so long as the provisions of this Act and the terms and conditions that would apply if the licence were current are complied with, have all the responsibilities, powers, authorities and duties that the holder would have had in respect of the land the subject of the application if the licence was current but during that period no rental shall be payable under this part in respect of the land the subject of the application.
- (2) The entitlements of the holder of a mineral development licence are not reduced or limited by reason only of the holder's application for the grant of a mining lease in respect of any land to which a mineral development licence applies.

### **216 Production of mineral development licence**

- (1) A person purporting to be upon land under the authority of a mineral development licence shall forthwith upon demand by the owner of that land, an agent of the owner or a person authorised in that behalf by the Minister for proof of authority for being on the land, produce or cause to be produced to the person making the demand the mineral development licence or a written authorisation in a form acceptable to the Minister from the holder of the mineral development licence authorising the person to enter or be upon that land for any purposes authorised thereunder.

- (2) For so long as a person fails to comply with a demand lawfully made of the person under subsection (1) the person does not have any of the entitlements under this Act.
- (3) This section does not apply to prevent a person entering land for the purpose of delivering goods or substances or providing services ancillary to the purpose for which the mineral development licence is granted to a person who is lawfully on that land under this part.

### **217 Mining registrar may call conference in some cases**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) an owner of land who is concerned about any of the following gives the mining registrar written notice of the concerns—
    - (i) that someone claiming to act under a mineral development licence, or to have entered land on the licence holder's instructions, is not authorised to be on the land or is not complying with a provision of this Act or a condition of the licence;
    - (ii) activities being, or proposed to be, carried out on the land apparently under a mineral development licence (including when the activities are being, or are to be, carried out);
    - (iii) the conduct on the land of someone apparently acting under a mineral development licence; or
  - (b) a mineral development licence holder who is concerned about something relevant to the licence involving the holder and the owner of land gives the mining registrar written notice of the concerns; or
  - (c) for another reason, the mining registrar considers it desirable to call a conference to discuss concerns about a mineral development licence.
- (2) If subsection (1)(a) or (b) applies, the mining registrar—
  - (a) must investigate the concerns; and



- (b) may call a conference about the concerns, by written notice given to the owner of the land and the mineral development licence holder.
- (3) If subsection (1)(c) applies, the mining registrar may call a conference about the mineral development licence, by written notice given to—
  - (a) the owners of land covered by the licence who appear to the mining registrar to be affected by the concerns; and
  - (b) the mineral development licence holder; and
  - (c) anyone else the mining registrar considers should be given notice of the conference.
- (4) The notice must state when and where the conference will be held and what is to be discussed at the conference.

## **218 Who may attend conference**

- (1) Apart from the mining registrar, anyone given notice of a conference about a mineral development licence (a *section 217 conference*) may attend and take part in the conference.
- (2) Also, with the mining registrar's approval, someone else may be present to help a person attending the conference.
- (3) However, a person may not be represented at the conference by a lawyer.

## **219 What happens if someone does not attend**

The mining registrar may hold a section 217 conference even though someone given notice of the conference does not attend the conference.

## **220 Mining registrar's function at section 217 conference**

The mining registrar must endeavour to help those attending a section 217 conference to reach an early, inexpensive settlement of the things discussed.

**221 Agreements and statements at section 217 conference**

- (1) If parties to a section 217 conference reach agreement about something discussed at the conference, the parties must put the agreement into writing, sign it and lodge it with the mining registrar.
- (2) A person attending the conference must not disclose or publish anything said at the conference other than in an agreement mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) Nothing said by a person at the conference is admissible in a proceeding without the person's consent.

**222 Tribunal may award costs**

- (1) If—
  - (a) a person agrees to attend a section 217 conference but does not attend; and
  - (b) someone else does attend (the *attending party*);the attending party may apply to the tribunal for an order requiring the person who did not attend to pay the attending party's reasonable costs of attending.
- (2) If the tribunal orders a person to pay the attending party's costs, the tribunal must decide the amount of the costs.
- (3) However, the tribunal must not order a person to pay costs if the tribunal is satisfied the person had a reasonable excuse for not attending the conference.

**223 Mining registrar may recommend action to ease concerns or other action**

- (1) If the mining registrar considers a mineral development licence holder should take stated action to ease concerns of an owner of land or another mineral development licence holder, or should take some other action, the mining registrar may recommend the action to the Minister.
- (2) The Minister may give the mineral development licence holder the directions the Minister considers appropriate about the recommended action.

- (3) A failure by the holder to comply with the Minister's directions is taken to be a breach of a condition of the mineral development licence.
- (4) If the Minister gives a direction under subsection (2), the chief executive must give a copy to—
  - (a) if the recommended action under subsection (1) relates only to native title protection conditions under section 194AAA—any person identified in the conditions as a native title party; or
  - (b) if the recommended action under subsection (1) relates only partly to the native title protection conditions—
    - (i) any person identified in the conditions as a native title party; and
    - (ii) the owner of the land; or
  - (c) otherwise—the owner of the land.
- (5) If the recommended action under subsection (1) is action to ease concerns of an owner of land or another mineral development licence holder, the mining registrar must give the owner and the other mineral development licence holder written notice of—
  - (a) the substance of any recommendation made to the Minister under subsection (1) or, if the mining registrar decides not to make a recommendation, the mining registrar's decision; and
  - (b) any other action the mining registrar has taken to ease the concerns of the owner or mineral development licence holder.

## **224 Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent mineral development licence or mining lease**

Where the holder of a mineral development licence makes application for the grant of a subsequent mineral development licence or a mining lease, the Minister notwithstanding that the period of 6 months after the termination of that licence may not have elapsed may, instead of refunding the whole or part of the security deposited in respect of the current mineral development licence, retain that security or part thereof

(together with any further security fixed by the Minister) as the security (in which case it shall be taken to be or to be part of the security) deposited by the applicant in respect of the subsequent mineral development licence or the mining lease.

## **225 Direction to apply for mining lease**

- (1) If, at any time during the currency of a mineral development licence, the Minister is of the opinion that actual mining operations should commence on any land comprised in the licence, the Minister shall give to the holder written notice directing the holder to indicate, within the time specified in the notice, why the holder should not apply for a mining lease for that purpose.
- (2) If the holder of a mineral development licence to whom a notice under subsection (1) has been given does not, within the time specified in the notice, or such longer time as the Minister in writing may approve, reply to the notice, or the Minister, on considering the holder's reply, is not satisfied that the holder should not apply for a mining lease, the Minister may give the holder a further written notice directing the holder, within the time specified in the notice or such extended time as the Minister in writing may approve, to apply for such a mining lease.
- (3) If the holder to whom a notice under subsection (2) is given does not apply for a mining lease as directed within the specified time or such extended time, the Minister may in the Minister's discretion cancel the mineral development licence.
- (4) Upon the cancellation of a mineral development licence pursuant to subsection (3), the land comprised in the mineral development licence does not become part of the land comprised in any current exploration permit.
- (5) Any refund of moneys held in respect of a mineral development licence that is cancelled pursuant to subsection (3) (including any security deposited) shall be at the Minister's discretion.

## **226 Minister may determine availability of certain land**

- (1) Where in respect of any land—

- (a) an application for a mineral development licence or for renewal thereof is rejected by the Minister; or
- (b) a mineral development licence expires by effluxion of time and an application to renew the licence is not duly made; or
- (c) a mineral development licence is cancelled pursuant to section 209 or 225; or
- (d) a mineral development licence is surrendered or an application for the grant of a mineral development licence is abandoned in respect of land over which the holder of or the applicant for the grant does not hold an exploration permit that adjoins that land;

that land, shall not be available for any subsequent application for the grant of a mining tenement unless and until approved by the Minister.

- (2) An approval of the Minister under subsection (1) may limit the type of application or grant that may be made in respect of the land specified in the approval and may stipulate the conditions under which applications therefor may be made.
- (3) An approval of the Minister under subsection (1) may provide that a subsequent application by an eligible person need not be by the holder of a prospecting permit, exploration permit or a mineral development licence.
- (4) Notwithstanding subsection (1), where the applicant for a mineral development licence that is rejected is at the time of the rejection the holder of an exploration permit in respect of the same land, that land shall, upon the rejection, be subject to the exploration permit.

### **226AA Application to add excluded land to existing licence**

- (1) The holder of a mineral development licence (the *existing licence*) may apply to the Minister to add excluded land to the existing licence.
- (2) The provisions of this part apply, with necessary changes, to an application under subsection (1) as if it were an application

under section 183.<sup>45</sup>

- (3) Without limiting subsection (2), in deciding the application, the Minister may—
  - (a) impose conditions under section 194(1)(j)<sup>46</sup> in addition to any conditions that apply under the existing licence; and
  - (b) fix an amount of security to be deposited under section 190<sup>47</sup> in addition to any security for the existing licence.
- (4) On the granting of the application, the excluded land is included in the existing licence.
- (5) In this section—

*excluded land* means land that was the subject of a specific exclusion when the existing licence was granted or that was taken to be excluded under section 182.

### **226A Reduction of land under mineral development licence on grant of mining lease**

- (1) This section applies if a mining lease is granted because of an application made by—
  - (a) the holder of a mineral development licence granted for the same land for the same mineral, whether or not at the Minister's direction; or
  - (b) an eligible person with the holder's consent.
- (2) The land to which the licence applies is to be reduced by omitting the land to which the mining lease applies.
- (3) The terms of the licence may be varied as the Minister directs.

### **227 Discovery etc. of mineral does not vest property**

A person who whilst acting under the authority of a mineral development licence discovers or takes any mineral does not

---

45 Section 183 (Application for mineral development licence)

46 Section 194 (Conditions of mineral development licence)

47 Section 190 (Provision of security)

thereby acquire property therein and shall not dispose of any such mineral except with the consent of the Minister whose consent may be subject to such terms and conditions as the Minister thinks fit (including conditions as to the payment of royalties).

## **228 Effect of termination of mineral development licence**

- (1) This section applies on the termination of a mineral development licence.
- (2) However, this section does not apply to a mineral development licence if the termination is for granting a new mineral development licence or a mining lease over the land covered by the terminated licence to the holder of the terminated licence.
- (3) On the termination of a mineral development licence, the ownership of machinery, equipment and removable improvements (*plant*) on the land covered by the terminated licence divests from the owner and vests in the State.
- (4) However, subsection (3) applies to plant only if the plant was brought on to the land under the terminated mineral development licence.

## **229 Application may be made for approval to remove plant**

- (1) This section applies to plant that vests in the State on the termination of a mineral development licence.
- (2) Anyone who had an interest in the plant immediately before its ownership vested in the State may apply in writing to the Minister for permission to remove the plant from the land.
- (3) The application—
  - (a) must be made within 20 business days after the plant vests in the State (or a longer period, of not more than 3 months, allowed by the Minister); and
  - (b) may be made even though a subsequent grant of a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease has been made over the land.

- (4) The Minister may approve or refuse to approve the application.
- (5) However, the Minister must approve the application if the Minister is satisfied—
  - (a) the person was entitled to the plant immediately before it vested in the State; and
  - (b) there is enough security held for the terminated mineral development licence to meet the costs for which it was deposited.<sup>48</sup>
- (6) An approval may be given on conditions stated in it.
- (7) If the application is approved, the person named in the approval may enter the land and remove the plant (other than any covers, fencing, casings, linings, timbering or other things securing the safety of the land) stated in the application before the time stated in the approval ends.
- (8) Anything lawfully removed under subsection (7) divests from the State and vests in the person entitled to it immediately before the termination of the mineral development licence.

**230 Plant remaining on former mineral development licence may be sold etc.**

- (1) This section applies if the mining registrar has not received, or has received but not granted, an application for approval to remove plant from the site of a terminated mineral development licence within 3 months after the licence's termination.
- (2) The Minister may direct the mining registrar to—
  - (a) sell the plant by public auction or in another stated way; or
  - (b) if the plant has no commercial value—dispose of or destroy it.
- (3) Proceeds of a sale are to be applied in the following order towards—

---

48 See section 190 (Provision of security).



- (a) the reasonable expenses incurred in the sale;
  - (b) the cost of rectifying actual damage for which an amount of security deposited for the terminated mineral development licence could have been used but was not used, or was inadequate;
  - (c) any costs or expenses under the Environmental Protection Act, section 367(1)<sup>49</sup> for a relevant environmental authority (mineral development);
  - (d) amounts owing to the State under this Act by the former holder;
  - (e) any other amounts owing to the State under the Environmental Protection Act for a relevant environmental authority (mineral development);
  - (f) amounts owing to a mortgagee under a mortgage registered under this Act over the mineral development licence.
- (4) Any balance must be paid to the former holder.
- (5) If the mining registrar can not decide the identity of, or locate, a person entitled to the proceeds or part of the proceeds, the mining registrar may pay the amount to the public trustee as unclaimed moneys.
- (6) Compensation is not payable for a sale, disposal or destruction under this section.

### **231 Variation of access to mineral development licence land**

- (1) The holder of a mineral development licence may apply to the mining registrar in the approved form for a variation of the land used or proposed to be used as access in relation to the land the subject of the mineral development licence.
- (2) An application for a variation of the land used or to be used as access under this section shall be accompanied by—
- (a) such particulars as are, by sections 183 and 184, required to accompany an application for the grant of a mineral development licence in so far as those

---

<sup>49</sup> Environmental Protection Act, section 367 (Claims on financial assurances)

particulars relate to the land used or proposed to be used as access in relation to the land the subject of the mineral development licence; and

- (b) the prescribed application fee.
- (3) The Minister may grant or reject an application under this section.
- (4) Upon the grant of an application under this section the variation shall thereupon become effective.
- (5) If an application under this section is rejected, the Minister shall cause the applicant to be advised of the reasons for the rejection.
- (6) Within 15 business days (or such longer period as the Minister shall in the particular case allow) of the Minister granting an application under this section, the holder of the mineral development licence shall give notice in the approved form to the owner of land directly affected by the variation.

## **Part 7                      Mining leases**

### **232      Land subject to mining lease**

- (1) Unless otherwise approved by the Minister pursuant to section 226(3),<sup>50</sup> a mining lease in respect of a mineral or minerals may be applied for by an eligible person in respect of contiguous land comprised in—
  - (a) a prospecting permit or prospecting permits; or
  - (b) an exploration permit or exploration permits; or
  - (c) a mineral development licence or mineral development licences;

in respect of that mineral or those minerals of which the applicant or, where more than 1 person is the applicant, at least 1 of them is, with or without others, the holder.

---

50 Section 226 (Minister may determine availability of certain land)

- (2) Where a mining lease may be granted to a person pursuant to subsection (1) a mining lease may also be granted to that person for any purpose for which mining leases may be granted.

### **233 Only eligible persons to hold mining leases**

A mining lease shall not be held by a person who is not an eligible person.

### **234 Governor in Council may grant mining lease**

- (1) The Governor in Council may grant and cause to be issued to an eligible person or persons, a mining lease for all or any of the following purposes—
  - (a) to mine the mineral or minerals specified in the lease and for all purposes necessary to effectually carry on that mining;
  - (b) such purposes, other than mining, as are specified in the mining lease and that are associated with, arising from or promoting the activity of mining.
- (2) However, coal seam gas can not be specified in a mining lease.<sup>51</sup>
- (3) Also, the Governor in Council must not grant a mining lease for land in a fossicking area, or for land that includes the whole or part of a fossicking area, unless the application—
  - (a) was made, but not decided, before the land became a fossicking area; or
  - (b) is for land in a prospecting permit, exploration permit or mineral development licence.
- (4) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after receiving notice of the grant of a mining lease, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the grant.

---

51 For the entitlement of a coal mining lease holder or an oil shale mining lease holder to mine coal seam gas, see section 318CM (Limited entitlement to mine coal seam gas).

**235 General entitlements of holder of mining lease**

(1) Subject to section 236 and part 7AA, division 8, subdivision 1,<sup>52</sup> during the currency of a mining lease, the holder of the mining lease and any person who acts as agent or employee of the holder (or who delivers goods or substances or provides services to the holder) for a purpose or right for which the mining lease is granted—

(a) may enter and be—

(i) within the land comprised in the mining lease; and

(ii) upon the surface area comprised in the mining lease;

for any purpose for which the mining lease is granted or for any purpose permitted or required under the lease or by this Act;

(b) may do all such things as are permitted or required under the lease or by this Act.

(2) During the currency of the mining lease, the rights of the holder relate, and are taken to have always related, to the whole of the land and surface area mentioned in subsection (1).

(3) Where any Act provides that water may be diverted or appropriated only under authority granted under that Act, the holder of a mining lease shall not divert or appropriate water unless the holder holds that authority.

**236 Entitlement to use sand, gravel and rock**

(1) Subject to compliance with any conditions specified in the mining lease and payment of the prescribed royalty to the person having the property in any sand, gravel or rock the holder of the mining lease may utilise, upon the land comprised in the mining lease and for any purpose permitted under the mining lease, sand, gravel and rock occurring in or on the land comprised in the mining lease except to the extent that an authority granted under any other Act prior to the grant

---

52 Part 7AA, division 8 (Additional provisions for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases), subdivision 1 (Entitlement to coal seam gas)

of the mining lease or, with the consent of the holder of the mining lease, after the grant of the mining lease for the use or disposal applies thereto.

- (2) A provision in any other Act, other than the Environmental Protection Act, that, but for this subsection, would require a person acting pursuant to subsection (1) to obtain a licence or other authority thereunder to so act or would prohibit that person from so acting unless the person held such a licence or authority does not apply to that person.
- (3) For the purposes of part 9, sand, gravel and rock utilised by the holder of a mining lease pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be mineral mined by the holder.

### **237 Drilling and other activities on land not included in surface area**

- (1) A mining lease holder may, in the approved form, apply to the Minister for approval to conduct drilling and other activities on land not included in the surface area covered under the lease.
- (2) The application—
  - (a) must be lodged with the mining registrar; and
  - (b) must describe—
    - (i) the activities proposed to be carried out on the land under the mining lease; and
    - (ii) the area over which the activities are to be carried out on the land; and
  - (c) must state how long the activities are to be carried out; and
  - (d) must be accompanied by—
    - (i) the written consent of the owner of the land; and
    - (ii) if there is an agreement between the holder and the owner about the compensation payable to the owner for the activities—a copy of the agreement; and
    - (iii) the fee prescribed under a regulation.

- (3) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the application is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (4) Subsection (2) ceases to apply if the Minister decides to refuse the application.
- (5) The Minister may approve or refuse to approve the application.
- (6) An approval may be given on conditions stated in it, including conditions about, for example, depositing security and complying with stated codes.
- (7) If an approval is given—
  - (a) the mining lease must be amended to give effect to the approval and the conditions stated in it; and
  - (b) particulars of the approval must be recorded in the appropriate register and endorsed on the relevant instrument of mining lease.

**238 Mining lease over surface of reserve or land near a dwelling house**

- (1) Unless the Governor in Council otherwise approves, a mining lease may be granted over the surface of a reserve only if—
  - (a) the owner of the reserve consents in writing to granting the lease; and
  - (b) the applicant lodges the consent with the mining registrar before the last objection day ends.
- (2) Also, a mining lease may be granted over the surface of land that was restricted land when the application for the lease was lodged only if—
  - (a) the owner of the land where the relevant permanent building, or relevant feature, is situated, consents in writing to the application; and
  - (b) the applicant lodges the consent with the mining registrar before the last objection day ends.
- (3) A consent given for subsection (2) can not be withdrawn.

**239 Restriction on mining leases where land freed from exploration permit**

- (1) Upon an area of land, for whatever reason, ceasing to be the subject of an exploration permit, then, for a period of 2 calendar months following the end of the month in which that cessation occurs—
  - (a) any application for a mining lease in respect of land within that area that exceeds 50 ha shall be rejected; and
  - (b) a person shall not apply for the grant of or hold or have an interest (whether direct or indirect) in mining leases over any of that land the aggregate area of which exceeds 300 ha.

**240 Marking out land before application for grant of mining lease**

- (1) An eligible person who wishes to apply for the grant of a mining lease shall mark out, in the prescribed manner, the boundary of the land proposed to be the subject of the application, whether or not the surface of the land is included in the application.
- (2) Where an application for a mining lease is for part only of the surface of the land proposed to be the subject of the mining lease a person shall not, in complying with subsection (1), be required to peg the boundary of the surface area which is to be included in the mining lease.

**241 Manner of marking out land proposed to be subject of mining lease**

- (1) Before making an application for the grant of a mining lease, the intending applicant or some person authorised on the intending applicant's behalf shall mark out the land by inserting firmly in the ground at each and every corner of the land applied for a round post which shall be not less than 10 cm in diameter or a square post each side of which shall be not less than 10 cm in width standing at least 1 m above the surface and sunk not less than 50 cm in the ground.
- (2) The part of each post above the surface shall be painted white.

- (3) Where posts are of timber construction they shall be barked and dried of sap before use.
- (4) One of the posts shall be selected to be the datum post for the purpose of the commencement of the description and from which a cadastral surveyor shall commence any survey of the land.
- (5) There shall be engraved or in some way durably marked on each post the applicant's initials and surname (or of 1 applicant should there be more than 1) and the numerals indicating the date on which the subject land was marked in accordance with this section and the engraving or marking shall be so maintained until action is taken in accordance with section 252B(1)(a) and (b).
- (6) Where the applicant is a company the initials of that company (or of any 1 company should there be more than 1) shall be engraved and marked as prescribed herein on the posts.
- (7) If a post can not be inserted in the manner prescribed there shall be erected a cairn of stones at least 50 cm high in the place where the post should have been inserted.
- (8) If cairns of stones are erected there shall be engraved or in some way durably marked thereon the particulars which would have been required had a post been inserted.
- (9) Where it is not practicable to insert a post or erect a cairn of stones in the manner prescribed at every corner of the land applied for, there may be inserted a datum post only and compass bearings shall be taken and distances measured, as required by section 246.
- (10) Where it is impossible to insert a datum post or erect a cairn of stones in the manner prescribed by subsection (1) the land shall be marked by measuring a distance on a given bearing from a reference post to a point which shall be the nominal position of the starting point and from which any survey of the land shall commence and the reference post shall in all respects comply with the provisions of this Act relating to a datum post, except the provisions relating to position.



**242 Consent of mining registrar required to certain marking out of land**

- (1) Where the land the subject of a mining lease is marked out in accordance with section 241(9) or (10) the consent of the mining registrar is required and the mining registrar's consent may be given at any time prior to the issue of the certificate of application.
- (2) Where consent is so given, the mining registrar shall note the register accordingly.

**243 Time for application for grant of mining lease**

An eligible person who marks out the boundary of land in accordance with this part, may during the currency of the person's prospecting permit, exploration permit or mineral development licence but within 5 business days of so marking out, apply in the prescribed manner for the grant of a mining lease over that land.

**244 If application for mining lease not made, is rejected or abandoned, posts etc. to be removed**

- (1) A person who marks out the boundary of land for the purpose of making an application for the grant of a mining lease shall remove or cause to be removed forthwith all posts, cairns and other things used by the person to mark out the boundary (not being a survey mark or other thing required by any other Act not to be removed)—
  - (a) where the person has not made the application within 5 business days of the marking out, upon the expiration of those 5 business days; or
  - (b) where the person has made the application as prescribed, upon the rejection or abandonment of the application.
- (2) For the purpose of removing posts, cairns and other things in compliance with subsection (1), a person may enter the relevant land.

**245 Application for grant of mining lease**

- (1) An application for the grant of a mining lease shall—
- (a) be in the approved form; and
  - (b) specify the name of each applicant; and
  - (c) specify the name and address for service of 1 person upon whom any notice may be served on behalf of the applicant or the applicants; and
  - (d) describe all parcels of land the whole or part of which are the subject of the application and specify the current use of the land and whether it is subject to erosion control works and the names and addresses of the owner or owners of the land and of land which is to be used as access thereto; and
  - (e) identify in the prescribed manner the boundaries of the land applied for; and
  - (f) identify in the prescribed manner the boundaries of any surface area of land within the boundaries described pursuant to paragraph (e) to be included in the mining lease and specify the purpose for which that area is to be used; and
  - (g) identify any improvements referred to in section 238(2)<sup>53</sup> on land identified in the application as required by paragraph (f); and
  - (h) describe and identify in the prescribed manner any land proposed to be used as access from a point outside the boundary of the mining lease acceptable to the mining registrar to land over which the mining lease is sought; and
  - (i) give reasons why the mining lease should be granted in respect of the area and shape of the land described in the application; and
  - (j) be accompanied by a sketch, map or other graphic representation acceptable to the mining registrar setting out the boundaries of any land referred to in paragraphs (e), (f) and (h); and

---

53 Section 238 (Mining lease over surface of reserve or land near a dwelling house)

- (k) identify the mineral or minerals or purpose in respect of which the mining lease is sought; and
- (l) nominate the term of the mining lease sought and give reasons therefor; and
- (m) subject to section 247,<sup>54</sup> be lodged by the applicant personally at the office of the mining registrar for the mining district in which is situated the land in respect of which the mining lease is sought during the hours prescribed for the conduct of business at that office; and
- (o) be accompanied by—
  - (i) proof, to the mining registrar's satisfaction, of the applicant's identity; and
  - (ii) the number of additional copies of the application, and other documents lodged with the application, the mining registrar requires; and
  - (iii) a statement, acceptable to the mining registrar—
    - (A) outlining the mining program proposed, outlining its method of operation, and providing an indication of when operations are expected to start or, if a mining program is not proposed, outlining the use proposed for the land and providing an indication of when the proposed use is to start; and
    - (B) of proposals for infrastructure requirements necessary to enable the mining program to proceed, or additional activities to be carried on to work out the infrastructure requirements;<sup>55</sup> and
  - (iv) a statement, acceptable to the mining registrar and separate from the statement mentioned in subparagraph (iii), detailing the applicant's financial and technical resources; and
  - (v) the application fee prescribed under a regulation.

---

54 Section 247 (Lodgment of application where land in more than 1 mining district)

55 Section 315 (Approval of additional activities upon mining lease application)

- (1A) However, subsection (1)(o)(iii)(A) does not apply if, under part 7AA,<sup>56</sup> the application includes a proposed development plan that complies with the initial development plan requirements.
- (2) The mining registrar shall not accept a mining program referred to in subsection (1)(o)(iii)(A) which is inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (1)(m), an application is lodged personally if it is lodged by an individual who is—
- (a) the applicant; or
  - (b) a person authorised in writing in that behalf by the applicant.
- (4) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the application is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (5) Subsection (4) ceases to apply if the application is rejected under this section or section 250.

## **246 Description of mining lease**

In an application for the grant of a mining lease—

- (a) the datum post shall be accurately related by measured distances and compass bearings (or other method acceptable to the mining registrar) to a survey mark or other fixed and well defined point acceptable to the mining registrar; and
- (b) the boundaries of the mining lease shall be described by accurately measured distances and compass bearings on the ground or other method acceptable to the mining registrar; and
- (c) the boundaries of any surface areas shall be described by accurately measured distances and compass bearings on the ground or other method acceptable to the mining registrar and the description shall be related to a boundary post of the land referred to in the application

---

<sup>56</sup> Part 7AA (Provisions for coal seam gas)

- by accurately measured distances and compass bearings; and
- (d) the surface access (if any) from a point acceptable to the mining registrar to a surface area of land within the boundaries of the mining lease applied for shall be described by measured distances and compass bearings along the centre line of that access together with the width of that access or by some other method acceptable to the mining registrar; and
  - (e) the datum post or commencement point of the description of any land the subject of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease or application for the grant of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease, in any case wholly within the land sought for the mining lease shall be related by measured distances and compass bearings on the ground (or other method acceptable to the mining registrar) to the datum post of the land the subject of the application.

**247 Lodgment of application where land in more than 1 mining district**

- (1) Where an application for a mining lease relates to land that is situated in more than 1 mining district, the application shall be lodged personally with the mining registrar for the mining district in which the major portion of the land is situated.
- (2) A mining registrar who accepts the lodgment of an application referred to in subsection (1), shall notify forthwith the mining registrar for each other district in which land the subject of the application is situated.

**248 Applicant must obtain consent or views of existing authority holders**

- (1) This section applies if a person applies for a mining lease over land—
  - (a) covered by an existing exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease (the *existing authority*) held by someone else; or

- (b) covered by, or in the area of, an existing geothermal exploration permit (also the *existing authority*) held by someone else.
- (2) The applicant must obtain the existing authority holder's written consent to the application if the lease applied for is over land covered by the existing authority and is for—
  - (a) the same minerals as the existing authority; or
  - (b) a purpose mentioned in section 234(1)(b).
- (3) The applicant must obtain the existing authority holder's written views on the application if—
  - (a) the existing authority is an existing authority mentioned in subsection (1)(a) and the lease applied for is for different minerals to those covered by the existing authority; or
  - (b) the existing authority is a geothermal exploration permit and the lease applied for is over land covered by, or in the area of, the existing authority.
- (4) If the existing authority holder's consent required under subsection (2) is not lodged with the mining registrar before the last objection day for the application ends, the application can not be granted.
- (5) If the existing authority holder's views required under subsection (3) are not lodged with the mining registrar before the last objection day for the application ends, the applicant must lodge with the mining registrar before the last objection day ends a statutory declaration stating why the applicant can not obtain the views.

**249 Later applicant must obtain consent or views of earlier applicant if same land affected**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a person (the *earlier applicant*) makes an application to the chief executive for an exploration permit, geothermal exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease over land; and

- (b) someone else (the *later applicant*) makes a later application to the mining registrar for a mining lease over, or in the area of, land covered by the earlier application.
- (2) The later applicant must obtain the earlier applicant's written consent to the later application if the lease applied for in the later application is over land covered by the earlier application and for—
  - (a) the same minerals as the earlier application; or
  - (b) a purpose mentioned in section 234(1)(b).
- (3) The later applicant must obtain the earlier applicant's written views on the later application if—
  - (a) the earlier application is for a mining tenement mentioned in subsection (1)(a) and the lease applied for in the later application is over land covered by the earlier application and for different minerals to those covered by the earlier application; or
  - (b) the earlier application is for a geothermal exploration permit and the lease applied for in the later application is over, or in the area of, land covered by the earlier application.
- (4) The consent or views may be lodged with the mining registrar before the earlier application is decided.
- (5) However, if the earlier application is decided by the grant of the permit, licence or lease applied for, the consent or views must be lodged with the mining registrar within 20 business days after the permit, licence or lease is granted.
- (6) The mining registrar must not deal with the later application until the earlier application is finally decided unless—
  - (a) if the later application is for a lease mentioned in subsection (2)—the earlier applicant's consent is lodged with the mining registrar; or
  - (b) if the later application is for a lease over, or in the area of, land covered by an earlier application for a geothermal exploration permit—
    - (i) the earlier applicant's views are lodged with the mining registrar; and

- (ii) the earlier applicant does not oppose the later application.
- (7) In this section—
- application***, for a geothermal exploration permit, means a tender for the permit.

## **250 Rejection of application by mining registrar**

- (1) A person who lodges an application for the grant of a mining lease shall provide the mining registrar with such information and particulars relating to the requirements set out in section 245(1) on behalf of the applicant as the mining registrar requires and on failure to provide that information the mining registrar may reject the application.
- (2) The mining registrar may reject an application for a mining lease for all or part of land that appears, on evidence available to the mining registrar, to be covered by a mining claim, mineral development licence (other than the licence held by the applicant) or mining lease, or an application for the grant of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2) where a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease is terminated or an application for a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease is abandoned or rejected, the relevant land shall be deemed to continue to be subject to the mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease, or application until the day next following that termination, abandonment or rejection.
- (4) A person whose application for the grant of a mining lease is rejected by the mining registrar pursuant to subsection (1) or (2) may appeal against the rejection to the tribunal by lodging a written notice of appeal with the registrar of the tribunal within 20 business days of the rejection.
- (5) The tribunal shall hear and determine the appeal and its determination thereon shall be final.
- (6) At a hearing pursuant to this subsection the tribunal shall take such evidence, shall hear such persons and inform itself in such manner as it considers appropriate in order to determine



the appeal and shall not be bound by any rule or practice as to evidence.

- (7) If the tribunal does not confirm the rejection by the mining registrar the tribunal shall direct the mining registrar to proceed with the application and the mining registrar shall do all things necessary to implement that decision.
- (8) The mining registrar must give written notice of the following events to the EPA administering authority within 5 business days after the event happens—
  - (a) a rejection by the mining registrar under this section;
  - (b) an appeal under this section is finally decided or is otherwise ended.

## **251 Priority of applications for grant of mining lease**

- (1) Applications for the grant of mining leases duly made in respect of or including the same land shall take priority for the purpose of consideration and determination of applications according to the order of the time on which they are lodged as prescribed.
- (2) If the mining registrar is or, where applications are lodged with different mining registrars, those registrars are of the opinion that the circumstances of the lodgment of some applications for the grant of mining leases made in respect of the same land are such that the applications should be treated as having been lodged simultaneously, the mining registrar or registrars may treat the applications as having been lodged simultaneously and shall determine their respective priorities by ballot.
- (3) The mining registrar shall advise all applicants when and where the ballot is to be held.

## **252 Certificate of application etc.**

- (1) Upon being satisfied that the applicant for the grant of a mining lease is eligible to apply for the mining lease and that the applicant has complied with the requirements of this Act with respect to that application the mining registrar shall

prepare a certificate of application for a mining lease in the approved form.

- (2) The mining registrar must endorse on the certificate of application—
  - (a) the number of the proposed mining lease; and
  - (b) the date and time the application was lodged.
- (3) The person lodging the application must sign the certificate.
- (4) The applicant for the proposed mining lease must, within the relevant period, give each owner of the land the subject of the proposed mining lease or any other land necessary for access to that land, a copy of—
  - (a) the certificate; and
  - (b) the application for the mining lease, other than any part of it that states the applicant's financial and technical resources.
- (5) The mining registrar may, by written notice given to the applicant, decide a way for the applicant to give the documents mentioned in subsection (4) by publishing the documents, or a notice about the documents, in a stated way.
- (6) If the applicant publishes the documents or a notice about the documents in the stated way, the applicant is taken to have complied with subsection (4).
- (7) In this section—

***relevant period*** means the later of the following periods to end—

  - (a) 5 business days after the signing of the certificate;
  - (b) if the mining registrar at any time decides a longer period—the longer period.

## **252A Issue of certificate of public notice**

- (1) This section applies only if—
  - (a) a certificate of application for an application for a mining lease has been endorsed under section 252(2); and

- (b) either—
  - (i) under the Environmental Protection Act, the application for the relevant environmental authority (mining lease) is a code compliant application and the environmental authority has been issued;<sup>57</sup> or
  - (ii) under the Environmental Protection Act, the application for the relevant environmental authority (mining lease) is a non-code compliant application and the draft environmental authority for the non-code compliant application has, under the Environmental Protection Act, section 208,<sup>58</sup> been given to the mining registrar; and
- (c) if the proposed mining lease is a mining lease to which part 17, division 4, applies—
  - (i) at least 4 months have passed since the giving of the notice required under section 652; or
  - (ii) a negotiated agreement under part 17, division 4 has been reached.<sup>59</sup>
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days—
  - (a) fix the last day (the *last objection day*) for lodging objections to the application; and
  - (b) give the applicant for the mining lease a certificate of public notice in the approved form; and
  - (c) give the EPA administering authority a copy of the certificate.
- (3) The last objection day must be at least 20 business days after the certificate is given.

---

57 See the Environmental Protection Act, section 164 (Automatic issuing of code compliant authority if no relevant mining claim or mining lease).

58 Environmental Protection Act, section 208 (Obligation to prepare draft environmental authority)

59 Environmental Protection Act, sections 208 (Obligation to prepare draft environmental authority)

Sections 252 (Certificate of application etc.) and 652 (Requirement to notify) Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases)

- (4) The certificate must state the following—
  - (a) the number of the proposed mining lease;
  - (b) the day and time the application for the mining lease was lodged;
  - (c) the last objection day;
  - (d) where the application or any additional documents given to the mining registrar about the application may be inspected.
- (5) The mining registrar must, from the giving of the certificate to the applicant until the end of the last objection day, post and keep posted at the registrar's office a copy of the certificate.

#### **252B Applicant's obligations for certificate of public notice**

- (1) The applicant for a proposed mining lease must do the following within the notice period—
  - (a) post a copy of the certificate of public notice on the datum post of land the subject of the proposed mining lease (*relevant land*);
  - (b) durably engrave or mark the number of the proposed mining lease on the datum post;
  - (c) give a copy of the certificate and the application for the mining lease to—
    - (i) each owner of relevant land or any other land necessary for access to relevant land; and
    - (ii) each holder, or applicant for, an exploration permit or mineral development licence over the land for a mineral other than a mineral to which the proposed mining lease relates; and
    - (iii) the relevant local government.
- (2) For subsection (1)(c), the application for the mining lease—
  - (a) does not include any part of the application stating the applicant's financial and technical resources; and
  - (b) includes any additional document about the application given by the applicant to the mining registrar.

- (3) The applicant must ensure the copy of the certificate posted on the datum post remains so posted until the end of the last objection day for the application.
- (4) The applicant must, in an approved newspaper circulating generally in the area of the relevant land, publish—
  - (a) a copy of the certificate; or
  - (b) if a map or sketch plan has been approved for the publication—
    - (i) a notice in the approved form about the certificate; and
    - (ii) the map or sketch plan.
- (5) The publication must take place—
  - (a) at least 15 business days before the last objection day; or
  - (b) at an approved shorter period before the last objection day.
- (6) Despite subsections (1) to (5), the mining registrar may decide an additional or substituted way for the giving or publishing of the certificate under subsection (1)(c), (4) or (5).
- (7) Written notice of the decision must be given to the applicant no later than the giving of the certificate to the applicant.
- (8) If, in the period from when subsection (1)(c) is complied with and the end of the last objection day, the applicant gives the mining registrar an additional document about the application, the applicant must give a copy of the document to each person mentioned in subsection (1)(c).
- (9) In this section—

***approved*** means approved by the mining registrar.

***notice period*** means the later of the following periods to end—
  - (a) 5 business days after the certificate is given to the applicant;
  - (b) if the mining registrar at any time decides a longer period—the longer period.

**252C Declaration of compliance with obligations**

- (1) The applicant for a proposed mining lease must, within the later of the following periods to end, give the mining registrar a statutory declaration as to the applicant's compliance with section 252B—
  - (a) 5 business days after the last objection day for the application for the mining lease;
  - (b) if the mining registrar at any time decides a longer period—the longer period.
- (2) Until the declaration is given—
  - (a) the tribunal must not make a final recommendation to the Minister about the application for the mining lease, other than a recommendation to reject the application; and
  - (b) the tribunal may refuse to hear any matter about the application.

**252D Continuing obligation to notify**

- (1) This section applies for an application for a mining lease, if after the last objection day but before the hearing day for the application, the applicant gives the mining registrar an additional document about the application.
- (2) The applicant must give a copy of the document to each person mentioned in subsection 252B(1)(c).

**253 Reissue of certificate of public notice**

- (1) The mining registrar may reissue a certificate of public notice if the mining registrar is satisfied it should be reissued—
  - (a) because of an error in its preparation; or
  - (b) because compliance with the certificate is impracticable.
- (2) If the mining registrar reissues a certificate of public notice, the mining registrar may extend the last date for objections to take account of the time between the issue of the original certificate and its reissue.

**254 Mining registrar may call conference in some cases**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) within 5 business days before the last objection day for an application for a mining lease (or a shorter period allowed by the mining registrar), an owner of land affected by the application gives the mining registrar a written request for a conference, stating the things the owner wants to discuss about the application; or
  - (b) for another reason, the mining registrar considers it desirable to hold a conference about a mining lease or an application for a mining lease.
- (2) If subsection (1)(a) applies, the mining registrar must call a conference about the application, by written notice given to the owner and the applicant.
- (3) If subsection (1)(b) applies, the mining registrar may call a conference about the mining lease or application, by written notice given to—
  - (a) the owners of land who appear to the mining registrar to be affected by the lease or application; or
  - (b) the lease holder or applicant; or
  - (c) anyone else the mining registrar considers should be given notice of the conference.
- (4) The notice must state when and where the conference will be held and what is to be discussed at the conference.
- (5) If the conference is about an application, the conference must be held before the last objection day ends.
- (6) However, if the conference is about an application and an objection is lodged, the conference between the applicant and the objector must be held before the date fixed for the hearing of the application for the grant of the mining lease.

**255 Who may attend conference**

- (1) Apart from the mining registrar, anyone given notice of a conference about a mining lease or an application for a mining lease (a *section 254 conference*), may attend and take part in the conference.

- (2) Also, with the mining registrar's approval, someone else may be present to help a person attending the conference.
- (3) However, the person may not be represented at the conference by a lawyer.

## **256 What happens if someone does not attend**

The mining registrar may hold a section 254 conference even though someone given notice of the conference does not attend the conference.

## **257 Mining registrar's function at section 254 conference**

The mining registrar must endeavour to help those attending a section 254 conference to reach an early, inexpensive settlement of the things discussed.

## **258 Agreements and statements at section 254 conference**

- (1) If parties to a section 254 conference reach agreement about something discussed at the conference, the parties must—
  - (a) put the agreement into writing; and
  - (b) sign the agreement; and
  - (c) if the agreement is about an application for a mining lease—lodge it with the mining registrar before the last objection day ends.
- (2) A person attending the conference must not disclose or publish anything said in an oral or written statement made or given at the conference other than in an agreement mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) Nothing said by a person at the conference is admissible in a proceeding without the person's consent.

## **259 Tribunal may award costs**

- (1) If—
  - (a) a person agrees to attend a section 254 conference but does not attend; and



(b) someone else does attend (the *attending party*);  
the attending party may apply to the tribunal for an order requiring the person who did not attend to pay the attending party's reasonable costs of attending.

- (2) If the tribunal orders a person to pay the attending party's costs, the tribunal must decide the amount of the costs.
- (3) However, the tribunal must not order a person to pay costs if the tribunal is satisfied the person had a reasonable excuse for not attending the conference.

## **260 Objection to application for grant of mining lease**

- (1) An entity may, on or before the last objection day for the application, lodge with the mining registrar an objection in writing in the approved form.
- (2) An owner of land who attends a conference with the applicant for the grant of a mining lease may lodge an objection on or before the expiration of 5 business days after the conclusion of that conference or if the applicant for the grant of the mining lease fails to attend the conference after the day upon which the conference was convened, notwithstanding that the period for objection prescribed by subsection (1) has expired.
- (3) An objection referred to in subsection (1) or (2) shall state the grounds of objection and the facts and circumstances relied on by the objector in support of those grounds.
- (4) Each objector to an application for the grant of a mining lease shall serve upon the applicant on or before the last date that the objector may lodge an objection to that application a copy of the objection lodged by the objector.

## **265 Referral of application and objections to tribunal**

- (1) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the last objection day for the application, refer the application and all properly made objections to it to the tribunal for hearing.
- (2) The tribunal must fix a date for the hearing and immediately give written notice of the date to each of the following—
  - (a) the mining registrar;

- (b) the applicant;
  - (c) the EPA administering authority;
  - (d) each person who has lodged a properly made objection to the application.
- (3) The hearing date must be at least 20 business days after the later of the following—
- (a) the last objection day for the application;
  - (b) the day a section 254 conference about the application ends.
- (4) In this section—
- properly made objection* means an objection lodged in accordance with section 260.

## **266 Mining registrar may recommend rejection of application for noncompliance**

At any time after a certificate of public notice is given for a mining lease, a mining registrar, who is of the opinion that an applicant for the grant of the mining lease has not complied with any requirement placed upon the applicant by or under this Act in respect of the application, may recommend to the Minister that the application be rejected.

## **267 Minister may reject application at any time**

- (1) The Minister, whether or not the mining registrar has so recommended, may at any time reject an application for the grant of a mining lease notwithstanding that the application has not been the subject of a hearing by the tribunal if—
- (a) the Minister is satisfied that the applicant has not complied with any requirement placed upon the applicant by or under this Act in respect of the application; or
  - (b) the Minister considers that it is not in the public interest for the mining lease to be granted.

- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after receiving notice of the rejection, give written notice of it to the EPA administering authority.

## **268 Hearing of application for grant of mining lease**

- (1) On the date fixed for the hearing of the application for the grant of the mining lease and objections thereto, the tribunal shall hear the application and any objections thereto and all other matters that pursuant to this part are to be heard, considered or determined by the tribunal in respect of that application at the one hearing of the tribunal.
- (2) At a hearing pursuant to subsection (1) the tribunal shall take such evidence, shall hear such persons and inform itself in such manner as it considers appropriate in order to determine the relative merits of the application, objections (if any) and other matters and shall not be bound by any rule or practice as to evidence.
- (3) The tribunal shall not entertain an objection to an application or any ground thereof or any evidence in relation to any ground if the objection or ground is not contained in an objection that has been duly lodged in respect of the application.
- (4) The tribunal may direct an inspection or view of the land the subject of the application.
- (5) Nothing in subsection (1) shall prevent the adjournment from time to time of a hearing.
- (6) Nothing in subsection (1) shall prevent the question of compensation being determined by the tribunal pursuant to section 279.
- (7) The Minister may require at any time the tribunal to advise the reasons why a hearing under this section has not been finalised.
- (8) The tribunal on the application of an objector or owner may award costs against an applicant for a mining lease who abandons the application or does not pursue the application at a hearing.

- (9) The tribunal on the application of an applicant for a mining lease may award costs against an objector who withdraws the objection or does not pursue the objection at a hearing.
- (10) In this section—  
*application* includes any additional document about the application given by the applicant to the mining registrar.

### **269 Tribunal's recommendation on hearing**

- (1) Upon the hearing by the tribunal under this part of all matters in respect of an application for the grant of a mining lease, the tribunal shall forward to the Minister—
- (a) any objections lodged in relation thereto; and
  - (b) the evidence adduced at the hearing; and
  - (c) any exhibits; and
  - (d) the tribunal's recommendation.
- (2) The recommendation of the tribunal upon an application for the grant of a mining lease shall consist of—
- (a) a recommendation to the Minister that the application should be granted or rejected in whole or in part; and
  - (b) in the case of an application that relates to land that is the surface of a reserve and the owner of that reserve does not consent to the grant of a mining lease over that surface area, a recommendation to the Minister as to whether the Governor in Council should consent to the grant of the mining lease over that surface area and, if so, recommend the conditions (if any) to which the mining lease should be subject.
- (3) A recommendation may include a recommendation that the mining lease be granted subject to such conditions as the tribunal considers appropriate, including a condition that mining shall not be carried on above a specified depth below specified surface area of the land.
- (4) The tribunal, when making a recommendation to the Minister that an application for a mining lease be granted in whole or in part, shall take into account and consider whether—

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (a) the provisions of this Act have been complied with; and
- (b) the area of land applied for is mineralised or the other purposes for which the lease is sought are appropriate; and
- (c) if the land applied for is mineralised there will be an acceptable level of development and utilisation of the mineral resources within the area applied for; and
- (d) the land and the surface area of the land in respect of which the mining lease is sought is of an appropriate size and shape in relation to—
  - (i) the matters mentioned in paragraphs (b) and (c); and
  - (ii) the type and location of the activities proposed to be carried out under the lease and their likely impact on the surface of the land; and
- (e) the term sought is appropriate; and
- (f) the applicant has the necessary financial and technical capabilities to carry on mining operations under the proposed mining lease; and
- (g) the past performance of the applicant has been satisfactory; and
- (h) any disadvantage may result to the rights of—
  - (i) holders of existing exploration permits or mineral development licences; or
  - (ii) existing applicants for exploration permits or mineral development licences; and
- (i) the operations to be carried on under the authority of the proposed mining lease will conform with sound land use management; and
- (j) there will be any adverse environmental impact caused by those operations and, if so, the extent thereof; and
- (k) the public right and interest will be prejudiced; and
- (l) any good reason has been shown for a refusal to grant the mining lease; and

- (m) taking into consideration the current and prospective uses of that land, the proposed mining operation is an appropriate land use.
- (5) Where the tribunal recommends to the Minister that an application for the grant of a mining lease be rejected in whole or in part the tribunal shall furnish the Minister with the tribunal's reasons for that recommendation.
- (6) If—
  - (a) the application is for the grant of a coal mining lease; and
  - (b) under section 318BA,<sup>60</sup> a preference decision is required;the tribunal can not recommend that the lease not be granted so as to give preference to petroleum development.

## **270 Procedure where no objections lodged**

- (1) The tribunal may, in the tribunal's discretion, dispense with a hearing of an application for the grant of a mining lease if the tribunal is satisfied that—
  - (a) the provisions of this part (other than the provisions requiring the hearing) have been complied with in respect of the application; and
  - (b) no objection to the grant of the mining lease has been duly lodged; and
  - (c) where the application relates to land that is the surface of a reserve, the owner thereof consents to the grant of the mining lease; and
  - (d) where the application is in respect of land over which, pursuant to section 238(2), a mining lease shall not be granted without the consent of another person or other persons, that person or those persons consent to the grant.
- (2) The tribunal shall indicate in any recommendation for the grant of a mining lease where the hearing of the application

---

60 Section 318BA (When preference decision is required)

therefor has been dispensed with, that the tribunal has taken into account and considered all matters in respect thereof set out in section 269(4).

**271 Minister to consider recommendation made in respect of application for grant of mining lease**

- (1) Every recommendation made by the tribunal in respect of an application for the grant of a mining lease shall be considered by the Minister who after taking into account the matters specified in section 269(4), any native title issues decision of the tribunal under part 17, division 4 or any substituted decision made by the Minister under part 17, division 4 in overruling the tribunal's native title issues decision, may—
  - (a) recommend to the Governor in Council that a mining lease be granted and an instrument of lease be issued to the applicant with respect to the whole or part of the land the subject of the application and, if necessary, where any surface of the land is reserve, that consent to the grant be given; or
  - (b) reject the application; or
  - (c) direct the tribunal to hold a hearing or further hearing into the application generally or limited to such matter as the Minister specifies.
- (2) A recommendation by the Minister pursuant to subsection (1)(a) that a mining lease be granted in respect of part only of the land the subject of an application for the grant is a rejection by the Minister pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of the application with respect to that part of the land included in the application that is not included in the recommendation for the grant.
- (3) If the Minister wholly or partly rejects an application or, under subsection (1)(c), gives a direction (the *action*)—
  - (a) the Minister must promptly give the applicant a written notice stating the action and the reasons for it; and
  - (b) the mining registrar must, within 5 business days after receiving notice of the action, give written notice of it to the EPA administering authority.

**272 Minister may remit to tribunal for additional evidence**

- (1) This section applies if the Minister, under section 271(1)(c), directs the tribunal to hold a hearing about an application for the grant of a mining lease.
- (2) The tribunal must fix a date for the hearing and immediately give written notice of the date to each of the following—
  - (a) the mining registrar;
  - (b) the applicant;
  - (c) each person who has lodged an objection to the application in accordance with section 260.
- (3) The date must be at least 20 business days after the day the tribunal fixes the date.

**273 Restriction on grant of mining lease that does not include surface of land**

A mining lease over land shall not be granted unless—

- (a) it includes such an area of the surface of that land; or
- (b) where it does not include an area of the surface of that land, the applicant is the holder of such an adjoining mining lease;

as will enable the holder to carry out the purposes for which the first mentioned mining lease is granted.

**274 Holder of a mining lease to mark boundary posts**

Unless the land the subject of a mining lease has been surveyed, the holder of the mining lease shall, within 5 business days of the date of grant of the mining lease, engrave or in some way durably mark on every boundary post of the land the subject of the mining lease or cairn erected as prescribed in lieu thereof the number of that mining lease and shall maintain those posts or cairns duly engraved or marked while the mining lease subsists and the land is not surveyed.



**275 Application for inclusion of surface of land in mining lease**

- (1) Notwithstanding section 232, the holder of a mining lease that does not include any portion of the surface of the land to which that mining lease relates or that includes a portion only of the surface of the land to which that mining lease relates may at any time apply for an additional area of surface of that land to be included in the mining lease.
- (2) An application made under this section shall be made and dealt with in the same manner as if it were an application for a mining lease made under this part, and for that purpose—
  - (a) the posting of any notice on a conspicuous part of the area applied for shall be sufficient compliance with the provisions of this Act relating to the posting of that notice on the land; and
  - (b) the certificate of application and the certificate of public notice must state, as the number of the proposed mining lease, the number of the existing lease together with the words ‘addition of surface area’.
- (3) If the application is granted—
  - (a) the mining lease must be amended to give effect to the approval and the conditions stated in it; and
  - (b) particulars of the approval must be recorded in the appropriate register and endorsed on the relevant instrument of mining lease.

**276 General conditions of mining lease**

- (1) Each mining lease shall be subject to—
  - (a) a condition that the holder shall use the land comprised in the mining lease bona fide for the purpose for which the mining lease was granted and in accordance with this Act and the conditions of the mining lease and for no other purpose; and
  - (b) a condition that the holder must carry out improvement restoration for the mining lease; and

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (c) a condition that the holder, prior to the termination of the mining lease for whatever cause, shall remove any building or structure purported to be erected under the authority of the mining lease and all mining equipment and plant, on or in the land comprised in the mining lease unless otherwise approved by the Minister; and
- (d) a condition that without the prior approval of the Minister the holder shall not obstruct or interfere with any right of access had by any person in respect of land the subject of the mining lease; and
- (e) a condition that the holder shall not assign, sublease, or mortgage the mining lease or any part thereof without the consent in writing of the Minister; and
- (f) a condition that the holder shall furnish as prescribed all prescribed reports, returns, documents and statements whatever; and
- (g) a condition that the holder give materials obtained under the holder's mining operations to the Minister at the times, in the way and in quantities the Minister reasonably requires by written notice to the holder; and
- (h) where the mining lease is in respect of land that is a reserve, a condition that the holder shall comply with the terms and conditions upon which the consent of the owner or the Governor in Council to the grant of the mining lease was given; and
- (i) a condition that the holder shall maintain during the term of the lease the marking out of the land the subject of the mining lease including any survey pegs but that boundary posts or cairns need not be maintained after the land has been surveyed; and
- (j) a condition that the holder shall make all payments of compensation and comply with all terms of any agreement or determination relating to compensation at the time or times as agreed or determined pursuant to section 279, 280, 281 or 282; and
- (k) a condition that the holder—
  - (i) shall pay the rental as prescribed; and

- (ii) shall pay the royalty as prescribed; and
  - (iii) shall pay all local government rates and charges lawfully chargeable against the holder in respect of the land comprised in the mining lease; and
  - (iv) shall deposit as required by the Minister any security from time to time under this Act; and
  - (l) a condition that the holder shall comply with this Act and other mining legislation; and
  - (m) such other conditions as are prescribed; and
  - (n) such other conditions as the Governor in Council determines.
- (2) The Governor in Council may, on the recommendation of the Minister, grant a mining lease without the imposition of the conditions specified in subsection (1)(c) and (i).
- (3) A mining lease may be subject to a condition that mining operations under the mining lease shall commence within a specified period after its grant or as otherwise approved in writing by the Minister.
- (4) Conditions may be imposed in respect of a mining lease that require compliance with specified codes or industry agreements.
- (5) Despite subsections (1) to (4), a condition must not be determined, imposed or prescribed if it is the same, or substantially the same, or inconsistent with, a relevant environmental condition for the mining lease.
- (7) A mining lease granted after the commencement of the *Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1998* is subject to a condition that the holder comply with the At Risk agreement.

## **276A Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions**

- (1) This section applies if—

- (a) a negotiated agreement under part 17, division 4,<sup>61</sup> provides for the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, a mining lease; and
  - (b) the agreement includes conditions to be complied with by 1 or more of the parties to the agreement; and
  - (c) the Minister consents to the mining lease being subject to 1 or more of the conditions (the *consent conditions*); and
  - (d) the act is done.
- (2) The mining lease is subject to the consent conditions.

### **276B Other agreement conditions**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a registered indigenous land use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, or an agreement mentioned in section 31(1)(b) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act, provides for the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, a mining lease; and
  - (b) the State is a party to the agreement; and
  - (c) the agreement includes a requirement that, if the act is done, the mining lease must be subject to conditions stated in the agreement (the *stated conditions*); and
  - (d) the act is done.
- (2) The mining lease is subject to the stated conditions.

### **277 Provision of security**

- (1) The holder of a mining lease must deposit security for the lease to ensure the holder—
- (a) complies with the conditions of the lease; and
  - (b) complies with this Act; and

---

61 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (c) rectifies actual damage that may be caused by activities under the lease to pre-existing improvements for the lease; and
  - (d) pays amounts (other than penalties) payable under this Act to the State.
- (2) The Minister must fix the amount of security to be deposited under subsection (1).
- (3) Despite subsection (2), the Minister may, at any time and in the Minister's absolute discretion, decide that the holder must deposit extra security.
- (4) Before the holder of a mining lease starts operations under the lease, the holder must deposit the amount fixed under subsection (2) or, with the Minister's approval, security of a kind mentioned in subsection (9) for the amount.
- (5) The Minister, if satisfied that any condition of the mining lease or any provision of this Act has not been complied with or that damage referred to in subsection (1)(c) has been caused by any person purporting to act under the authority of the mining lease or who enters land upon the instruction of the holder, the Minister may require that person to take all action necessary to rectify that noncompliance or damage and, save where the person was not the holder and was not upon the land with the holder's approval at the time the damage was caused, may utilise for that purpose the whole or part of the amount of the security deposited in respect of that mining lease.
- (6) If the amount of the security deposited by the holder of a mining lease is not earlier reviewed pursuant to subsection (7), the Minister shall review that amount at the expiration of 5 years from the grant of the mining lease or from the previous review.
- (7) On the use under this section of any part of the security deposited in respect of a mining lease, the Minister may review the amount of the security deposited by the holder in respect of that mining lease.
- (8) If, upon that review, the Minister considers that a further amount of security should be deposited in respect of that mining lease, the Minister shall require the holder of the

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

mining lease, within the time specified by the Minister to deposit a further specified security.

- (9) The Minister may accept a bond or a guarantee or indemnity by, or other financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or another credit provider approved by the Minister or other form of security acceptable to the Minister as the whole or part of the security to be deposited under this section.
- (10) It shall be a condition of a mining lease that the holder shall deposit security or further security from time to time in accordance with a requirement made as provided by this section.
- (11) Where a mining lease has expired or been terminated, the Minister shall, subject to subsection (13), refund to the holder of the mining lease (or as the holder in writing directs) any security deposited and not utilised as provided by subsection (5) less any amounts determined by the Minister to be retained towards—
  - (a) rectification of any matters caused by the noncompliance with any of the conditions of the mining lease or with any order or direction made or given by the Minister under this Act and directed to the holder; and
  - (b) amounts (other than penalties) the holder owes to the State under this Act (whether before or after the termination); and
  - (c) rates and charges (including interest on unpaid rates and charges) owing to a local government by the former holder for the mining lease.
- (12) For matters mentioned in subsection (11), security must be applied to each of the matters in turn.
- (13) If the Minister accepts a bond, guarantee or indemnity by, or another financial arrangement with, a financial institution, insurance company or other credit provider as security under this section, any amount payable to the holder under subsection (11) must be refunded to the financial institution, insurance company or credit provider and not to the holder of the mining lease to which the security relates.

**278 Utilisation of security deposit towards subsequent mining lease**

If the holder of a mining lease or an expired mining lease makes application for a further mining lease, the Minister may, instead of refunding the whole or part of the security deposited in respect of the existing or expired mining lease, retain that security or part thereof (together with any further security fixed by the Minister) as the security (in which case it shall be taken to be or to be part of the security) deposited by the applicant in respect of the further mining lease.

**278A Tribunal's jurisdiction for At Risk agreement**

- (1) The tribunal has jurisdiction to hear and decide a proceeding about the following matters under a condition of a mining lease requiring compliance with the At Risk agreement—
  - (a) whether hardship, as defined under the agreement, exists;
  - (b) the fair market value of a property for the purposes of the agreement.
- (2) In a proceeding under subsection (1)(a), the tribunal must consider—
  - (a) all relevant matters put before the committee in any mediation under the agreement; and
  - (b) the final recommendation made by the committee in the mediation.
- (3) In a proceeding, a copy of the agreement as at a particular date, certified as a true copy by the chief executive, is admissible as evidence of the agreement at that date until the contrary is proved.
- (4) Despite the *Limitations of Actions Act 1974*, a proceeding must start—
  - (a) for a matter that arose before the commencement of this section—within 1 year after the commencement; or
  - (b) for a matter that arose after the commencement of this section—within 1 year after the committee gives notice

of its final recommendation about whether hardship, as defined under the agreement, exists.

(5) In this section—

*committee* means the committee mentioned in the At Risk agreement.

## **279 Compensation to be settled before grant or renewal of mining lease**

(1) A mining lease shall not be granted or renewed unless—

(a) compensation has been determined (whether by agreement or by determination of the tribunal) between the applicant and each person who is the owner of land the surface of which is the subject of the application and of any surface access to the mining lease land; or

(b) there is no person (other than the applicant) who is the owner of any of the land referred to in paragraph (a);

and the conditions of the agreement or determination have been or are being complied with by the applicant.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a) where the tribunal makes a determination of an amount of compensation, that compensation is not determined until—

(a) where no appeal against that determination is lodged within the period prescribed therefor—upon the expiration of that period; or

(b) where an appeal is duly lodged against that determination—upon the determination of the appeal.

(3) An agreement made pursuant to subsection (1)(a) shall not be effective unless and until—

(a) it is in writing signed by or on behalf of the parties; and

(b) it is filed in the office of the mining registrar.

(4) If an agreement referred to in subsection (3) is required by any law of Queensland to be stamped, it shall not be filed until it is stamped according to law.

(5) If compensation has not been agreed upon or the question of the amount of compensation has not been referred to the



tribunal for determination pursuant to the proceeding under section 281 in respect of an application for the grant of a mining lease upon the expiration of 3 months from—

- (a) in the case where the land or a part of land the subject of the application is a reserve and the Governor in Council consents to the grant in respect of that land—the date of the consent; or
- (b) in any other case—the date the tribunal recommends the grant of the mining lease;

whichever is the later, the mining registrar shall refer the question of the amount of compensation payable to the tribunal which shall make a determination in accordance with section 281.

**279A Referral to tribunal of issue of compensation if not settled within 3 months after term of lease ends**

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if—
  - (a) compensation is to be determined under section 279(1)(a) for the renewal of a mining lease; and
  - (b) the compensation is not determined within 3 months after the current term of the lease would, apart from section 286C, end.
- (2) The mining registrar must refer the issue of compensation to the tribunal for its determination.
- (3) The tribunal must fix a date for the hearing and immediately give written notice of the date to each of the following—
  - (a) the mining registrar;
  - (b) the applicant;
  - (c) each of the land owners involved in the determination under section 279(1).
- (4) The date must be at least 20 business days after the day the tribunal fixes the date.
- (5) The tribunal may hear and determine the matter as if the referral were an application made under section 281.

**280 Compensation for owner of land where surface area not included**

- (1) An owner of land the subject of a mining lease where no part of the surface area of that land is included in the lease may agree with the holder of the mining lease as to compensation for any damage caused to the surface of the land.
- (2) An agreement made pursuant to subsection (1) shall not be effective unless and until—
  - (a) it is in writing signed by or on behalf of the parties; and
  - (b) it is filed in the office of the mining registrar.
- (3) If an agreement referred to in subsection (2) is required by any law of Queensland to be stamped, it shall not be filed until it is stamped according to law.

**281 Determination of compensation by tribunal**

- (1) At any time before an agreement is made pursuant to section 279 or 280, a person who could be a party to such agreement may apply in writing to the mining registrar to have the tribunal determine the amount of compensation and the terms, conditions and times of payment thereof.
- (2) The tribunal is hereby authorised to hear and determine matters referred to in subsection (1).
- (3) Upon an application made under subsection (1), the tribunal shall settle the amount of compensation an owner of land is entitled to as compensation for—
  - (a) in the case of compensation referred to in section 279—
    - (i) deprivation of possession of the surface of land of the owner;
    - (ii) diminution of the value of the land of the owner or any improvements thereon;
    - (iii) diminution of the use made or which may be made of the land of the owner or any improvements thereon;
    - (iv) severance of any part of the land from other parts thereof or from other land of the owner;

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (v) any surface rights of access;
- (vi) all loss or expense that arises;  
as a consequence of the grant or renewal of the mining lease; and
- (b) in the case of compensation referred to in section 280—
  - (i) diminution of the value of the land of the owner or any improvements thereon;
  - (ii) diminution of the use made or which may be made of the land of the owner or any improvements thereon;
  - (iii) all loss or expense that arises;  
as a consequence of the grant or renewal of the mining lease.
- (4) In assessing the amount of compensation payable under subsection (3)—
  - (a) where it is necessary for the owner of land to obtain replacement land of a similar productivity, nature and area or resettle himself or herself or relocate his or her livestock and other chattels on other parts of his or her land or on the replacement land, all reasonable costs incurred or likely to be incurred by the owner in obtaining replacement land, the owner's resettlement and the relocation of the owner's livestock or other chattels as at the date of the assessment shall be considered;
  - (b) no allowance shall be made for any minerals that are or may be on or under the surface of the land concerned;
  - (c) if the owner of land proves that the status and use currently being made (prior to the application for the grant of the mining lease) of certain land is such that a premium should be applied—an appropriate amount of compensation may be determined;
  - (d) loss that arises may include loss of profits to the owner calculated by comparison of the usage being made of land prior to the lodgment of the relevant application for the grant of a mining lease and the usage that could be made of that land after the grant;

- (e) an additional amount shall be determined to reflect the compulsory nature of action taken under this part which amount, together with any amount determined pursuant to paragraph (c), shall be not less than 10% of the aggregate amount determined under subsection (3).
- (5) In any case the tribunal may determine the amounts and the terms, conditions and times when payments aggregating the total compensation payable shall be payable.
- (6) An amount of compensation decided by agreement between the parties, or by the tribunal, is binding on the parties and the parties' personal representatives, successors and assigns.
- (7) The tribunal shall give written notice of its determination to all parties and may make such order as to costs between the parties to the determination as it thinks fit.

## **282 Appeal against tribunal's determination upon compensation**

- (1) A party aggrieved by a determination of the tribunal (the *tribunal at first instance*) made under section 281 may, within 20 business days of the date of that determination or within such further period as the tribunal (appeal), on the application of that party in that behalf prior to the lodgment of the appeal, considers appropriate in any particular circumstances, appeal against the determination to the tribunal (appeal).
- (2) The appeal shall be instituted by, within the time and in the manner prescribed—
  - (a) lodging in the tribunal, written notice of appeal which shall include the grounds of appeal; and
  - (b) serving copies of the notice of appeal on the mining registrar and each other party; and
  - (c) giving security (approved by the registrar of the tribunal) for the costs of the appeal.
- (3) The tribunal (appeal) shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine an appeal under this section.
- (4) In deciding an appeal, the tribunal (appeal) must consider the things relevant to the appeal that the tribunal at first instance

was required to consider when making the decision appealed against.

(5) Upon hearing an appeal under subsection (1) the tribunal (appeal) may—

(a) vary the determination of the tribunal at first instance in such way as it thinks just; or

(b) disallow the appeal and confirm the determination of the tribunal at first instance;

and may make such order as to costs of the appeal as it thinks fit.

(6) The tribunal (appeal) shall not admit further evidence upon an appeal from a determination of the tribunal at first instance under subsection (1) unless—

(a) it is satisfied that admission of the evidence is necessary to avoid grave injustice and there is sufficient reason that the evidence was not previously adduced; or

(b) the appellant and respondent agree to its admission.

(7) The determination of the tribunal (appeal) on appeal shall be final and conclusive.

(8) In this section—

*tribunal (appeal)* means the tribunal constituted in the way required under the *Land and Resources Tribunal Act 1999* for an appeal under this section.

## **283 Public trustee may act in certain circumstances**

(1) If there is doubt as to the identity of the owner of land or the owner of land can not be found, the tribunal may determine that the public trustee shall represent the owner for the purpose of any negotiation or proceeding under section 279, 280, 281 or 282.

(2) Any action taken or thing done or omitted to be done by the public trustee as representative of the owner of land pursuant to subsection (1) shall be taken for all purposes to be taken, done or omitted by that owner.

- (3) Where, pursuant to subsection (1) the public trustee represents an owner of land, for the purposes of this part any moneys paid to the public trustee under any agreement or determination made under section 279, 280, 281 or 282 shall be deemed to have been paid to the owner.

### **283A Agreement to amend compensation**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) compensation (the *original compensation*) has been agreed under section 279 or 280 for a mining lease; or
  - (b) compensation (also the *original compensation*) has been determined under section 281 or 282 for a mining lease and there has, since the determination, been a material change in circumstances for the lease.

*Example of a material change in circumstances—*

A different mining method that changes the impact of mining operations under the lease.

- (2) The mining lease holder and each owner in relation to the lease mentioned in section 279(1)(a) or 280(1) may, by signed writing, agree to amend the original compensation (the *amendment agreement*).
- (3) However, the amendment agreement does not take effect until it is filed with the registrar.
- (4) After the amendment agreement takes effect, the original compensation, as amended by the agreement, is for this Act, other than this section, taken to be the original compensation.

### **283B Review of compensation by tribunal**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) compensation has been agreed under section 279 or 280 or determined under section 281 or 282 for a mining lease (the *original compensation*); and
  - (b) there has, since the agreement or determination, been a material change in circumstances for the mining lease.

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

*Example of a material change in circumstances—*

A different mining method that changes the impact of mining operations under the lease.

- (2) The mining lease holder or any owner in relation to the mining lease mentioned in section 279(1)(a) or 280(1) may apply to the tribunal for it to review the original compensation.
- (3) Sections 281(3) to (7) and 282 apply, with necessary changes, to the review as if it were an application under section 281(1).
- (4) The tribunal may, after conducting the review, decide to confirm the original compensation or amend it in a way the tribunal considers appropriate.
- (5) However, before making the decision, the tribunal must have regard to—
  - (a) the original compensation, other than any part of it that consists of an additional amount under section 281(4)(e); and
  - (b) whether the applicant has attempted to mediate or negotiate an amendment agreement for the original compensation; and
  - (c) any change in the matters mentioned in section 281(3) and (4) since the original compensation was agreed or determined.
- (6) If the decision is to amend the original compensation, the original compensation, as amended under the decision, is for this Act, other than this section, taken to be the original compensation.

**284 Initial term of mining lease**

- (1) The initial term of a mining lease shall, unless the mining lease is sooner terminated, be for a period approved by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Minister, commencing on the first day of the month which next follows the day on which the mining lease is granted but shall not be for a term longer than the period in respect of which compensation has been agreed or determined pursuant to section 279, 281 or 282.

- (2) From the grant of a mining lease to the commencement of the initial term thereof the holder shall have all the entitlements, powers, duties and functions that the holder has during the term of the lease except section 290 shall not apply.

### **285 Mining lease may be specified it is not renewable**

- (1) Upon the recommendation of the Minister that the land the subject of an application for the grant of a mining lease is (or will be) required for some purpose other than mining, the Governor in Council may grant the mining lease subject to the condition that the holder is not entitled to have the mining lease renewed.
- (2) If the Minister is satisfied that the land the subject of an application for the renewal of a mining lease is (or will be) required for some purpose other than mining, the Governor in Council may grant a renewal of the mining lease subject to the condition that the holder is not entitled to have the mining lease further renewed.
- (3) Where a mining lease is granted or renewed subject to a condition referred to in subsection (1) or (2), the applicant shall be advised of the reasons therefor.
- (4) Where a mining lease is renewed subject to a condition referred to in subsection (2) that condition shall be endorsed on the instrument of lease.

### **286 Application for renewal of mining lease**

- (1) The holder of a mining lease, including a lease subject to a condition mentioned in section 285, may, within the renewal period, apply to the mining registrar for a renewal of the lease.
- (2) The application must be made in the approved form and accompanied by the information and the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) In this section—  
*renewal period* means the period that is—



- (a) at least 6 months, or any shorter period allowed by the Minister in the particular case, before the current term of the lease expires; and
- (b) not more than 1 year before the current term expires.

### **286A Decision on application**

- (1) Subject to part 17, division 5,<sup>62</sup> the Governor in Council may grant an application for the renewal of a mining lease if the Minister is satisfied of each of the following—
  - (a) the holder has complied with—
    - (i) the terms of the lease; and
    - (ii) this Act in relation to the lease;
  - (b) the land the subject of the lease—
    - (i) still contains workable quantities of mineral or mineral bearing ore; or
    - (ii) is otherwise required for purposes for which the lease was granted;
  - (c) the proposed term of the renewed lease is appropriate;
  - (d) having regard to the current and prospective uses of the land comprised in the lease, the operations to be carried on during the renewed term of the lease—
    - (i) are an appropriate land use; and
    - (ii) will conform with sound land use management;
  - (e) the land and surface area for which the renewal is sought is of an appropriate size and shape in relation to the activities proposed to be carried out;
  - (f) the financial and technical resources available to the holder to carry on mining operations under the renewed lease are appropriate;
  - (g) the public interest will not be adversely affected by the renewal;

---

62 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 5 (Renewals of mining leases)

- (h) for a lease subject to a condition mentioned in section 285—the lease should be renewed.
- (2) If the application is for a lease subject to a condition mentioned in section 285, the Minister must advise the Governor in Council of the fact.
- (3) The renewal may be granted for the further term, decided by the Governor in Council, that is not longer than the period for which compensation has been agreed or determined under section 279, 281 or 282.
- (4) The renewed lease is subject to—
  - (a) any conditions prescribed under a regulation; and
  - (b) any conditions decided by the Governor in Council.
- (5) The Minister may refuse the application if the Minister—
  - (a) has served on the holder a notice in the approved form asking the holder to show cause, within the period stated in the notice, why the application should not be refused; and
  - (b) after considering the holder's response, is satisfied the application should be refused.
- (6) As soon as practicable after deciding the application, the Minister must give the holder a written notice stating—
  - (a) the decision; and
  - (b) if the decision is to recommend the grant of the renewal on conditions, or to refuse to recommend the grant of the renewal, the reasons for the decision.

**286B Chief executive must give copy of application to EPA administering authority**

If the Minister approves an application for renewal of a mining lease, the chief executive must give the EPA administering authority a copy of the application within 5 business days after the Minister is satisfied of the matters mentioned in section 286A(1) concerning the lease.

**286C Continuation of lease while application being dealt with**

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if—
  - (a) a properly made application for renewal of a mining lease is not withdrawn, refused or granted before the lease's expiry day ends; and
  - (b) after the expiry day, the holder—
    - (i) continues to pay rental on the lease and other amounts required to be paid under this Act; and
    - (ii) otherwise complies with this Act and the lease conditions.
- (2) The lease continues in force subject to the rights, entitlements and obligations in effect immediately before the end of the expiry day until the application is withdrawn, refused or granted.

**286D When term of renewed lease starts**

- (1) If a mining lease is renewed before its expiry day ends, the term of the renewed lease starts on the day after the expiry day.
- (2) If the lease is renewed after the expiry day, the term of the renewed lease is taken to have started on the day after the expiry day.

**286E When new conditions of renewed lease start**

- (1) If a renewed mining lease is subject to conditions (the *new conditions*) different from, or not included in, the lease conditions applying immediately before its renewal, the new conditions apply from the later of the following—
  - (a) the start of the term of the renewed lease;
  - (b) the day the renewal is granted.
- (2) However, if the lease is continued in force under section 286C, the holder must pay rental on the lease from the day after its expiry day at the rate that would have been payable, from time to time, if the renewed mining lease had been renewed on the day after the expiry day.

- (3) Subsection (2) applies even though payment of rental may be a condition of the lease.

**286F Renewal of lease must be in name of last recorded assignee**

- (1) This section applies if an assignment of a mining lease is approved and recorded under section 300(8)—
  - (a) after the date on which an application for renewal of the lease is made; and
  - (b) before the application is disposed of by the Minister.
- (2) Any renewal granted on the application must be in the name of the assignee under the last assignment approved and recorded before the grant of the renewal.

**287 Notice of rejection of renewal application**

- (1) If the Minister decides to reject an application to renew a mining lease, the Minister must promptly give the applicant a written notice stating the decision and the reasons for it.
- (2) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after receiving notice of the decision, give written notice of it to the EPA administering authority.

**288 Holder to notify owner of grant or renewal of mining lease**

- (1) The holder of a mining lease must notify each owner of land covered by the lease of the grant or renewal of the lease.
- (2) The notice must be given within 20 business days after the holder receives notice of the grant or renewal.
- (3) If the lease is for a purpose mentioned in section 234(1)(b),<sup>63</sup> the reference in subsection (1) to the owner of land includes the holder of an exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease over the land.

---

63 Section 234 (Governor in Council may grant mining lease)

**289 Mining lease where area not surveyed**

- (1) The Governor in Council may grant or renew a mining lease, and the instrument of lease for the mining lease may be issued, even though the boundaries of the land have not been surveyed.
- (2) In an instrument of lease referred to in subsection (1) the area and boundaries of land shall be specified as nearly as may be then ascertained and the lease shall not be avoided by reason only of any defect in the description of that land or those boundaries as specified in the instrument.

**290 Rental payable on mining lease**

- (1) Upon the grant of a mining lease rental shall first be payable thereon with respect to the period from the commencement of the term of the mining lease to 31 December of that year (the *first rental period*) and shall be paid within 20 business days (or such longer period as the Minister in the particular case approves) of the grant of the mining lease.
- (2) The amount of the rental payable in respect of the first rental period shall be an amount that bears to the yearly rental prescribed pursuant to subsection (4) for the year in which the first rental period falls the same proportion that the number of whole calendar months of the first rental period bears to 12.
- (3) In respect of each year or part thereof of the term of a mining lease (other than the first rental period) a full year's rental shall be payable in advance not later than 31 December of the previous year.
- (4) If the full year's rental is paid in advance, the amount of the rental shall be the amount prescribed in respect of the year in which the rental period falls.
- (5) If rental is not paid in advance—
  - (a) the mining registrar shall, prior to 31 January of that year, notify the holder of and any person holding a recorded interest in the mining lease that the rental has not been paid and of the amount of rental payable as prescribed by paragraph (b); and

- (b) the amount of the full year's rental shall be payable before 1 April of that year and shall be an amount equal to the amount prescribed in respect of the year in which the rental period falls plus an amount equal to 15% of that prescribed amount.
- (6) Upon the renewal of a mining lease, no further rental shall be payable in respect of the period that, if the renewal was a grant of a mining lease, would be the first rental period, except where that period commences on 1 January.
- (7) Except as provided in subsection (9), where in any year a mining lease is surrendered or terminated through effluxion of time and is not renewed there shall be refundable to the last holder of the mining lease an amount that bears to the amount of the rental that was paid in respect of that year the same proportion that the number of whole calendar months from—
  - (a) the date of surrender or termination; or
  - (b) the date of rejection of the application for renewal;whichever is the later, to 31 December of that year bears to 12.
- (8) Subsections (3) to (7) apply to a mining lease continued in force under section 286(8), with all necessary changes and with any changes prescribed by regulation, in the same way as they would apply if the lease had been renewed on the last day of its term.
- (9) No amount shall be refunded pursuant to subsection (7) where a mining lease is surrendered within its first rental period after its original grant.

### **290A Application of GST to rents for certain mining leases**

- (1) This section applies to a lease, however called, that, under the repealed schedule to this Act, section 3,<sup>64</sup> became a mining lease under this Act.
- (2) If any rent payable under the lease after 30 June 2005 is for a supply for which GST is payable, the rent payable is the total of—

---

64 The former schedule to this Act was repealed by 1998 Act No. 10.

- (a) the rent that would have been payable if the rent were not for a supply for which GST is payable; and
  - (b) 10% of the rent that would have been payable if the rent were not for a supply for which GST is payable.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies despite the provisions of the mining lease.

#### **294 Variation of conditions of mining lease**

- (1) The conditions to which a mining lease is for the time being subject, may be varied by the Governor in Council in terms not inconsistent with this Act upon the recommendation of the Minister and the agreement in writing of the holder of the mining lease.
- (2) However, the Governor in Council must not vary a condition of a mining lease if the condition as varied is the same, or substantially the same, or inconsistent with, a relevant environmental condition for the lease.
- (3) A mining lease that is duly varied pursuant to subsection (1) shall thereafter until again varied, be subject to its conditions as so varied.
- (4) Particulars of every variation of a mining lease shall be endorsed on the instrument of lease if the lease has been issued.
- (5) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after receiving notice of a variation under subsection (1), give the EPA administering authority written notice of the variation.

#### **295 Variation of mining lease for accuracy etc.**

- (1) Whenever—
  - (a) the boundaries and area of a mining lease have been more accurately ascertained and described by survey or some other method acceptable to the Minister; or
  - (b) the Governor in Council approves the exchange, pursuant to agreement by the holders of mining leases of contiguous land, of areas abutting upon a part of a boundary common to both mining leases; or

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (c) facts have appeared or been established since the grant of the mining lease that satisfy the Minister that an amendment of the mining lease should be made to more accurately reflect the holder's entitlements under the lease; or

the Governor in Council may vary the mining lease or mining leases accordingly.

- (2) A variation of a mining lease pursuant to subsection (1) shall take effect from the time indicated in that variation.
- (3) Notice of every variation of a mining lease pursuant to subsection (1) shall be given in writing by the Minister to the holder of the mining lease and to all persons holding an interest recorded as provided in this part in the mining lease.
- (4) The notice to the holder shall direct the holder to produce any instrument of lease for endorsement.
- (5) The Minister upon receipt of the instrument of lease shall make all endorsements thereon to give effect to the variation.
- (6) The Minister shall cause suitable recordings to be made in the register that the mining lease has been varied.
- (7) Where, prior to receiving a notice of variation pursuant to subsection (3) the holder of a mining lease has placed any improvements, machinery, plant or equipment on land which, by reason of the variation, has ceased to be part of the land comprised in the mining lease, the holder may within 20 business days after receipt by the holder of that notice, apply to the Minister for permission to enter upon that land and to remove the improvements, machinery, plant or equipment or any part thereof.
- (8) Upon application duly made to the Minister under subsection (7), the Minister shall grant permission to the applicant in respect thereof for such period and upon such conditions as the Minister thinks fit.
- (9) The applicant, together with the applicant's workers and persons delivering goods or substances or providing services ancillary to that purpose and vehicles and equipment, may enter upon land and remove improvements, machinery, plant or equipment or any part thereof in accordance with the permission granted pursuant to subsection (8).



- (10) Where a mining lease has been varied pursuant to subsection (1), the holder thereof shall be deemed to hold indemnified the Crown, the Minister and all officers, servants and agents of the Crown and the Minister against all claims arising out of anything done pursuant to this Act or done on or in land which, by reason of that variation, has ceased to be part of the land comprised in the mining lease.
- (11) Where the boundaries and area of the land comprised in a mining lease have been varied pursuant to subsection (1)(a)—
- (a) the condition under section 276(1)(c) that applied before the variation shall continue to apply after that variation in respect of activities carried on before that variation; and
  - (b) the conditions (other than the condition referred to in paragraph (a)) that applied before the variation shall cease to apply after that variation in respect of activities carried on after that variation;
- in respect of the area of land that has ceased to be part of the land comprised in the mining lease.
- (12) Where the boundaries and area of the land comprised in a mining lease have been varied pursuant to subsection (1)(a), the conditions of the lease shall from that variation also apply in respect of land that becomes part of the land comprised in the mining lease.
- (13) Where an exchange of areas of land comprised in mining leases has been effected pursuant to subsection (1)(b), in respect of each mining lease—
- (a) the conditions that applied before the exchange shall continue to apply in respect of the area of land comprised in the mining lease after the exchange; and
  - (b) the conditions that applied before the exchange shall cease to apply in respect of the area of land that has ceased to be part of the land comprised in the mining lease.

- (14) Notwithstanding subsections (11) and (13), the provisions of sections 277 and 308<sup>65</sup> shall continue to apply after a variation of a mining lease pursuant to subsection (1) in respect of any acts done or omitted to be done before that variation.
- (15) The Minister may direct and authorise the holder of a mining lease to enter upon land that has ceased to be part of the land comprised in the mining lease to comply with any condition referred to in subsection (11) or (13).
- (16) This section shall not be construed to abrogate or prejudice any right had by the Crown or a person, authority or body in respect of land which by reason of a variation pursuant to subsection (1) has ceased to be part of a mining lease, from proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction or independently of this Act to recover damages or to obtain any other remedy in respect of damage or injury suffered or loss incurred by reason of a person acting or purporting to act under the authority of that mining lease but any moneys paid under section 277 in respect of damage the subject of the proceedings shall be taken into account by that court in assessing the loss or damage.
- (17) The person who was the holder of a mining lease that is varied pursuant to this section shall pay the prescribed royalty in respect of all mineral mined by the person or on the person's behalf from land that ceases to be comprised in the mining lease as if it had been mined under the authority of that mining lease.

## **296 Correction of instrument of lease**

- (1) If, at any time, the Minister is of the opinion that an instrument of lease of a mining lease should be corrected by reason that the instrument is defective owing to error in its preparation, the Minister may correct the instrument and shall endorse every copy thereof accordingly.

---

65 Sections 277 (Provision of security) and 308 (Contravention by holder of mining lease)

- (2) When an instrument of lease is corrected under this section it shall be construed and operate as if it had been originally issued as corrected.

## **297 Replacement instrument of lease**

- (1) Where the Minister is satisfied that an instrument of lease of a mining lease should be cancelled and a replacement instrument of lease issued in its place, the Minister shall cancel the instrument in question and cause a replacement instrument of lease to be issued in its place.
- (2) A replacement instrument of lease of a mining lease issued under this section—
  - (a) shall be the instrument of lease issued in respect of the mining lease concerned in place of the instrument of lease previously issued in respect thereof and cancelled under this section which last mentioned instrument shall, upon the issue of the fresh instrument, cease to be of any force or effect; and
  - (b) may bear a form of endorsement which briefly traces the devolution of the title from the original holder of the mining lease to the person appearing as holder thereof at the time the replacement instrument of lease is issued; and
  - (c) shall bear endorsement of all apparently subsisting mortgages affecting the mining lease concerned and endorsed on the instrument of lease so cancelled; and
  - (d) shall be delivered to the person who appears to the Minister to be lawfully entitled to possession thereof.
- (3) The Minister shall cause the instrument of lease so cancelled to be suitably endorsed and a suitable recording to be made in the register that a replacement instrument of lease has been issued in its place.
- (4) The cancelled instrument of lease shall be retained by the chief executive.

**298 Mining other minerals or use for other purposes**

- (1) The holder of a mining lease for the mining of minerals may lodge an application in writing with the mining registrar for the Minister's approval to mine specified minerals (other than coal seam gas),<sup>66</sup> being minerals not specified in the mining lease, in respect of the whole or that part of the land specified in the mining lease that is not currently the subject of a mining lease or mineral development licence (or an application for a mining lease or mineral development licence) in respect of those specified minerals.
- (2) The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed application fee.
- (3) An application referred to in subsection (1) and any other application for the grant of a mining lease in respect of the same minerals shall take priority according to the order of the time and date the applications are lodged as prescribed.
- (4) The holder of a mining lease granted for purposes (other than mining of minerals) may lodge an application in writing with the mining registrar for the Minister's approval for the addition of such purposes not specified in the mining lease (being not those of mining for minerals), which the Minister accepts are appropriate for the mining lease and are not inconsistent with this Act.
- (5) The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.
- (6) The holder of a mining lease granted for the mining of minerals may apply in writing to the mining registrar for the Minister's approval for the addition of such purposes not specified in the mining lease as are not inconsistent with this Act.
- (7) The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.
- (8) The Minister may approve or reject an application under this section.

---

<sup>66</sup> For coal seam gas, see part 7AA, division 8 (Additional provisions for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases), subdivision 1 (Entitlement to coal seam gas).

- (9) Upon the Minister approving an application under this section and compliance by the applicant with any requirements imposed by the Minister, the relevant mining lease shall be deemed to include the specified minerals or, as the case may be, the additional purposes.<sup>67</sup>
- (10) An approval of the Minister under this section may be subject to—
  - (a) the imposition of such conditions as the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Minister determines; and
  - (b) the requirement to deposit such security under section 277 as the Minister determines.
- (11) Particulars of an approval under this section shall be recorded in the appropriate register and endorsed on the relevant instrument of mining lease.
- (12) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after receiving notice of an approval under this section, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the approval.

## **299 Consolidation of mining leases**

- (1) The holder of mining leases for the mining of minerals in respect of contiguous land may lodge an application in writing with the mining registrar for the mining district in which the major portion of the area of the mining leases is situated for the grant of a mining lease consolidating those mining leases.
- (2) The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.
- (3) If the mining registrar is not satisfied the land is adjoining, the holder may apply to the tribunal for an order declaring the land to be adjoining land for this section.
- (4) The Governor in Council may cancel the mining leases referred to in an application lodged pursuant to subsection (1) and grant the mining lease applied for, subject to such conditions as may be imposed by or under this Act.

---

<sup>67</sup> See however the Environmental Protection Act, section 426 (Environmental authority required for mining or petroleum activity) and chapter 5, part 7 (Plan of operations for environmental authority (mining lease)).

- (5) The relevant instruments of lease shall be cancelled or, as the case may be, issued to evidence the cancellation and grant of the mining leases.
- (6) If, within the proposed area of the consolidated mining lease, there is an area not included in 1 of the leases to be consolidated, the Governor in Council may include the area in the consolidated mining lease.
- (7) A consolidated mining lease may be granted only if the Minister is satisfied arrangements for compensation, the deposit of security and the proposed conditions of the mining lease are adequate.
- (8) The provisions of sections 232, 238, 240, 241, 243, 245, 251 to 254, 260, 265, 266, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 274 and 275 and such other provisions as the Governor in Council approves do not apply in respect of an application for and grant of a mining lease under this section.
- (9) The provisions of section 312(3) do not apply in respect of a mining lease terminated for the purposes of the grant of a mining lease under this section.
- (10) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 277(11), the security that pursuant to that section would have been refunded to the holder of the cancelled mining leases or as the holder directs may, at the request of the applicant, be retained by the Minister towards security required under section 277(1) to be deposited by the holder of the new mining lease issued under subsection (4).
- (11) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after receiving notice of the grant under this section of a consolidated mining lease, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the grant.

### **300 Assignment, mortgage or sublease of mining lease**

- (1) The following may be done only if the conditions under subsection (2) are complied with—
  - (a) an assignment, mortgage or sublease of a mining lease;
  - (b) an assignment or mortgage of an interest in a mining lease;

- (c) an assignment of an application for a mining lease, or an interest in an application for a mining lease.
- (2) For subsection (1) the conditions are—
- (a) the mining registrar has, under this section, approved the assignment, mortgage or sublease; and
  - (b) the assignment, mortgage or sublease is made in the approved form and lodged with the mining registrar; and
  - (c) the lodgment is accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after an assignment is lodged, give the EPA administering authority a copy of the assignment.
- (4) The holder of a mining lease or an applicant therefor desirous of exercising a power referred to in subsection (1) shall apply in writing to the mining registrar for the Minister's approval to that exercise and shall furnish to the Minister such information with respect thereto as the Minister requires.
- (5) An application for assignment or sublease under subsection (4) if a mortgage is recorded in respect of the mining lease, shall be accompanied by the mortgagee's consent.
- (6) Upon an application made pursuant to subsection (4) the Minister shall cause the applicant to be given notice—
- (a) that, subject to compliance with this Act in respect thereof and with any conditions specified in the notice within 3 months from the date of the notice or such other period as is specified in the notice, the Minister will approve the exercise; or
  - (b) that the Minister does not approve the exercise.
- (7) Without in any way limiting the conditions that the Minister may impose under this subsection, the Minister may require the holder of a mining lease desiring to sublease that mining lease or a portion of the land comprised in the lease to have a survey of the lease carried out by a person registered as a cadastral surveyor under the *Surveyors Act 2003*.

- (8) If the Minister indicates that the Minister will approve the exercise, then upon receipt by the mining registrar for the district in which the mining lease is recorded within the prescribed time of an appropriate document in the approved form (if any) that gives effect to an exercise of a power referred to in the indication, compliance with this Act and all conditions specified in the notice given pursuant to subsection (6)(a) in respect thereof and payment of the prescribed fee the exercise of the power shall be approved by the Minister and such particulars thereof as are necessary to give effect to or evidence that exercise of power shall be recorded in the appropriate register and endorsed on the instrument of lease.
- (9) Notwithstanding that subsections (4) to (7) have not been complied with in a particular case, the Minister may approve and record particulars of an exercise of a power as provided in subsection (8) if the Minister is satisfied that, if subsection (4) had been complied with, the Minister would have approved the exercise of power and any conditions the Minister would have specified under subsection (6) have been complied with.
- (10) An assignment or mortgage of a mining lease shall not be in respect of part only of the land the subject of the mining lease.
- (11) The Minister shall not approve the assignment of a mining lease unless it is accompanied by the approval in writing of any existing mortgagees and a duly completed royalty return prescribed by part 9 together with royalty payable to the Crown or evidence of payment to the person entitled thereto as prescribed in part 9.
- (12) A purported assignment, sublease or mortgage of a mining lease or an assignment of an application therefor or of any interest therein shall not be effective unless it is made and approved in accordance with this section and shall take effect on the day next following its approval by the Minister under subsection (8).
- (13) Within 20 business days of the Minister granting approval of an assignment under this section, the assignee shall notify the owners of the relevant land of that approval.



**301 Lodgment of caveat**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), a person who claims a right or interest in or in respect of a mining lease or an application for the grant of a mining lease may by a caveat in the approved form forbid the approval of—
  - (a) any assignment, sublease or mortgage in respect of the mining lease; or
  - (b) any assignment of the application for the grant of the mining lease;(save any such dealings the approval of which is excepted in the caveat) either absolutely or until after notice of intention to approve such a dealing is served on the caveator.
- (2) A caveat duly lodged pursuant to this section does not apply in respect of—
  - (a) an assignment, sublease or mortgage duly lodged with the mining registrar before the lodgment of the caveat; or
  - (b) an assignment, sublease or mortgage the application for approval of which was lodged with the mining registrar before the lodgment of the caveat.
- (3) A caveat referred to in subsection (1) shall—
  - (a) be in the approved form; and
  - (b) specify the name and address for service of 1 person upon whom any notice may be served on behalf of the caveator or caveators; and
  - (c) identify the mining lease or application concerned; and
  - (d) specify the nature of the right or interest claimed by the caveator; and
  - (e) specify the period during which it is to continue in force; and
  - (f) be signed by the caveator, the caveator's solicitor or other person authorised in writing by the caveator; and
  - (g) if any person consents to the lodging of the caveat—be endorsed with that person's consent; and

- (h) be lodged at the office of the mining registrar for the mining district in which is situated the land the subject of the mining lease or application concerned; and
- (i) be accompanied by the prescribed lodgment fee.

### **302 Mining registrar's functions upon receipt of caveat**

Upon receipt of a duly lodged caveat referred to in section 301, a mining registrar shall—

- (a) notify the holder or holders of the affected mining lease or application; and
- (b) notify all other persons who have an interest in the mining lease or application recorded in the register including any subsisting prior caveator; and
- (c) record the existence of the caveat in the register.

### **303 Effect of caveat**

- (1) For so long as a caveat remains in force, the Minister shall not approve—
  - (a) any assignment, sublease or mortgage in respect of the mining lease; or
  - (b) any assignment of the application for the grant of the mining lease;identified in the caveat unless—
  - (c) the dealing is specifically excepted in the caveat; or
  - (d) the written consent of the caveator in the approved form to the approval of the dealing is lodged with the mining registrar.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), unless and until a caveat is removed or withdrawn as prescribed, a caveat continues in force—
  - (a) in a case where the consent of each holder of the mining lease or of the application for the grant of the mining lease concerned has been lodged with the caveat—for the term specified in the caveat or, if no term is specified, indefinitely; or

- (b) in a case where the caveat (not being a caveat referred to in paragraph (a)) specifies a period of not more than 3 months during which it is to continue in force—until the expiration of that period; or
- (c) in a case where the tribunal so orders—for so long as that order remains in force; or
- (d) in any other case—until the expiration of 3 months from the date of lodgment of the caveat.

### **304 Second caveat not available to same person**

When a caveat has lapsed or has been removed or withdrawn as prescribed, it shall not be competent to the caveator to lodge in respect of the same mining lease or application for the grant of the mining lease another caveat whereby the caveator claims the same or substantially the same right or interest unless—

- (a) the consent of each holder of the mining lease or, as the case may be, each applicant has been lodged with the last mentioned caveat; or
- (b) the tribunal so orders.

### **305 Removal or withdrawal of caveat**

- (1) A caveat lodged pursuant to section 301 that has lapsed shall be removed by the mining registrar and the register noted accordingly.
- (2) Upon the application of a person who has a right or interest (present or prospective) in a mining lease or in an application for the grant of mining lease affected by a caveat or whose right (present or prospective) to deal with a mining lease or with an application for the grant of a mining lease is affected by a caveat lodged in respect of the mining lease or application, the caveator may be summonsed to attend the tribunal to show cause why the caveat should not be removed.
- (3) The tribunal may, upon the return of a summons referred to in subsection (2) or at any later time to which the hearing may be adjourned, make such order either *ex parte* or otherwise as the tribunal deems just.

- (4) If the tribunal orders that a caveat be removed, the mining registrar shall give effect to the order.
- (5) A caveator may withdraw his or her caveat at any time by notifying the mining registrar in writing.
- (6) The removal or withdrawal of a caveat shall be effected by the mining registrar recording the removal or withdrawal in the register.

**306 Compensation for lodging caveat without reasonable cause**

A person who lodges a caveat in respect of a mining lease or of an application for the grant of a mining lease without reasonable cause is liable to pay such damages as may be recovered at law by any person aggrieved.

**307 Abandonment of application for the grant of a mining lease**

- (1) The applicant for a mining lease may, at any time before the grant of the mining lease, by notice in writing to the mining registrar abandon the application in respect of the whole or part of the land to which the application relates.
- (2) The abandonment shall take effect on the day next following its receipt by the mining registrar.
- (3) The applicant for the grant of a mining lease who gives a notice referred to in subsection (1) to the mining registrar shall forthwith serve a copy of that notice on all other persons upon whom the applicant was required under this Act to give a copy of the certificate of public notice for the mining lease.
- (4) Where an application for the grant of a mining lease is abandoned in respect of part only of the land to which the application relates, the application shall be amended to show the area in respect of which the mining lease application is to remain in force in the same manner as is required for an original application and the amended application shall proceed in respect of that area in accordance with this part.

- (5) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after an abandonment or partial abandonment, give written notice of it to the EPA administering authority.

### **308 Contravention by holder of mining lease**

- (1) If the Minister considers that the holder of a mining lease—
- (a) has carried out activities that are not bona fide for the purposes for which the mining lease was granted; or
  - (b) has failed to pay the royalty or any other moneys payable thereunder (other than rental) or in respect thereof by the due date for payment; or
  - (c) has failed to comply with any condition that is to be observed and performed by the holder under or in respect of the mining lease, other than a condition with respect matters referred to in subsection (2)(a) or (b);

the Minister may—

- (d) cancel the mining lease; or
  - (e) impose on the holder a penalty not exceeding 1 500 penalty units.
- (2) If the Minister considers that the holder of a mining lease—
- (a) in any year has failed after notice given to the holder in accordance with section 290(5) to pay before 1 April of that year the amount of the rental payable under that section by that date in respect of that mining lease; or
  - (b) has failed to pay a penalty imposed on the holder pursuant to subsection (1)(e) within the time allowed for the payment by the Minister;

the Minister may cancel the mining lease.

- (3) The Minister shall not act pursuant to subsection (1) until the Minister has, by notice in writing in the approved form served on the holder of the mining lease, called upon the holder to show cause within the time specified therein why the mining lease should not be cancelled or a penalty imposed and served a copy of the notice on every person who currently holds a recorded interest in respect of the mining lease at the person's

address last recorded by the mining registrar and such cause has not been shown to the satisfaction of the Minister.

- (4) When the Minister pursuant to this section cancels a mining lease the Minister shall notify the holder and every person who holds a recorded interest in respect of the mining lease accordingly stating the reason for the cancellation.
- (5) The cancellation of a mining lease under this section shall take effect on the day next following the Minister's determination to cancel the mining lease.
- (6) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after the cancellation takes effect, give the EPA administering authority written notice of the cancellation.

### **309 Surrender of mining lease**

- (1) The holder of a mining lease may apply to surrender the mining lease or any part of the land comprised therein at any time before the expiration of its term.
- (2) The holder of a mining lease who desires to surrender a mining lease or any part of the land comprised therein shall lodge with the mining registrar—
  - (a) a notice of surrender in the approved form; and
  - (b) in the case of a surrender of the whole of the land comprised in a mining lease—a duly completed royalty return prescribed by part 9 together with the royalty payable to the Crown as prescribed by part 9 or evidence of payment to the person entitled thereto; and
  - (c) the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) The mining registrar must, within 5 business days after a notice of surrender is lodged, give a copy of it to the EPA administering authority.
- (4) The Minister may, by written notice, give the mining lease holder directions about carrying out improvement restoration for the mining lease.
- (5) A purported surrender of a mining lease or of any part of the land comprised in a mining lease shall not be effective unless—

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (a) the holder has complied with this section; and
  - (b) the Minister consents to the surrender.
- (6) However, the Minister may give the consent only if the Minister is satisfied—
- (a) the holder has complied with the condition to carry out improvement restoration for the mining lease; and
  - (b) the relevant environmental authority (mining lease) has been cancelled or surrendered under the Environmental Protection Act.
- (7) Where a mining lease is surrendered in respect of part only of the land comprised in a mining lease, the instrument of lease issued in respect thereof shall be endorsed accordingly and thereupon the mining lease shall continue in force in respect of the land not surrendered.
- (8) Upon a surrender of a mining lease, all adjustments between the holder and the Crown in respect of the payment of rental, fees and other moneys shall be at the discretion of the Minister.
- (9) Where any moneys are specified pursuant to subsection (8) as a debt due to the Crown, the Minister may direct that the security deposited in accordance with section 277<sup>68</sup> may be utilised for payment thereof.
- (10) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Crown from recovering moneys from a person specified in subsection (8) as liable to pay and unpaid (whether directly or through utilisation of the security deposit) by action in the tribunal.
- (11) In a proceeding for the recovery of an amount owing to the State under this Act, a certificate signed by the chief executive stating the amount of the debt is evidence of the amount of the debt.
- (12) Where, at the time when the holder of a mining lease purports to surrender the mining lease or a part of the land comprised therein, that holder duly makes application for a new mining claim or mining lease in respect of the whole or part of the land comprised in the current mining lease, the purported

---

68 Section 277 (Provision of security)

surrender shall take effect immediately prior to the grant of the new mining claim or mining lease.

- (13) Nothing in section 232<sup>69</sup> shall prevent a holder of a mining lease, at the time the holder surrenders the mining lease or part of the land comprised in the mining lease, from applying for the grant of a mining lease over the whole or part of the land comprised in the surrendered mining lease and the grant of the mining lease applied for.
- (14) A surrender of a mining lease (other than a surrender referred to in subsection (12)) shall take effect on the day next following its acceptance by the Minister.

### **310 Minerals taken become property of holder of mining lease**

All minerals lawfully mined under the authority of a mining lease cease to be the property of the Crown or person who had property therein and become the property of the holder of the mining lease subject however to the rights to royalty payments under this Act of the Crown or any other person.

### **311 Royalties in respect of minerals taken under mining lease**

The holder of a mining lease shall pay in respect of all minerals mined or purported to be mined under the authority of the mining lease, the royalty prescribed pursuant to part 9.

### **312 Effect of termination of mining lease**

- (1) This section applies on the termination of a mining lease.
- (2) However, this section does not apply to a mining lease if the termination is for granting a mining claim or a new mining lease over the land covered by the terminated lease to the holder of the terminated lease.
- (3) The person who was the holder of the terminated mining lease immediately before its termination must immediately remove each post or other thing used to mark the land under this Act

---

69 Section 232 (Land subject to mining lease)



(other than a survey mark or anything else required under another Act not to be removed).

- (4) On the termination of the mining lease, the ownership of all mineral, ore, tailings and other material (*mineral*), and any structures, machinery and equipment (*property*), on the land covered by the terminated lease divests from the owner and vests in the State.
- (5) However, subsection (4) applies to property only if it was brought on to the land under the terminated mining lease.

### **313 Application for approval to remove mineral and property**

- (1) This section applies to mineral and property that vests in the State on the termination of a mining lease.
- (2) Anyone who had an interest in the mineral or property immediately before its ownership vests in the State may apply in writing to the mining registrar for the Minister's permission to remove the mineral or property from the land.
- (3) The application—
  - (a) must be made within 20 business days (or a longer period, of not more than 3 months, allowed by the Minister) after the mineral or property vests in the State; and
  - (b) may be made even though a subsequent grant of a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease is made over for the land.
- (4) The Minister may approve or refuse to approve the application.
- (5) However, the Minister must approve the application if the Minister is satisfied—
  - (a) the person was entitled to the mineral or property immediately before it vested in the State; and

- (b) there is enough security to meet the costs for which it was deposited.<sup>70</sup>
- (6) The approval may be given on conditions stated in it.
- (7) If the application is approved, the person named in the approval may enter the land and remove the mineral or property (other than covers, fencing, casings, linings, timbering or other things securing the safety of the land) stated in the application before the time stated in the approval ends.
- (8) Anything removed under subsection (7) divests from the State and vests in the person entitled to it immediately before the termination of the mining lease.
- (9) However, mineral divests from the State and forms part of the land if it is not removed before the later of—
  - (a) the end of the time stated in an approval under this section; or
  - (b) 3 months after the mining lease's termination.

### **314 Property remaining on former mining lease may be sold**

- (1) This section applies if the mining registrar has not received an application, or has received an application that has not been granted, for approval to remove property from the site of a terminated mining lease within 3 months after the lease's termination.
- (2) The Minister may direct the mining registrar to—
  - (a) sell the property by public auction or in another stated way; or
  - (b) if the property has no commercial value—dispose of or destroy it.
- (3) Proceeds of a sale are to be applied in the following order towards—
  - (a) the reasonable expenses incurred in the sale;

---

<sup>70</sup> See section 277 (Provision of security).

- (b) the cost of rectifying actual damage for which an amount of security deposited for the terminated mining lease could have been used, but was not used, or was inadequate;
  - (c) any costs or expenses under the Environmental Protection Act, section 367(1)<sup>71</sup> for a relevant environmental authority (mining lease);
  - (d) amounts owing to the State under this Act by the former holder;
  - (e) any other amounts owing to the State under the Environmental Protection Act for a relevant environmental authority (mining lease);
  - (f) rates and charges (including interest on unpaid rates and charges) owing to a local government by the former holder for the lease;
  - (g) amounts owing to a mortgagee under a mortgage registered under this Act over the lease.
- (4) Any balance must be paid to the former holder.
- (5) If the mining registrar can not decide the identity of, or locate, a person entitled to the proceeds or part of the proceeds, the mining registrar may pay the amount to the public trustee as unclaimed moneys.
- (6) Compensation is not payable for a sale, disposal or destruction under this section.

### **316 Mining lease for transportation through land**

- (1) This section applies if a person who holds, or is an applicant for, a mining lease for particular land—
- (a) wants a mining lease over land not covered by the person's lease for the transportation of something through, over or under the land by a pipeline, aerial ropeway, conveyor apparatus, transmission line or similar method of transport, or road; and

---

71 Environmental Protection Act, section 367 (Claims on financial assurances)

- (b) does not hold a prospecting permit, exploration permit or mineral development licence for the land.
- (2) The Governor in Council may grant to a person a mining lease for the transportation of the thing through, over or under the land covered by the application for the lease if—
  - (a) the Minister is satisfied the proposed lease is for a purpose associated with or arising from activities performed, or to be performed, under the person's mining lease; or
  - (b) before the person applied for the lease, the Governor in Council, under a regulation, declared the transportation of the thing through, over or under land not covered by a mining lease by a pipeline, aerial ropeway, conveyor apparatus, transmission line or similar method of transport to be an activity associated with or arising from mining.
- (3) An application for a mining lease under this section must be given to the mining registrar for the applicant's current mining lease.
- (4) If land included in the application is covered by an exploration permit or mineral development licence, the application does not have to be accompanied by the consent of the permit or licence holder, but the applicant must give written notice of the application to the permit or licence holder within 5 business days after lodging the application.
- (5) The chief executive may either completely or partly dispense with a requirement under this part for marking out the land included in the application.

### **317 Variation of access to mining lease land**

- (1) The holder of a mining lease may apply to the mining registrar in the approved form for a variation of the land used or proposed to be used as access in relation to the land the subject of the mining lease.
- (2) An application for a variation of the land used or to be used as access under this section shall be accompanied by—

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (a) such particulars as are, by sections 245 and 246, required to accompany an application for the grant of a mining lease in so far as those particulars relate to the land used or proposed to be used as access in relation to surface area of the land the subject of the mining lease; and
  - (b) the prescribed application fee.
- (3) Where, in respect of an application for a variation of the land used or proposed to be used as access under this section, the mining registrar is not satisfied that the owner of the land proposed to be used as access consents to the use, the mining registrar must refer the issue of consent to the tribunal for its consideration.
- (4) The tribunal must fix a date for the hearing and immediately give written notice of the date to each of the following—
  - (a) the mining registrar;
  - (b) the applicant;
  - (c) the land owner.
- (4A) The date must be at least 20 business days after the day the tribunal fixes the hearing date.
- (5) The tribunal shall hear and determine the matter by determining—
  - (a) that consent to the proposed variation should or should not be given; and
  - (b) if consent should be given—the amount (if any) of compensation payable by the holder in respect of the proposed use of that land as access.
- (6) Subject to subsection (7), the provisions of section 281(3) to (7) apply in respect of a matter referred to the tribunal under this section as if the matter were an application referred to the tribunal under section 281(1).
- (7) In determining compensation payable under subsection (5), allowance shall be made for compensation agreed or determined to be payable in respect of the current land used as access in respect of the mining lease.

- (8) The determination of the tribunal of a matter under this section shall be final and conclusive.
- (9) In respect of an application made under this section, upon—
- (a) where the proposed access is over land of which there is an owner—
    - (i) lodgment with the mining registrar of the consent in writing of the owner or owners of that land; or
    - (ii) where the tribunal determines that consent should be granted, whether with or without compensation, compliance with any terms and conditions imposed by the tribunal to be complied with before consent is given; and
  - (b) where the proposed access is over land of which there is no owner, the mining registrar determining that the variation is, in the circumstances, appropriate;
- the mining registrar shall record the variation of that access in the register and advise the holder and the owner accordingly.
- (10) An agreement made between a holder and an owner of land regarding compensation payable in respect of the proposed use of the land as access in respect of a mining lease as a result of a variation under this section shall not be effective unless and until—
- (a) it is in writing signed by or on behalf of the parties; and
  - (b) it is filed in the office of the mining registrar.
- (11) If an agreement referred to in subsection (10) is required by any law of Queensland to be stamped, it shall not be filed until it is stamped according to law.
- (12) The mining registrar shall notify the chief executive of full particulars of applications, actions and determinations made under this section.

### **318 Improvement restoration for mining lease**

- (1) This section applies on the termination of a mining lease, other than—

- (a) by surrender under section 309;<sup>72</sup> or
  - (b) for the granting of a new mining lease over the land the subject of the terminated mining lease.
- (2) The Minister may, if not satisfied the holder of the terminated mining lease has not carried out improvement restoration for the mining lease, give the holder reasonable written directions about the restoration.
- (3) The holder must comply with the directions.  
Maximum penalty—2 000 penalty units.
- (4) The holder and the holder's employees or agents may, to the extent reasonable and necessary to comply with the directions—
- (a) enter land stated in the notice; and
  - (b) bring on to the land vehicles, vessels, machinery and equipment.

## **Part 7AA                    Provisions for coal seam gas**

### **Division 1                    Preliminary**

#### **Subdivision 1              Introduction**

#### **318A    Main purposes of pt 7AA**

The main purposes of this part are, in conjunction with the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 3, and the *Petroleum Act 1923*, part 6F,<sup>73</sup> to—

---

<sup>72</sup> Section 309 (Surrender of mining lease)

<sup>73</sup> Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 3 and the *Petroleum Act 1923*, part 6F (Provisions for coal seam gas)

- (a) clarify rights under this Act to mine coal seam gas;<sup>74</sup> and
- (b) address issues arising for coal seam gas mining under this Act, and, in particular, issues arising when a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease and a petroleum lease are granted over the same area; and
- (c) provide security of tenure to protect existing operations and investments relating to coal, oil shale and petroleum;<sup>75</sup> and
- (d) provide certainty of tenure for future investments relating to coal, oil shale and petroleum; and
- (e) optimise the development and use of the State's coal, oil shale and petroleum resources to maximise the benefit for all Queenslanders; and
- (f) ensure, if it is commercially and technically feasible, the grant of coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases that may affect petroleum exploration or production, or proposed petroleum exploration or production, optimises the commercial use of coal, oil shale and petroleum resources in a safe and efficient way.<sup>76</sup>

### **318AA How main purposes are achieved**

- (1) The main purposes of this part are achieved by—
  - (a) ensuring commercial coal seam gas production (other than for use for mining under a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease) is carried out under a relevant petroleum lease;<sup>77</sup> and

---

74 For the limited entitlement to mine coal seam gas under this Act, see division 8 (Additional provisions for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases), subdivision 1 (Entitlement to coal seam gas).

75 For existing operations, see also part 19, division 6 (Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004).

76 For provisions regulating the safety of coal seam gas exploration or production, see the *Coal Mining (Safety and Health) Act 1999* and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 9 (Safety).

77 See however, part 19, division 6 (Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004).



- (b) providing for processes to decide the priority of overlapping coal mining leases or oil shale mining leases and petroleum tenure applications or potential applications; and
  - (c) imposing additional requirements for deciding the overlapping applications; and
  - (d) requiring proposed development plans to accompany all coal mining lease and oil shale mining lease applications; and
  - (e) imposing restrictions on the authorised activities for particular coal or oil shale mining tenements; and
  - (f) imposing additional—
    - (i) requirements relating to development plans for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases; and
    - (ii) conditions on coal or oil shale mining tenements.
- (2) The following are also relevant to the achievement of the purposes—
- (a) section 3A and part 19, division 6;<sup>78</sup>
  - (b) the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 10, chapter 2, part 8 and chapter 3.<sup>79</sup>

### **318AB Relationship with pts 5–7**

- (1) Requirements and restrictions under this part apply as well as any relevant requirements and restrictions under parts 5 to 7.
- (2) If this part imposes a requirement for, or a restriction on, the granting, renewal, consolidation, assignment or subleasing of a coal or oil shale mining tenement, the mining tenement can not be granted, renewed, consolidated, assigned or subleased

---

78 Section 3A (Relationship with petroleum legislation)

Part 19, division 6 (Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004)

79 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 10 (Meaning of *petroleum*), chapter 2, part 8 (Petroleum activities coordination) and chapter 3 (Provisions for coal seam gas)

if the restriction applies or if the requirement has not been complied with.

- (3) If this part imposes a requirement for, or a restriction on, the carrying out of an authorised activity for a coal or oil shale mining tenement, despite parts 5 to 7, the activity is not an authorised activity for the tenure while the restriction applies or if the requirement has not been complied with.
- (4) If a provision of this part conflicts with a provision of parts 5 to 7, the provision of this part prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

## **Subdivision 2      Definitions for part 7AA**

### **318AC What is *coal seam gas* and *incidental coal seam gas***

- (1) *Coal seam gas* is a substance (in any state) occurring naturally in association with coal or oil shale, or with strata associated with coal or oil shale mining, if the substance is petroleum under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.<sup>80</sup>
- (2) *Incidental coal seam gas* is defined in section 318CM(2).<sup>81</sup>

### **318AD What is *oil shale***

*Oil shale* is shale or other rock (other than coal) from which a gasification or retorting product, as defined in the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, may be extracted or produced.

### **318AE What is a *coal exploration tenement*, a *coal mining lease* and a *special coal mining lease***

- (1) A *coal exploration tenement* is an exploration permit or mineral development licence granted for coal.
- (2) A *coal mining lease* is—

---

80 See the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 10 (Meaning of *petroleum*).

81 Section 318CM (Limited entitlement to mine coal seam gas)

- (a) a mining lease for coal; or
  - (b) a mining lease or special coal mining lease granted under any of the following Acts, an agreement provided for under any of the Acts or any amendment of an agreement provided for under any of the Acts—
    - (i) the *Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968*;
    - (ii) the *Thiess Peabody Mitsui Coal Pty. Ltd. Agreements Acts 1962 to 1965*;<sup>82</sup> or
  - (c) a specific purpose mining lease for a purpose associated with, arising from or promoting the activity of coal mining, whether or not it is also granted for a purpose other than coal mining.
- (3) Subsections (1) and (2)(a) apply whether or not the permit, licence or lease is also granted for another mineral.

**318AF What is an *oil shale exploration tenement* and an *oil shale mining lease***

- (1) An *oil shale exploration tenement* is an exploration permit or mineral development licence granted for oil shale.
- (2) An *oil shale mining lease* is—
  - (a) a mining lease for oil shale; or
  - (b) a specific purpose mining lease for a purpose associated with, arising from or promoting the activity of oil shale mining, whether or not it is also granted for a purpose other than oil shale mining.
- (3) Subsections (1) and (2)(a) apply whether or not the permit, licence or lease is also granted for another mineral.

**318AG What is a *coal or oil shale mining tenement***

*A coal or oil shale mining tenement* is—

---

82 For specific provisions dealing with mining leases mentioned in paragraph (b), see subdivision 3 (Relationship with particular special agreement Acts).

- (a) a coal or oil shale exploration tenement; or
- (b) a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease.

### **318AH What is a *development plan* and its *plan period***

- (1) The *development plan*, for a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease, is its current initial or later development plan, as approved under division 9.<sup>83</sup>
- (2) For subsection (1), the development plan is current if the period to which the plan applies has started and has not ended.<sup>84</sup>
- (3) The period to which a development plan applies is its *plan period*.

### **318AI Petroleum tenures**

- (1) A *petroleum lease* is a petroleum lease under the *Petroleum Act 1923* or the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.
- (2) An *authority to prospect* is an authority to prospect under the *Petroleum Act 1923* or the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.
- (3) A *petroleum tenure* is an authority to prospect or a petroleum lease.

### **318AJ What is a *coordination arrangement***

A *coordination arrangement* is a coordination arrangement under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.

### **318AK What is *the public interest***

*The public interest* is a consideration of each of the following—

---

83 Division 9 (Development plans for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases)

84 See also sections 318DK (Mining lease taken to have development plan until renewal application decided) and 318EE (Mining lease taken to have development plan until decision on whether to approve proposed later development plan).

- (a) government policy;
- (b) value of commodity production (including time value);
- (c) employment creation;
- (d) total return to the State and to Australia (including royalty and rent), assessed on both a direct and indirect basis, so that, for example, downstream value adding is included;
- (e) social impacts;
- (f) the overall economic benefit for the State, or a part of the State, in the short and long term.

### **Subdivision 3      Relationship with particular special agreement Acts**

#### **318AL Application of pt 7AA to grant of special coal mining lease under Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968**

- (1) This part applies to the granting of a special coal mining lease under the *Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968* (the **CQCA Act**).
- (2) If this part imposes a requirement for, or a restriction on, the granting of a special coal mining lease under the CQCA Act, the lease can not be granted if the restriction applies or if the requirement has not been met.
- (3) For this section, the grant of a lease includes an addition to the land subject to an existing special coal mining lease granted under the special agreement Act.
- (4) This section applies despite any provision of the CQCA Act.

#### **318AM Part prevails over special agreement Acts**

If a provision of this part conflicts with a provision of an Act or agreement mentioned in section 318AE(2)(b),<sup>85</sup> the

---

85 Section 318AE(2) (What is a *coal exploration tenement*, a *coal mining lease* and a *special coal mining lease*)

provision of this part prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

### **318AN No compensation**

- (1) No amount, whether by way of compensation, reimbursement or otherwise is payable by the State to any person for or in connection with the enactment or operation of this subdivision or section 318AE(2)(b).
- (2) Subsection (1) applies despite any provision of a special agreement Act and despite any other Act or law.

## **Division 2                    Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (other than by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder)**

### **Subdivision 1            Preliminary**

#### **318AO Application of div 2**

- (1) This division applies if a person wishes to apply for a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease for all or part of the land in the area of an authority to prospect.
- (2) However, this division does not apply if—
  - (a) the person is the authority to prospect holder; or
  - (b) if the application is to be made jointly with the holder; or
  - (c) the application is made with the holder's written consent; or

- (d) the land is also in the area of a petroleum lease and the same person holds the authority to prospect and the petroleum lease.<sup>86</sup>

## **Subdivision 2 Provisions for making coal or oil shale mining lease application**

### **318AP Additional requirements for making application**

- (1) The application must include—
  - (a) a statement (a *CSG statement*) assessing—
    - (i) the likely effect of proposed coal mining on the future development of petroleum production from the land; and
    - (ii) the technical and commercial feasibility of coordinated petroleum production and coal or oil shale mining from the land; and
  - (b) a proposed development plan that complies with the initial development plan requirements;<sup>87</sup> and
  - (c) other information that addresses the matters mentioned in subsection (2) (the *CSG assessment criteria*), other than the matter mentioned in subsection (2)(c)(iii).
- (2) The CSG assessment criteria are—
  - (a) the initial development plan requirements; and
  - (b) the legitimate business interests of the applicant and the authority to prospect holder (the *parties*); and

---

86 For the circumstances mentioned in subsection (2)(a) to (c), see division 3 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder)).

For the circumstance mentioned in subsection (2)(c), see division 5 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (other than by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)) and section 318BW (Application of div 5).

See however section 318BY(2) (Power to split application if it includes other land).

87 See division 9, subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial development plans).

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

*Examples of a party's legitimate business interests—*

- 1 contractual obligations
  - 2 the effect on, and use of, existing infrastructure or mining or production facilities
  - 3 exploration expenditure on relevant overlapping tenures
- (c) the effect of the proposed mining lease on the future development of petroleum resources in the land, including for example, each of the following—
- (i) the proposed timing and rate of coal or oil shale mining and the development of petroleum from the land;
  - (ii) the potential for the parties to make a coordination arrangement about—
    - (A) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under the proposed mining lease; and
    - (B) petroleum production under any future petroleum lease over the land;
  - (iii) the attempts required of the applicant under section 318AT(1)(b) and any change of the type mentioned in section 318AT(1)(c);<sup>88</sup>
  - (iv) the economic and technical viability of the concurrent or coordinated coal or oil shale mining and the development of any petroleum from the land;
  - (v) the extent, nature and value of coal or oil shale mining and the development of any petroleum in the land; and
- (d) the public interest in coal or oil shale mining and petroleum production from the land, having regard to the public interest.
- (3) For subsection (2), if the proposed mining lease is to be granted under section 234(1)(b)<sup>89</sup> for a purpose associated

<sup>88</sup> Section 318AT (Applicant's obligations)

<sup>89</sup> Section 234(1)(b) (Governor in Council may grant mining lease)



with, arising from or promoting the activity of mining, a reference to mining in the land includes a reference to mining in other land associated with the lease.

### **Subdivision 3 Provisions for splitting application in particular circumstances**

#### **318AQ Requirement to split application if it relates to petroleum lease and authority to prospect not held by same person**

- (1) This section applies if the application is—
  - (a) for land in the area of each of the following—
    - (i) the authority to prospect (the *authority to prospect part*);
    - (ii) a petroleum lease (the *petroleum lease part*); and
  - (b) the authority to prospect and the petroleum lease are not held by the same person.<sup>90</sup>
- (2) The application must be treated as if it were separate applications for the authority to prospect part and the petroleum lease part.
- (3) The application for the authority to prospect part must be decided under this division.
- (4) The application for the petroleum lease part must be decided under division 5 or 6.<sup>91</sup>
- (5) Despite subsections (2) to (4), a certificate of application under section 252<sup>92</sup> can not be issued for either application

---

90 If the authority to prospect and the petroleum lease are held by the same person, see division 6 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)) and section 318CC (Application of div 6).

91 Division 5 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (other than by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)) or 6 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (by or jointly with petroleum lease holder))

92 Section 252 (Certificate of application etc.)

until the relevant requirements for making the application have been complied with.

- (6) The applicant may amend each application to comply with the requirements.

### **318AR Power to split application if it includes other land**

- (1) This section applies if the application includes land (the *other part*) not in the area of another petroleum tenure.
- (2) The Minister may decide to treat the application to the extent it applies to the other part as if it were a separate mining lease application.
- (3) The separate application must be decided under part 7.<sup>93</sup>
- (4) Despite subsections (2) and (3), a certificate of application under section 252 can not be issued for either application until the relevant requirements for making the application have been complied with.
- (5) The applicant may amend each application to comply with the requirements.

### **318AS Power to split application at applicant's request**

- (1) The Minister may, at the applicant's request, decide to treat the application as if it were separate mining lease applications to allow them to be decided under this part or part 7, as the Minister considers appropriate.
- (2) However, a certificate of application under section 252 can not be issued for either application until the relevant requirements for making the application have been complied with.
- (3) The applicant may amend each application to comply with the requirements.

## Subdivision 4      **Obligations of applicant and authority to prospect holder**

### **318AT Applicant's obligations**

- (1) The applicant must—
- (a) within 10 business days after making the application, give the authority to prospect holder a copy of the application, other than the part of the application consisting of the statement mentioned in section 245(1)(o)(iv);<sup>94</sup> and
  - (b) use reasonable attempts to—
    - (i) consult with the authority to prospect holder about the applicant's proposed development plan; and
    - (ii) make an appropriate arrangement with the authority to prospect holder about testing for petroleum production carried out, or proposed to be carried out, by the authority to prospect holder (a *testing arrangement*);<sup>95</sup> and
 

*Example of testing—*  
production testing
  - (c) change the proposed development plan to give effect to any reasonable proposal by the authority to prospect holder that will optimise petroleum production under any future petroleum lease over the land; and
  - (d) within 4 months after making the application, lodge a written notice stating each of the following—
    - (i) the details of the consultation;
    - (ii) the results of the consultation;
    - (iii) any comments the applicant wishes to make about any submissions lodged by the authority to prospect holder, under section 318AX;<sup>96</sup>

---

94 Section 245 (Application for grant of mining lease)

95 See also division 10 (Confidentiality of information).

96 Section 318AX (Submissions by authority to prospect holder)

- (iv) any changes to the proposed development plan;
  - (v) if a testing arrangement has been made—details of the arrangement;
  - (vi) if a testing arrangement has not been made—details of the attempts made to make a testing arrangement;
  - (vii) the applicant's assessment of the potential of the applicant and the authority to prospect holder to make a coordination arrangement about—
    - (A) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under the proposed mining lease; and
    - (B) petroleum production under any future petroleum lease over the land.
- (2) However, the obligations under subsection (1)(b)(iii) and (ba) apply only to the extent the provisions or arrangement are commercially and technically feasible for the applicant.
- (3) For subsection (1)(b)(iii), it is appropriate for the agreement to give the authority to prospect holder the right to carry out testing for petroleum production to help the holder make, or allow the deciding of, an application under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 2, part 1, division 6.<sup>97</sup>
- (4) However, subsection (3) does not require the applicant to agree to testing having a duration of more than 12 months.
- (5) A notice under subsection (1)(d) must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.

---

<sup>97</sup> See chapter 2, part 1, division 6 (Potential commercial areas) of the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.

**318AU Minister may require further negotiation**

- (1) The Minister may, after receiving the notice under section 318AT(1)(d), require the applicant to conduct negotiations with the authority to prospect holder with a view to—
  - (a) making a testing arrangement mentioned in section 318AT(1)(b)(ii); or
  - (b) making changes of a type mentioned in section 318AT(1)(c).
- (2) The applicant must use all reasonable attempts to comply with the requirement.

**318AV Consequence of applicant not complying with obligations or requirement**

If the Minister is reasonably satisfied the applicant has not complied with an obligation under section 318AT or 318AU, the application may be rejected.<sup>98</sup>

**318AW Authority to prospect holder's obligations**

The authority to prospect holder must—

- (a) within 20 business days after receiving a copy of the application, give the applicant basic information the authority holder has about the following that the applicant may reasonably need to comply with sections 318AP and 318AT—
  - (i) the type of exploration activities carried out, or proposed to be carried out under the authority;
  - (ii) petroleum in the land; and
- (b) after receiving a copy of the application, use reasonable attempts to reach an agreement with the applicant, about the matters mentioned in section 318AT(1)(b) and (c), that provides the best resource use outcome without significantly affecting the parties' rights or interests.

---

98 See also division 10 (Confidentiality of information).

**318AX Submissions by authority to prospect holder**

- (1) The authority to prospect holder may lodge submissions about the application at—
  - (a) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (2) However, the submissions may be lodged only within 3 months after the holder is, under section 318AT(1)(a),<sup>99</sup> given a copy of the application (the *submission period*).
- (3) The submissions may—
  - (a) state that the holder does not object to the granting of the proposed mining lease; and
  - (b) state that the holder does not wish any preference for the future development of petroleum production from the land (*petroleum development preference*); and
  - (c) include information about all or any of the following—
    - (i) exploration carried out under the authority;
    - (ii) the results of the exploration;
    - (iii) the prospects for future petroleum production from the land; and
  - (d) include a proposal by the authority to prospect holder for petroleum production from the land; and
  - (e) include information relevant to the CSG assessment criteria.<sup>100</sup>
- (4) The holder must give the applicant a copy of the submissions.
- (5) In deciding the application, regard must be had to the submissions.

---

99 Section 318AT (Applicant's obligations)

100 See also division 10 (Confidentiality of information).

## **Subdivision 5      Priority for earlier petroleum lease application or proposed application**

### **318AY Earlier petroleum lease application**

- (1) If—
  - (a) before the making of the mining lease application, a petroleum lease application was made for the land; and
  - (b) the petroleum lease application complies with the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act; and
  - (c) the petroleum lease application has not been decided;a certificate of public notice can not be issued for the mining lease application until the petroleum lease application has been decided.
- (2) However, subsection (1) does not apply if—
  - (a) the mining lease application was made in response to an invitation in a notice given under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 323 and the application was made within 6 months after the giving of the notice;<sup>101</sup> or
  - (b) the petroleum lease applicant has given written consent to the mining lease application.<sup>102</sup>

### **318AZ Proposed petroleum lease for which EIS approval given**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) before the making of the mining lease application, an approval under the Environmental Protection Act, chapter 3, part 2,<sup>103</sup> was granted for the voluntary

---

101 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 323 (Notice to applicant and coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder)

102 See however the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 3, part 2, division 3 (Petroleum lease applications in response to Mineral Resources Act preference decision).

See also the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 315 (Earlier coal or oil shale mining lease application).

103 Environmental Protection Act, chapter 3, part 2 (Voluntary preparation of EIS)

- preparation of an EIS for a project that is, or includes, a proposed petroleum lease for the land; and
- (b) the proponent for the EIS—
    - (i) is, or includes, the authority to prospect holder; or
    - (ii) is someone else who has the authority holder's consent.
  - (2) A certificate of public notice can not be issued for the mining lease application until an application for the proposed petroleum lease is decided.
  - (3) However, subsection (2) ceases to apply if—
    - (a) the proponent of the EIS does not make a petroleum lease application for the land within 1 year after the granting of the approval; or
    - (b) a petroleum lease application for the land is made within the period mentioned in paragraph (a) and—
      - (i) it does not comply with the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act; or
      - (ii) it is decided; or
    - (c) the proponent for the EIS has given written consent to the mining lease application.

### **318B Proposed petroleum lease declared a significant project**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) before the making of the mining lease application, a project is declared a significant project under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* that is, or includes, a proposed petroleum lease for the land;<sup>104</sup> and
  - (b) the proponent for the significant project—
    - (i) is, or includes, the authority to prospect holder; or

---

104 See the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*, section 26 (Declaration of significant project).



- (ii) is someone else who has the authority holder's consent.
- (2) A certificate of public notice can not be issued for the mining lease application until the application for the proposed petroleum lease is decided.
- (3) However, subsection (2) ceases to apply if—
  - (a) the proponent of the significant project does not make a petroleum lease application for the land within 1 year after the making of the declaration; or
  - (b) a petroleum lease application for the land is made within the period mentioned in paragraph (a) and—
    - (i) it does not comply with the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act; or
    - (ii) it is decided; or
  - (c) the proponent of the significant project has given written consent to the mining lease application.

## **Subdivision 6 Ministerial decision about whether to give any preference to petroleum development**

### **318BA When preference decision is required**

- (1) This subdivision applies for the application only if the Minister is satisfied of each of the following—
  - (a) there is a resource or reserve (the *deposit*) of petroleum in the land;
  - (b) the deposit has been identified under the relevant codes;
  - (c) there is the level of knowledge about the deposit, as prescribed under a regulation;
  - (d) the location, quantity, quality, geological characteristics and continuity of the deposit are known, or have been estimated or interpreted, from specific geological evidence and knowledge;

- (e) there are reasonable prospects for the eventual economic production of the deposit.
- (2) However, this subdivision does not apply if—
- (a) the authority to prospect holder has not complied with section 318AW(a);<sup>105</sup> or
  - (b) the authority to prospect holder has, under section 318AX,<sup>106</sup> lodged a submission stating that the holder does not wish any petroleum development preference for the land; or
  - (c) the authority to prospect holder has not lodged any submission under section 318AX within the submission period.
- (3) If the Minister decides that the Minister is not satisfied as mentioned in subsection (1), the authority holder must be given notice of the decision.
- (4) In this section—
- relevant codes*** means any of the following—
- (a) the following documents published by the Society of Petroleum Engineers (***SPE***),<sup>107</sup> as amended and published from time to time—
    - (i) the document called ‘Petroleum Resource Classifications and Definitions’;
    - (ii) the document called ‘Petroleum Reserves Definitions’ and ‘Standards Pertaining to the Estimating and Auditing of Oil and Gas Reserve Information’;
  - (b) another document (however called) published by SPE that amends or replaces the documents mentioned in paragraph (a);

---

105 Section 318AW (Authority to prospect holder’s obligations)

106 Section 318AX (Submissions by authority to prospect holder)

107 A copy of the document is available on the internet at <[http://www.spe.org/spe/jsp/basic/0,,1104\\_1730,00.html](http://www.spe.org/spe/jsp/basic/0,,1104_1730,00.html)>.

- (c) if a document mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) stops being published—another similar document prescribed under a regulation.

*Note—*

- 1 If the Minister is not satisfied as mentioned in subsection (1), the application can be decided under part 7.
- 2 If this subdivision does not apply because of subsection (2), the application can be decided under part 7 and subdivision 8.<sup>108</sup>

### **318BB Decision about whether to give any preference to petroleum development**

- (1) Subject to section 318BC, the Minister must decide whether to—
  - (a) recommend, under section 271,<sup>109</sup> the granting of the mining lease; or
  - (b) give any petroleum development preference for the land, in whole or part.
- (2) The decision under subsection (1) is the *preference decision*.
- (3) In making the preference decision the CSG assessment criteria must be considered.
- (4) If, under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 3, part 2, division 1, subdivision 6,<sup>110</sup> coal or oil shale development preference has been given for the land, the preference decision is taken to be not to give any petroleum development preference for any of the land.

### **318BC Reference to tribunal before making preference decision**

- (1) Before making the preference decision—

---

108 Part 7 (Mining leases) and subdivision 8 (Deciding mining lease)

109 Section 271 (Minister to consider recommendation made in respect of application for grant of mining lease)

110 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 3, part 2, division 1, subdivision 6 (Ministerial decision about whether to give any preference to development of coal or oil shale resources)

- (a) the chief executive must refer the application to the tribunal for it to make recommendations to the Minister about what the preference decision should be; and
  - (b) the Minister must consider the recommendations.
- (2) The referral must be made by filing a notice in the approved form with the registrar of the tribunal.
  - (3) The referral starts a proceeding before the tribunal for it to make the recommendations.
  - (4) The parties to the proceeding are the applicant and the authority to prospect holder.
  - (5) In making the recommendations—
    - (a) the CSG assessment criteria must be considered; and
    - (b) section 318BD applies as if a reference in the section—
      - (i) to the Minister were a reference to the tribunal; and
      - (ii) to petroleum development preference were a reference to recommending petroleum development preference.
  - (6) The recommendations may also include recommendations about the conditions and term of the mining lease.

### **318BD Restrictions on giving preference**

- (1) Petroleum development preference, in whole or part, must not be given unless this section has been complied with.
- (2) Petroleum development preference may be given only if the Minister is satisfied of each of the following—
  - (a) on the basis of the submissions and the results of consultation lodged under sections 318AT and 318AX,<sup>111</sup> it is either not commercially or technically feasible or it is unlikely that the applicant and the authority holder are able to make a future coordination arrangement about—

---

111 Sections 318AT (Applicant's obligations) and 318AX (Submissions by authority to prospect holder)

- (i) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under the proposed mining lease; and
    - (ii) petroleum production under any future petroleum lease for the land;
  - (b) that, having regard to the public interest, the public interest in the following would be best served by not granting a mining lease to the mining lease applicant first—
    - (i) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining;
    - (ii) petroleum production;
  - (c) if the petroleum is a brownfield petroleum resource—
    - (i) it is critical to the continuance of existing petroleum production or processing or the efficient use of infrastructure related to the production or processing; and
    - (ii) the applicant's proposed development plan is incompatible with the future development of the resource;
  - (d) if the petroleum is a greenfield petroleum resource—
    - (i) it is commercially viable; and
    - (ii) petroleum production will, if a petroleum lease is granted to the authority to prospect holder, start within 2 years after the grant of the lease.
- (3) In this section—

***brownfield petroleum resource*** means petroleum associated with, or adjacent to, existing petroleum production or a processing operation under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.

***greenfield petroleum resource*** means petroleum not associated with, or adjacent to, existing petroleum production or a processing operation under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.

## **Subdivision 7 Process if preference decision is to give any preference to petroleum development**

### **318BF Application of sdiv 7**

This subdivision applies only if, under section 318BA,<sup>112</sup> a preference decision is required and that decision was to give petroleum development preference for the whole or part of the land.

### **318BG Notice to applicant and authority to prospect holder**

- (1) The mining lease applicant and the authority to prospect holder must be given written notice of the preference decision.
- (2) The notice must invite the authority to prospect holder to, within 6 months after the giving of the notice (the *petroleum lease application period*), apply for a petroleum lease for—
  - (a) if the preference is for all of the land—all of the land; or
  - (b) if the preference is for part of the land—that part.

### **318BH Petroleum lease application for all of the land**

- (1) This section applies if the preference is for all of the land and, within the petroleum lease application period, the authority to prospect holder applies for a lease for all of the land.
- (2) A further step can not be taken to decide the mining lease application until after the petroleum lease application has been decided.<sup>113</sup>
- (3) If the decision on the petroleum lease application is to grant a petroleum lease for all of the land, the mining lease application is taken to have lapsed, unless the petroleum lease applicant has consented in writing to the application.

---

112 Section 318BA (When preference decision is required)

113 See however the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 3, part 2, division 3 (Petroleum lease applications in response to Mineral Resources Act preference decision).

**318BI Petroleum lease application for part of the land**

- (1) This section applies if the authority to prospect holder applies for a petroleum lease for part of the land within the petroleum lease application period.
- (2) The mining lease applicant may, by notice lodged with the mining registrar, amend the mining lease application so that a mining lease is only sought for all or part of the rest of the land.
- (3) Unless the amendment is made, a further step can not be taken to decide the mining lease application until after the petroleum lease application has been decided.<sup>114</sup>
- (4) If—
  - (a) the amendment has not been made; and
  - (b) the decision on the petroleum lease application is to grant a petroleum lease for part of the land;the mining lease applicant may amend the mining lease application so that a mining lease is only sought for all or part of the rest of the land.<sup>115</sup>

**318BJ No petroleum lease application**

If the authority to prospect holder does not apply for a petroleum lease for any of the land within the petroleum lease application period, the mining lease application may be decided.

**Subdivision 8 Deciding mining lease****318BK Application of sdiv 8**

This subdivision applies if—

---

114 See however the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 3, part 2, division 3 (Petroleum lease applications in response to Mineral Resources Act preference decision).

115 If the mining lease application is not amended, see section 318CB (Restriction on issuing certificate of public notice and additional requirements for grant).

- (a) the authority to prospect holder has not complied with section 318AW(a);<sup>116</sup> or
- (b) the authority to prospect holder has, under section 318AT,<sup>117</sup> lodged a submission stating that the holder does not wish any petroleum development preference for the land; or
- (c) the authority to prospect holder has not lodged any submission under section 318AX within the submission period; or
- (d) under section 318BA,<sup>118</sup> a preference decision is required and—
  - (i) the preference decision was not to give petroleum development preference for any of the land; or
  - (ii) the preference decision was to give petroleum development preference for the whole or part of the land and, after subdivision 7 is complied with, the Minister decides, under section 271,<sup>119</sup> to recommend the granting of a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease for the land.

### **318BL Additional criteria for recommending conditions or term**

- (1) In making a recommendation as follows, regard must be had to the prescribed criteria—
  - (a) recommending conditions of the mining lease, to be determined under section 276(1)(n); and
  - (b) recommending, under section 284, the term of the lease.<sup>120</sup>
- (2) This section does not limit the power under section 276(1)(n) to determine conditions of the mining lease.

---

116 Section 318AW (Authority to prospect holder's obligations)

117 Section 318AX (Submissions by authority to prospect holder)

118 Section 318BA (When preference decision is required)

119 Section 271 (Minister to consider recommendation made in respect of application for grant of mining lease)

120 Sections 276 (General conditions of mining lease) and 284 (Initial term of mining lease)



(3) In this section—

*prescribed criteria* means each of the following—

- (a) the CSG assessment criteria;
- (b) the affect of the mining lease on safe and efficient petroleum production under any adjacent lease;
- (c) the affect on safe and efficient petroleum production under any future petroleum lease that arises from the authority to prospect.

### **318BM Power to determine relinquishment condition**

- (1) A condition of the mining lease determined under section 276(1)(n) may be that its holder is required, by a notice lodged at the following office, to relinquish a stated part or percentage of its area at stated times or intervals—
  - (a) the office of the department for lodging relinquishment notices, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.<sup>121</sup>
- (2) A condition determined under subsection (1) is called a *relinquishment condition*.<sup>122</sup>
- (3) A relinquishment under a relinquishment condition takes effect on the day after the notice is lodged.
- (4) This section does not limit the power under section 276(1)(n) to determine conditions of the mining lease.

### **318BN Publication of outcome of application**

- (1) After the Governor in Council decides whether to grant the mining lease, the chief executive must publish a notice about the outcome of the application in the gazette or another publication the Minister considers appropriate.

---

121 See however section 318CZ (Cessation of relinquishment condition for area not overlapping with authority to prospect).

122 See also section 318CX (Relinquishment report).

- (2) The notice must state—
  - (a) whether the Governor in Council decided to grant, or not to grant, the mining lease; and
  - (b) if the decision was to grant—the conditions decided by the Governor in Council; and
  - (c) if, under section 318BA,<sup>123</sup> a preference decision is required and the preference decision was to give petroleum development preference for the whole or part of the land—the decision, and the reasons for it.
- (3) However, if the chief executive considers that information in any condition is commercial-in-confidence, the chief executive may, instead of publishing the condition, publish a statement about the intent of the condition.

### **Division 3                      Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder)**

#### **318BO Application of div 3**

- (1) This division applies if—
  - (a) land is in the area of an authority to prospect; and
  - (b) a person as follows wishes to apply for a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease for all or part of the land—
    - (i) the holder of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement or prospecting permit;
    - (ii) a person who wishes to make the application jointly with the exploration tenement or prospecting permit holder; and
  - (c) either—

---

123 Section 318BA (When preference decision is required)

- (i) the applicant is the authority holder; or
  - (ii) the authority holder has given written consent to the making of the application.
- (2) However, this division does not apply if the land is also in the area of a petroleum lease and the same person holds the authority to prospect and the petroleum lease.<sup>124</sup>

### **318BP Additional requirements for making application**

The application must include—

- (a) a CSG statement; and
- (b) a proposed development plan that complies with the initial development plan requirements;<sup>125</sup> and
- (c) other information that addresses the CSG assessment criteria.

### **318BQ Requirement to split application if it relates to petroleum lease and authority to prospect not held by same person**

- (1) This section applies if the application is—
- (a) for land in the area of each of the following—
    - (i) the authority to prospect (the *authority to prospect part*);
    - (ii) a petroleum lease (the *petroleum lease part*); and
  - (b) the authority to prospect and the petroleum lease are not held by the same person.<sup>126</sup>

---

124 For applications mentioned in subsection (2), see division 6 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)) and section 318CC (Application of div 6).

See however section 318CE(2) (Power to split application if it includes other land).

125 See division 9, subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial development plans).

126 If the authority to prospect and the petroleum lease are held by the same person, see division 5 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (other than by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)) and section 318BW (Application of div 5).

- (2) The application must be treated as if it were separate applications for the authority to prospect part and the petroleum lease part.
- (3) The application for the authority to prospect part must be decided under this division.
- (4) The application for the petroleum lease part must be decided under division 5 or 6.<sup>127</sup>
- (5) Despite subsections (2) to (4), a certificate of application under section 252<sup>128</sup> can not be issued for either application until the relevant requirements for making the application have been complied with.
- (6) The applicant may amend each application to comply with the requirements.

### **318BR Power to split application if it includes other land**

- (1) This section applies if the application includes land (the *other part*) not in the area of another petroleum tenure.
- (2) The Minister may decide to treat the application to the extent it applies to the other part as if it were a separate mining lease application.
- (3) The separate application must be decided under part 7.<sup>129</sup>
- (4) Despite subsections (2) and (3), a certificate of application under section 252 can not be issued for either application until the relevant requirements for making the application have been complied with.
- (5) The applicant may amend each application to comply with the requirements.

---

127 Division 5 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (other than by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)) or 6 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (by or jointly with petroleum lease holder))

128 Section 252 (Certificate of application etc.)

129 Part 7 (Mining leases)

**318BS Power to split application at applicant's request**

- (1) The Minister may, at the applicant's request, decide to treat the application as if it were separate mining lease applications to allow them to be decided under this part or part 7, as the Minister considers appropriate.
- (2) However, a certificate of application under section 252<sup>130</sup> can not be issued for either application until the relevant requirements for making the application have been complied with.
- (3) The applicant may amend each application to comply with the requirements.

**318BT Priority for earlier petroleum lease application or proposed application**

Division 2, subdivision 5,<sup>131</sup> applies for the mining lease application.

**318BU Additional criteria for recommending conditions or term**

- (1) In making a recommendation as follows, regard must be had to the conditions of the authority to prospect, any future development proposals of the authority to prospect holder and the likelihood of coordinated production of petroleum under a future petroleum lease—
  - (a) recommending conditions of the mining lease, to be determined under section 276(1)(n);
  - (b) recommending, under section 284, the term of the lease.<sup>132</sup>
- (2) This section does not limit the power under section 276(1)(n) to determine conditions for the mining lease.

---

130 Section 252 (Certificate of application etc.)

131 Division 2, subdivision 5 (Priority for earlier petroleum lease application or proposed application)

132 Sections 276 (General conditions of mining lease) and 284 (Initial term of mining lease)

**Division 4**                      **Coal mining lease and oil shale mining lease applications in response to Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act preference decision**

**318BV Additional ground for refusing application**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a coal or oil shale mining lease application is made in response to an invitation given under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 323;<sup>133</sup> and
  - (b) the application is made within 6 months after the giving of the invitation.<sup>134</sup>
- (2) The Minister may refuse the application if satisfied the applicant has not, in a timely manner, taken any step in relation to the application required of the applicant under part 7 or this part.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not limit another ground for refusing the application under part 7<sup>135</sup> or this part.

---

133 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 323 (Notice to applicant and coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder)

134 If the application is not made within the 6 months, see the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 326 (No mining lease application).

135 Part 7 (Mining leases)

**Division 5**                      **Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (other than by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)**

**318BW Application of div 5**

- (1) This division applies if a person wishes to apply for a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease for all or part of the land in the area of a petroleum lease.
- (2) However, this division does not apply if—
  - (a) the person is the petroleum lease holder; or
  - (b) the application is to be made jointly with the holder.<sup>136</sup>
- (3) If—
  - (a) the land is also in the area of an authority to prospect; and
  - (b) the same person holds the petroleum lease and the authority to prospect;

a reference in this division to the petroleum lease holder includes a reference to the authority to prospect holder.<sup>137</sup>

**318BX Additional requirements for making application**

The application must include—

- (a) a CSG statement; and
- (b) a proposed development plan that complies with the initial development plan requirements.<sup>138</sup>

---

136 See division 6 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)).

137 If the petroleum lease and the authority to prospect are held by different persons, see section 318BQ (Requirement to split application if it relates to petroleum lease and authority to prospect not held by same person).

138 See division 9, subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial development plans).

**318BY Power to split application if it includes other land**

- (1) This section applies if the application includes land (the *other part*) in the area of an authority to prospect held by someone other than the applicant.
- (2) The Minister may treat the application to the extent it applies to the other part as if it were a separate mining lease application.
- (3) The separate application must be decided under division 2.<sup>139</sup>

**318BZ Power to split application at applicant's request**

- (1) The Minister may, at the applicant's request, decide to treat the application as if it were separate mining lease applications to allow them to be decided under this part or part 7, as the Minister considers appropriate.
- (2) However, a certificate of application under section 252<sup>140</sup> can not be issued for either application until the relevant requirements for making the application have been complied with.
- (3) The applicant may amend each application to comply with the requirements.

**318C Notice to petroleum lease holder**

The applicant must, within 10 business days after lodging the application, give the petroleum lease holder a copy of the application, other than the part of the application consisting of the statement mentioned in section 245(1)(o)(iv).<sup>141</sup>

---

139 Division 2 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (other than by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder))

140 Section 252 (Certificate of application etc.).

141 Section 245 (Application for grant of mining lease)  
See also division 10 (Confidentiality of information).



**318CA Petroleum lease holder's obligation to negotiate**

- (1) The petroleum lease holder must, after receiving the copy of the application, use reasonable attempts to reach a coordination arrangement with the applicant about the following matters that provides the best resource use outcome without significantly affecting the parties' rights or interests—
  - (a) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under the proposed mining lease;
  - (b) petroleum production under the petroleum lease for the land.<sup>142</sup>
- (2) However, the obligation under subsection (1) applies only to the extent that a coordination arrangement is commercially and technically feasible for the petroleum lease holder.<sup>143</sup>

**318CB Restriction on issuing certificate of public notice and additional requirements for grant**

- (1) Section 252A<sup>144</sup> does not apply for the application, and the Minister can not under section 271<sup>145</sup> recommend the grant of the mining lease until—
  - (a) the applicant has negotiated, with the petroleum lease holder, a proposed coordination arrangement (a *relevant arrangement*) about the following matters—
    - (i) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas under the proposed mining lease;
    - (ii) petroleum production under the petroleum lease; and
  - (b) the Minister has approved the relevant arrangement; and
  - (c) there is a safety and health management system that applies for the proposed mining lease; and

---

142 For the extent to which coal seam gas production is permitted under the coal or oil shale mining lease, see division 8, subdivision 1 (Entitlement to coal seam gas).

143 See also division 10 (Confidentiality of information).

144 Section 252A (Issue of certificate of public notice)

145 Section 271 (Minister to consider recommendation made in respect of application for grant of mining lease)

- (d) the petroleum lease holder has lodged a notice that the holder has agreed to the system.
- (2) Subsections (3) and (4) apply if the Minister is satisfied the applicant and the petroleum lease holder have, as required under section 318CA, made reasonable attempts to reach a relevant arrangement and—
- (a) the petroleum lease holder has lodged a written notice stating there are no reasonable prospects of a relevant arrangement being made; or
  - (b) a relevant arrangement has not been lodged for approval by the Minister and the Minister considers the applicant and the petroleum lease holder have had a reasonable opportunity to make a relevant arrangement.
- (3) A certificate of public notice can not be issued for the application.
- (4) The Minister may immediately decide to reject the application.
- (5) A notice under this section must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive
- (6) In this section—
- safety and health management system*** means—
- (a) for a coal mining lease—a safety and health management system under the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*; or
  - (b) for an oil shale mining lease—a safety and health management system under the *Mining and Quarrying Safety and Health Act 1999*.

**Division 6**                      **Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)**

**318CC Application of div 6**

- (1) This division applies if a person as follows wishes to apply for a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease for all or part of the land in the area of a petroleum lease—
  - (a) the petroleum lease holder;
  - (b) a person who wishes to make the application jointly with the holder.
- (2) If—
  - (a) the land is also in the area of an authority to prospect; and
  - (b) the same person holds the petroleum lease and the authority to prospect;

a reference in this division to the petroleum lease holder includes a reference to the authority to prospect holder.<sup>146</sup>

**318CD Additional requirements for making application**

The application must include—

- (a) a CSG statement; and
- (b) a proposed development plan that complies with the initial development plan requirements.<sup>147</sup>

---

<sup>146</sup> If the petroleum lease and the authority to prospect are held by different persons, see section 318BQ (Requirement to split application if it relates to petroleum lease and authority to prospect not held by same person).

<sup>147</sup> See division 9, subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial development plans).

**318CE Power to split application if it includes other land**

- (1) This section applies if the application includes land (the *other part*) in the area of an authority to prospect held by someone other than the applicant.
- (2) The Minister may treat the application to the extent it applies to the other part as if it were a separate mining lease application.
- (3) The separate application must be decided under division 2.<sup>148</sup>

**318CF Power to split application at applicant's request**

- (1) The Minister may, at the applicant's request, decide to treat the application as if it were separate mining lease applications to allow them to be decided under this part or part 7, as the Minister considers appropriate.
- (2) However, a certificate of application under section 252<sup>149</sup> can not be issued for either application until the relevant requirements for making the application have been complied with.
- (3) The applicant may amend each application to comply with the requirements.

**318CG Additional criteria for recommending conditions**

- (1) In recommending conditions of the mining lease to be determined under section 276(1)(n), regard must be had to—
  - (a) the conditions of the petroleum lease; and
  - (b) the development plan for the petroleum lease.
- (2) This section does not limit the power under section 276(1)(n) to determine conditions of the mining lease.

---

148 Division 2 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (other than by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder))

149 Section 252 (Certificate of application etc.)

## **Division 7                    Additional provisions for coal and oil shale exploration tenements**

### **Subdivision 1               Grant of coal or oil shale exploration tenement in area of authority to prospect**

#### **318CH Provisions for coal or oil shale exploration tenement**

- (1) The *Petroleum Act 1923* and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act do not limit or otherwise affect the power under this Act to grant a coal or oil shale exploration tenement over land (the *overlapping land*) in the area an authority to prospect.
- (2) However, an authorised activity for the coal or oil shale exploration tenement can not be carried out on the overlapping land if—
  - (a) carrying it out adversely affects the carrying out of an authorised activity for the authority to prospect; and
  - (b) the authorised activity for the authority to prospect has already started.

### **Subdivision 2               Restriction on authorised activities on petroleum lease land**

#### **318CI Restriction**

- (1) If land is in the area of a coal or oil shale exploration tenement and a petroleum lease, an authorised activity for the tenement may be carried out on the land only if—
  - (a) the petroleum lease holder has agreed in writing to the carrying out of the activity; and
  - (b) a copy of the agreement has been lodged at—
    - (i) the office of the department for lodging the agreement, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or

- (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
  - (c) the agreement is still in force.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply, or ceases to apply, if the same person holds the tenement and the petroleum lease.

### **Subdivision 3      Conditions**

#### **318CJ Notice of grant to authority to prospect holder or applicant**

- (1) This section applies if, when a coal or oil shale exploration tenement is granted, land in the area of the tenement is in the area of an authority to prospect or a proposed area under an authority to prospect application.
- (2) It is a condition of the tenement that its holder must, within 20 business days after receiving notice of the grant, give the authority to prospect holder or the applicant written notice stating—
  - (a) that the tenement has been granted; and
  - (b) the tenement holder's name; and
  - (c) the term of the tenement.

#### **318CK Compliance with obligations under Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act**

If an obligation under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 313 or 371,<sup>150</sup> applies to a coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder, it is a condition of the tenement that the holder must comply with the obligation.

---

150 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 313 (Obligations of coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder) or 371 (Obligation of coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder to negotiate)

## **Division 8                    Additional provisions for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases**

### **Subdivision 1            Entitlement to coal seam gas**

#### **318CL Application of div 8**

- (1) This division applies to a person (the *mining lease holder*) who holds a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease.<sup>151</sup>
- (2) This subdivision is subject to subdivision 2.<sup>152</sup>

#### **318CMLimited entitlement to mine coal seam gas**

- (1) The mining lease holder may mine coal seam gas in the area of the lease only if—
  - (a) the mining happens as a necessary result of coal or oil shale mining carried out under the mining lease; or
  - (b) the mining is necessary to ensure a safe mine working environment for coal or oil shale mining under the mining lease; or
  - (c) the mining is necessary to minimise the fugitive emission of methane during the course of coal mining operations.
- (2) Coal seam gas mined, or proposed to be mined, under subsection (1) is called *incidental coal seam gas*.
- (3) To remove any doubt, it is declared that incidental coal seam gas includes coal seam gas in a goaf if the gas is mined, or proposed to be mined, under subsection (1).

---

151 See however part 19, division 6 (Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004).

152 Subdivision 2 (Provisions for mining coal seam gas from coextensive natural underground reservoirs)

(4) In this section—

*mine*, for coal seam gas, includes extract, produce, release or dispose of the gas.

### **318CN Use that may be made under mining lease of incidental coal seam gas**

(1) Subject to section 318CO, the mining lease holder may do the following in relation to incidental coal seam gas mined under section 318CM in the area of the mining lease—

(a) use it beneficially for mining under the mining lease;

*Examples of possible uses of incidental coal seam gas for mining under the mining lease—*

1 power generation for equipment used for any mining on the mining lease

2 heating

(b) transport or store it within the area of the mining lease to allow it to be used under paragraph (a).<sup>153</sup>

(2) The mining lease holder, can not, under the mining lease, use the incidental coal seam gas for a purpose other than for mining under the mining lease.

*Examples of a purpose other than mining—*

- selling the incidental coal seam gas
- processing it
- transporting it, by way of a pipeline, outside the area of the mining lease
- using it for power generation and selling the power or supplying the power to a transmission grid as defined under the *Electricity Act 1994*, section 6

*Note—*

- 1 If the mining lease holder wishes to use the incidental coal seam gas for a purpose other than for mining under the mining lease, the holder may apply for a petroleum lease. See the Petroleum and Gas

---

153 See also the exemptions in the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, sections 800(2)(a) and (b) (Restriction on petroleum tenure activities) and 802 (Restriction on pipeline construction or operation).



(Production and Safety) Act, chapter 2, part 2, division 1 and chapter 3, part 3, division 3.<sup>154</sup>

- 2 For the entitlement of a petroleum lease holder to use incidental or other coal seam gas commercially, see the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 2, part 2, division 1 and chapter 3, part 3, division 1.<sup>155</sup>

(3) In this section—

*mining*, under the mining lease, includes mining for coal seam gas authorised under section 318CM.

### **318CO Restriction on flaring or venting of incidental coal seam gas**

- (1) It is a condition of the mining lease that the mining lease holder must not flare or vent incidental coal seam gas mined under section 318CM(1) in the area of the mining lease unless the flaring or venting is authorised under this section.
- (2) Flaring the incidental coal seam gas is authorised if it is not commercially or technically feasible to use it—
  - (a) beneficially for mining under the mining lease; or
  - (b) commercially under a petroleum lease that the holder might be able to obtain.
- (3) Venting the incidental coal seam gas is authorised if—
  - (a) it is not safe to use the gas for a purpose mentioned in subsection (2) or to flare it; or
  - (b) flaring it is not technically practicable; or
  - (c) for incidental coal seam gas that is vented as or with mine ventilation air—it is not commercially practicable to use the air.
- (4) Venting the incidental coal seam gas is also authorised if—

---

154 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 2, part 2, division 1 (Key authorised activities) and chapter 3, part 3, division 3 (Petroleum lease application by or jointly with coal or oil shale mining lease holder)

155 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 2, part 2, division 1 (Key authorised activities) and chapter 3, part 5, division 1 (Restriction on authorised activities for particular petroleum leases)

- (a) it is being used, or is proposed to be used, under a greenhouse abatement scheme; and
- (b) if subsection (1) were to apply, the direct or indirect benefit the mining lease holder would otherwise obtain because of the use of the gas under the scheme would be reduced.

(5) In this section—

*greenhouse abatement scheme* means—

- (a) the *Electricity Supply Act 1995* (NSW), part 8A;<sup>156</sup> or
- (b) the Commonwealth's Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program; or
- (c) another scheme about the abatement of greenhouse gases prescribed under a regulation.

## **Subdivision 2      Provisions for mining coal seam gas from coextensive natural underground reservoirs**

### **318CP Application of sdiv 2**

This subdivision applies if a natural underground reservoir in the area of a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease extends to—

- (a) the area of an adjacent coal mining lease, oil shale mining lease or petroleum lease (an *adjacent lease*); or
- (b) if a person has applied for a coal mining lease, oil shale mining lease or petroleum lease that will, if granted, be an adjacent lease—the area of the proposed lease.<sup>157</sup>

---

156 See, in particular, the *Greenhouse Gas Benchmark Rule (Generation) No. 2 of 2003*, paragraph 10.1 (Total greenhouse gas emissions), made under the *Electricity Supply Act 1995* (NSW), section 97K (Greenhouse gas benchmark rules).

157 See also section 52A (Application of 2004 Act provisions about coextensive natural underground reservoirs) of the 1923 Act.

**318CQ Coordination arrangement may be made about mining or production from reservoir**

The mining lease holder and an adjacent lease holder, or proposed adjacent lease holder, may make a coordination arrangement that provides for the petroleum or coal seam gas that can, under this Act or the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, be mined or produced from the reservoir from within the area of the mining lease and the adjacent lease, or proposed adjacent lease.<sup>158</sup>

**318CR Restriction on carrying out particular authorised activities**

- (1) The mining lease holder must not carry out a relevant activity for an adjacent lease or proposed adjacent lease unless—
  - (a) the adjacent lease holder, or the proposed adjacent lease holder, has consented in writing to the carrying out of the activity; or
  - (b) the activity is carried out under—
    - (i) a coordination arrangement mentioned in section 318CQ; or
    - (ii) a decision of the tribunal under section 318CS.
- (2) However, if the adjacent lease was granted after the mining lease was granted and, when the adjacent lease was granted, the mining lease holder was carrying out the relevant activity, subsection (1) does not apply to the mining lease holder until the later of the following—
  - (a) 6 months after granting of the adjacent lease;
  - (b) if within the 6 months the mining lease holder applies to the tribunal under section 318CS—when the tribunal decides the application.
- (3) In this section—

**relevant activity**, for an adjacent lease or proposed adjacent lease, means—

---

<sup>158</sup> For the making of coordination arrangements, see the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 2, part 8 (Petroleum activities coordination).

- (a) the mining, under the mining lease, of coal seam gas that comes, or is likely to come, from the part of the reservoir that is in the area of an adjacent lease or the proposed adjacent lease; or
- (b) another authorised activity under the mining lease that physically adversely affects, or may physically adversely affect, the carrying out of authorised activities under an adjacent lease or the proposed adjacent lease.’.

### **318CS Dispute resolution by tribunal**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) an adjacent lease holder, or the proposed adjacent lease holder, has not consented in writing to the carrying out of a relevant activity under section 318CR; and
  - (b) the mining lease holder and the adjacent lease holder or proposed adjacent lease holder (the *parties*) have not made a coordination arrangement mentioned in section 318CQ.
- (2) Either party may apply to the tribunal for it to decide—
  - (a) the amount or proportion of any of the following that, when mined or produced, is owned by each party—
    - (i) coal seam gas mentioned in section 318CR(1);
    - (ii) petroleum; and
  - (b) how the parties are to bear the costs of the mining or production; and
  - (c) how the mining or production is to be coordinated or monitored; and

*Example for paragraph (c)—*

fixing a distance from the boundary between the mining lease and the adjacent lease for mining coal seam gas from the reservoir

- (d) remediation requirements, as prescribed under a regulation, in relation to the matters mentioned in section 115(3)(c), definition *relevant activity*, paragraph (b).

- (3) If the adjacent lease was granted after the mining lease was granted, the decision may apply from the grant of the adjacent lease.
- (4) In making the decision, the tribunal—
  - (a) must attempt to optimise mining under the mining lease and mining or production under the adjacent lease in a way that maximises the benefit for all Queenslanders; and
  - (b) may make the decision without having regard to the issue of who would, under another Act or law, have otherwise owned the petroleum.
- (5) In considering the benefit to all Queenslanders, the tribunal must have regard to the public interest.

### **Subdivision 3      Conditions**

#### **318CT Continuing requirement for coordination arrangement for particular coal or oil shale mining leases**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease is granted over land in the area of a petroleum lease and the application for the mining lease was not made by or jointly with the petroleum lease holder; or
  - (b) a coal mining lease holder or an oil shale mining lease holder is a party to a coordination arrangement mentioned in section 318DO.<sup>159</sup>
- (2) It is a condition of the mining lease that—
  - (a) its holder must continue to be party to a relevant coordination arrangement; and
  - (b) authorised activities for the mining lease must not be carried out if there is no relevant coordination arrangement.

---

<sup>159</sup> Section 318DO (Requirement for coordination arrangement to assign or sublet mining lease in area of petroleum lease)

(3) In this section—

***relevant coordination arrangement*** means a coordination arrangement with the relevant petroleum lease holder about—

- (a) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas mining under the mining lease; and
- (b) petroleum production under the petroleum lease.

### **318CU Obligation to measure and record coal seam gas mined**

(1) It is a condition of each coal or oil shale mining lease that its holder must—

- (a) use a meter to record the volume of coal seam gas mined, under section 318CM,<sup>160</sup> in the area of the lease; and
- (b) comply with the provisions of the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 8, parts 1 and 2,<sup>161</sup> to the extent the provisions are relevant to the meter and its use; and
- (c) ensure—
  - (i) each designated CSG product mined is measured by a meter, in accordance with the relevant measurement scheme under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act for the meter;<sup>162</sup> and
  - (ii) the meter complies with any requirements under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act; and
  - (iii) the measurement is made at the times and in the way required under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act; and
  - (iv) the measurement measures—

---

160 Section 318CM (Limited entitlement to mine coal seam gas)

161 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 8, parts 1 (Introduction) and 2 (Measurement schemes)

162 For what is meter, see the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 631 (What is a *meter*). For measurement schemes, see chapter 8, part 2 (Measurement schemes) of that Act.

- (A) each designated CSG product separately to each other type of product mentioned in the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 801(2);<sup>163</sup> and
  - (B) the percentage of methane in each designated CSG product measured.
- (2) In this section—

*meter* means a meter as defined under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 631.<sup>164</sup>

### **318CV Obligation to lodge annual reports**

- (1) It is a condition of each coal or oil shale mining lease that its holder must, within 2 months after each of its anniversary days, lodge a report that—
- (a) states details of each of the following for the 12 months that ended on its last anniversary day—
    - (i) the amount and location of coal seam gas mined;
    - (ii) the amount of each designated CSG product mined;
    - (iii) the percentage of methane in each designated CSG product mined;
    - (iv) the amount and location of each other mineral mined;
    - (v) for each mineral mentioned in subparagraphs (i) and (ii)—
      - (A) the amount sold; and
      - (B) the amount disposed of other than by sale; and
      - (C) each method of disposal other than sale; and

---

163 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 801 (Petroleum producer's measurement obligations)

164 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 631 (What is a *meter*)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (D) the amount disposed of under each other method; and
  - (vi) whether there was any subsidence and, if there was any, its nature; and
  - (b) if the report states there was subsidence, includes a plan showing its extent; and
  - (c) includes a plan of the mine working envelope for the mining lease; and
  - (d) details the coal seam gas mined or proposed to be mined within the mine working envelope; and
  - (e) includes other information prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) If the mining lease ends, its former holder must lodge a report for the period from the last anniversary day for the lease to when it ended that gives the information mentioned in subsection (1).

Maximum penalty—150 penalty units.

- (3) A report under this section must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the report, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (4) In this section—

***anniversary day***, for a mining lease, means each day that is the anniversary of the day the mining lease took effect.

***mine working envelope*** means land that covers any of the following or is needed for post-production activities—

- (a) past mine workings;
- (b) current mine workings;
- (c) mine workings scheduled to be mined within the next 5 years;
- (d) authorised activities for the mining lease associated with the processing, transportation, storage and use of the coal seam gas produced.



**318CW Compliance with obligation to negotiate with petroleum lease applicant**

If the obligation under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 349,<sup>165</sup> applies to a coal mining lease holder or an oil shale mining lease holder, it is a condition of the mining lease that the holder must comply with the obligation.

**318CX Relinquishment report**

- (1) This section applies if under a relinquishment condition, a coal mining lease holder or an oil shale mining lease holder relinquishes part of the area of the lease.
- (2) The notice making the relinquishment must be accompanied by a report—
  - (a) describing—
    - (i) the authorised activities for the mining lease carried out in the part; and
    - (ii) the results of the activities; and
  - (b) giving other information prescribed under a regulation.Maximum penalty—150 penalty units.
- (3) The mining lease holder must give a copy of the report to—
  - (a) the relevant authority to prospect holder; and
  - (b) anyone who has a current application for a petroleum lease for the part.

Maximum penalty—150 penalty units.

**318CY Surrender report**

If a coal mining lease holder or an oil shale mining lease holder makes a surrender application mentioned in

---

<sup>165</sup> Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 349 (Coal mining lease holder's or oil shale mining lease holder's obligation to negotiate)

section 318EG,<sup>166</sup> it is a condition of the mining lease that the application is accompanied by a report—

- (a) describing—
  - (i) the authorised activities for the lease carried out on the land to which the notice relates; and
  - (ii) the results of the activities; and
- (b) giving other information prescribed under a regulation.

Maximum penalty—150 penalty units.

### **318CZ Cessation of relinquishment condition for area not overlapping with authority to prospect**

If—

- (a) a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease contains a relinquishment condition; and
- (b) all or part of the area of the mining lease ceases to be in the area of an authority to prospect (the *relevant land*);

the condition ceases to apply for the relevant land.

## **Subdivision 4      Amendment of relinquishment condition by application**

### **318D Application of sdiv 4**

This subdivision applies if a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease contains a relinquishment condition and all or part of the area of the mining lease is in the area of an authority to prospect.

---

<sup>166</sup> Section 318EG (Power to require partial surrender application)

**318DA Conditions for applying to amend relinquishment condition**

- (1) The mining lease holder may apply for the amendment of the condition only if the applicant has, before making the application—
  - (a) made reasonable attempts to consult with the authority to prospect holder about—
    - (i) the proposed amendment; and
    - (ii) a proposed later development plan for the lease; and
  - (b) changed the proposed amendment and the proposed development plan to give effect to any reasonable proposal by the authority holder that will optimise—
    - (i) coal or oil shale or incidental coal seam gas mining under the amended mining lease; and
    - (ii) petroleum production under any future petroleum lease over the land.
- (2) However, subsection (1)(b) applies only to the extent the proposal is commercially and technically feasible for the applicant.

**318DB Authority to prospect holder's obligation to negotiate**

The authority to prospect holder must, if asked by the mining lease holder, use reasonable attempts to reach an agreement with the mining lease holder, about the matters mentioned in section 318DA(1)(b), that provides the best resource use outcome without significantly affecting the parties' rights or interests.<sup>167</sup>

**318DC Requirements for making application**

The application must—

- (a) be in the approved form; and
- (b) be lodged at—

---

<sup>167</sup> See also division 10 (Confidentiality of information).

- (i) the office of the department for lodging the application, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
  - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office stated in the approved form; or
  - (iii) otherwise—the office of the chief executive; and
- (c) state whether or not the development plan for the mining lease has been complied with; and
  - (d) if the development plan for the lease has not been complied with—state details of, and the reasons for, each noncompliance; and
  - (e) include a CSG statement; and
  - (f) include a proposed later development plan for the lease as amended under section 318DA; and
  - (g) include a statement about each of the following—
    - (i) the details of the consultation carried out under section 318DA(1)(a);
    - (ii) the results of the consultation;
    - (iii) whether the proposed development plan includes all provisions proposed by the authority to prospect holder under section 318DA(1)(b);
    - (iv) if the proposed development plan does not include a provision proposed by the authority holder—why it was not included;
    - (v) the applicant's assessment of the potential for the applicant and the authority holder to make a coordination arrangement about—
      - (A) coal or oil shale or incidental coal seam gas mining under the amended mining lease; and
      - (B) petroleum production under any future petroleum lease over the land that may be granted to the authority holder; and
- (h) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.

**318DD Notice of application**

The applicant must immediately after making the application give the authority to prospect holder a copy of the application.

**318DE Submissions by authority to prospect holder**

- (1) The authority to prospect holder may lodge submissions about the application at—
  - (a) the office of the department for lodging the submissions, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.<sup>168</sup>
- (2) However, the submissions may be lodged only within 20 business days after the holder is, under section 318DD, given a copy of the application.
- (3) The submissions may include any of the following—
  - (a) information about all or any of the following—
    - (i) exploration carried out under the authority to prospect;
    - (ii) the results of the exploration;
    - (iii) the prospects for future petroleum production from the land;
  - (b) a proposal by the authority holder for petroleum production from the land;
  - (c) information relevant to the CSG assessment criteria.<sup>169</sup>
- (4) The holder must give the applicant a copy of the submissions.
- (5) In deciding the application, regard must be had to the submissions.

---

<sup>168</sup> See also division 10 (Confidentiality of information).

<sup>169</sup> See also division 10 (Confidentiality of information).

**318DF Minister may require further negotiation**

- (1) The Minister may, by written notice, require the applicant to conduct negotiations with the authority to prospect holder with a view to making changes of a type mentioned in section 318DA(1)(b).<sup>170</sup>
- (2) The applicant must use all reasonable attempts to comply with the requirement.
- (3) If the Minister is reasonably satisfied the applicant has not complied with the requirement the Minister may decide to refuse the application.

**318DG Deciding amendment application**

- (1) Before deciding to grant the application, the Minister must decide whether to approve the applicant's proposed later development plan for the mining lease.
- (2) The application can not be granted unless the proposed plan has been approved.
- (3) Division 9, subdivision 4<sup>171</sup> applies for deciding whether to approve the proposed development plan.
- (4) The matters that must be considered in deciding the application include each of the following—
  - (a) the CSG assessment criteria;
  - (b) whether the applicant has taken all reasonable steps to comply with the relinquishment condition;
  - (c) the effect of any approval of later development plans for the lease;
  - (d) any submissions under section 318DE lodged within the period mentioned in section 318DE(2).
- (5) After the application has been decided, the applicant and the coal or oil shale exploration tenement holder must be given notice of the decision.

---

170 Section 318DA (Conditions for applying to amend relinquishment condition)

171 Division 9, subdivision 4 (Approval of proposed later development plans)

## **Subdivision 5      Restriction on recommendation to amend other conditions**

### **318DH Interests of relevant petroleum tenure holder to be considered**

A recommendation under section 294<sup>172</sup> for the amendment of a condition of a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease must not be made unless the interests of any relevant petroleum tenure holder have been considered.

## **Subdivision 6      Renewals**

### **318DI General additional provisions for renewal application**

- (1) This section and section 318DJ contain additional provisions for an application to renew a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease.<sup>173</sup>
- (2) The application must—
  - (a) state whether the current development plan for the lease has been complied with; and
  - (b) if the development plan has not been complied with—state the details of, and the reasons for, each noncompliance; and
  - (c) include a proposed later development plan for the renewed lease, that complies with the later development plan requirements.<sup>174</sup>
- (3) The application can not be made after the lease has ended.
- (4) If the application is made less than 6 months before the end of the term of the lease, the application must be accompanied by an amount that is 10 times the renewal fee prescribed under section 286(2)(b).

---

172 Section 294 (Variation of conditions of mining lease)

173 See also section 286 (Renewal of mining lease).

174 See section 318ED (Later development plan requirements).

**318DJ Applied provisions for renewal application**

- (1) The adopted provisions apply for any renewal application for a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease—
- (a) as if the mining lease holder had lodged a proposed later development plan; and
  - (b) as if a reference in the adopted provisions—
    - (i) to the application were a reference to the renewal application; and
    - (ii) to a mining lease were a reference to a renewed mining lease; and
    - (iii) to a proposed development plan were a reference to a proposed later development plan; and
  - (c) with other necessary changes.

- (2) In this section—

***adopted provisions*** means—

- (a) sections 318DZ and 318E;<sup>175</sup> and
- (b) division 9, subdivision 4;<sup>176</sup> and
- (c) if all or part of the area of the mining lease is in the area of an authority to prospect and the applicant does not hold the authority to prospect—division 2, subdivisions 2 and 4;<sup>177</sup> and
- (d) if all or part of the area of the mining lease is in the area of an authority to prospect and the applicant holds the authority to prospect—division 3;<sup>178</sup> and
- (e) if all or part of the land in the area of the mining lease is in the area of a petroleum lease and the mining lease

---

175 Sections 318DZ (Ministerial approval of proposed plan) and 318E (Amendment of proposed plan before approval)

176 Division 9, subdivision 4 (Approval of proposed later development plans)

177 Division 2 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (other than by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder)), subdivisions 2 (Provisions for making coal or oil shale mining lease application) and 4 (Obligations of applicant and authority to prospect holder)

178 Division 3 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder))



holder is not a holder of the petroleum lease—division 5.<sup>179</sup>

### **318DK Mining lease taken to have development plan until renewal application decided**

- (1) This section applies until the happening of the following event if an application to renew a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease is made and the application complies with this division—
  - (a) if it is decided to renew the lease—the lease holder is given notice of the renewal;
  - (b) if it is decided not to renew the lease—the decision not to renew takes effect.<sup>180</sup>
- (2) Despite the ending of the plan period for the current development plan for the lease—
  - (a) the mining lease is taken to have a development plan; and
  - (b) the holder may carry out any authorised activity for the lease.

## **Subdivision 7 Consolidations**

### **318DL Restriction on consolidation applications**

A coal mining lease holder or an oil shale mining lease holder can not apply to consolidate the lease with another type of mining lease.

---

179 Division 5 (Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (other than by or jointly with petroleum lease holder))

180 For when the decision takes effect, see section 318EH (Steps after, and taking effect, of decision), as applied under section 318DJ (Applied provisions for renewal application).

**318DM Additional requirements for making consolidation application**

- (1) This section applies if an application under section 299<sup>181</sup> is made to consolidate coal mining leases or oil shale mining leases.
- (2) The application must—
  - (a) include a proposed development plan for the consolidated mining lease; and
  - (b) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) The proposed plan must comply with the later development plan requirements.<sup>182</sup>
- (4) The fee prescribed under section 299 need not accompany the application.

**318DN Deciding whether to approve proposed development plan**

Sections 318EF to 318EH<sup>183</sup> apply to a proposed development plan included in an application under section 299<sup>184</sup>—

- (a) as if the proposed plan were a proposed later development plan lodged under section 318EB;<sup>185</sup> and
- (b) as if a reference in the sections to the approval of a proposed later development plan were a reference to the proposed development plan for the consolidated lease; and
- (c) with other necessary changes.

---

181 Section 299 (Consolidation of mining leases)

182 See division 9, subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial development plans).

183 Sections 318EF (Criteria for deciding whether to approve proposed plan), 318EG (Power to require partial surrender application) and 318EH (Steps after, and taking effect of, decision)

184 Section 299 (Consolidation of mining leases)

185 Section 318EB (Obligation to lodge proposed later development plan)

## **Subdivision 8      Restriction on assignment or subletting**

### **318DO Requirement for coordination arrangement to assign or sublet mining lease in area of petroleum lease**

- (1) This section applies if land in the area of a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease is also in the area of a petroleum lease.
- (2) The mining registrar must not, under section 300,<sup>186</sup> approve an assignment or sublease of the mining lease unless the proposed assignee or sublessee and the petroleum lease holder are parties to a coordination arrangement<sup>187</sup> about—
  - (a) coal or oil shale mining and any incidental coal seam gas under the mining lease; and
  - (b) petroleum production under the petroleum lease.

## **Division 9              Development plans for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases**

### **Subdivision 1      General provisions about development plans**

#### **318DP Function and purpose**

- (1) The development plan for a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease, or a proposed coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease, (the *relevant lease*) gives detailed information about the nature and extent of activities to be carried out under the lease.
- (2) The development plan may—

---

186 Section 300 (Assignment, mortgage or sublease of mining lease)

187 See the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 2, part 8 (Petroleum activities coordination).

- (a) also relate to another coal or oil shale mining lease or proposed coal or oil shale mining lease if the other lease or proposed lease relates to the relevant lease; and
  - (b) provide that when the plan is approved it will replace any development plan for the other lease.
- (3) The purposes of giving the information is to—
- (a) allow resource management decisions to be made; and
  - (b) ensure appropriate development of minerals that, under section 234,<sup>188</sup> are specified in the lease.

### **318DQ Requirement to have development plan**

It is a condition of each coal or oil shale mining lease that its holder must ensure there is a development plan for the lease.

*Note—*

The only ‘development plan’ for a coal or oil shale mining lease is its current initial or later development plan, as approved under this division: See the definition of that term in the dictionary. For the requirement to lodge a proposed later development plan and its approval, see subdivision 4.<sup>189</sup>

### **318DR Obligation to comply with development plan**

It is a condition of each coal or oil shale mining lease that its holder must comply with the development plan for the lease.<sup>190</sup>

---

188 Section 234 (Governor in Council may grant mining lease)

189 Subdivision 4 (Approval of proposed later development plans)

190 See however part 19, division 6 (Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004).

## **Subdivision 2 Requirements for proposed initial development plans**

### **318DS Operation of sdiv 2**

This subdivision provides for requirements (the *initial development plan requirements*) for a proposed initial development plan for a proposed coal or oil shale mining lease.<sup>191</sup>

### **318DT General requirements**

- (1) The proposed plan must provide for each of the following—
  - (a) an overview of the activities proposed to be carried out under the proposed mining lease during all of its proposed term;
  - (b) for each year of the plan period—
    - (i) the nature and extent of activities proposed to be carried out under the proposed mining lease during the year; and
    - (ii) where the activities are proposed to be carried out;
  - (c) for each mineral the applicant proposes to mine under the proposed mining lease, each of the following—
    - (i) the location and an estimate of the resources of the mineral in all of the area, or proposed area, of the proposed mining lease;
    - (ii) the standards and procedures used to make the estimate;
    - (iii) the rate and amount of the proposed mining;
    - (iv) approximately when the proposed mining is to start;
    - (v) a schedule for the proposed mining during the plan period;

---

<sup>191</sup> For additional requirements for proposed later development plans, see section 318ED (Later development plan requirements).

- (d) maps that show the matters mentioned in paragraphs (b) and (c)(i), (iii) and (iv);
  - (e) any other information relevant to the criteria mentioned in section 318EF;<sup>192</sup>
  - (f) reasons why the plan is considered appropriate;
  - (g) another matter prescribed under a regulation.
- (2) A regulation may impose requirements about the form of the development plan.
- (3) In this section—
- year**, of the plan period, means—
- (a) the period starting on the day the plan period starts and ending on the first anniversary of that day; and
  - (b) each subsequent period of 12 months or less during the plan period, starting on each anniversary of that day and ending on—
    - (i) the next anniversary of that day; or
    - (ii) if the plan period ends before the next anniversary—the day the plan period ends.

### **318DU Plan period**

- (1) The proposed plan must state its period.
- (2) The period must not be longer than—
  - (a) if the term sought for the mining lease is less than 5 years from the granting of the mining lease—the term of the mining lease; or
  - (b) if the term sought for the mining lease is 5 years or more—5 years from the start of the term.

---

192 Section 318EF (Criteria for deciding whether to approve proposed plan)

**318DV Statement about interests of relevant petroleum tenure holder**

The proposed plan must include a statement of how the effects on, and the interests of, any relevant overlapping or adjacent petroleum tenure holder have, or have not, been considered, having regard to—

- (a) the main purposes of this part;<sup>193</sup> and
- (b) the CSG assessment criteria, other than the initial development plan requirements.

**318DW Requirement to optimise use of incidental coal seam gas**

The activities provided for under the proposed plan must seek to optimise the use of incidental coal seam gas in a safe and efficient way if it is commercially and technically feasible to do so.

**318DX Consistency with petroleum lease development plan and relevant coordination arrangement**

If all or part of the land in the area of the proposed mining lease is in the area of a petroleum lease (the *relevant land*), the proposed plan must, to the extent it applies to the relevant land, be consistent with—

- (a) the development plan for the petroleum lease; and
- (b) any coordination arrangement relating to the relevant land.

**Subdivision 3 Approval of proposed initial development plans****318DY Application of sdiv 3**

This subdivision applies to all coal mining lease and oil shale mining lease applications.

---

193 See section 318A (Main purposes of pt 7AA).

**318DZ Ministerial approval of proposed plan**

- (1) The Minister must decide whether to approve the applicant's proposed development plan for the proposed mining lease.
- (2) If the proposed plan is not approved the application must be rejected.

**318E Amendment of proposed plan before approval**

- (1) The applicant may, by written notice lodged at the following office, amend the proposed development plan at any time before the Minister decides whether to approve the applicant's proposed development plan—
  - (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (2) The notice must be accompanied by the amended proposed plan.

**318EA Deciding whether to approve proposed plan**

- (1) The Minister may approve or refuse to approve the proposed development plan.
- (2) The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to approve the proposed plan include each of the following—
  - (a) the potential of the area of the proposed mining lease for each of the following (the *activities*)—
    - (i) mining;
    - (ii) each other purpose for which the lease is sought;
  - (b) the nature and extent of the activities;
  - (c) when and where the activities are proposed to be carried out;
  - (d) whether the mining of minerals that, under section 234,<sup>194</sup> are sought to be specified in the lease will

---

194 Section 234 (Governor in Council may grant mining lease)



be optimised in the best interests of the State, having regard to the public interest;

- (e) the CSG assessment criteria.<sup>195</sup>

## **Subdivision 4      Approval of proposed later development plans**

### **318EB Obligation to lodge proposed later development plan**

- (1) It is a condition of each coal or oil shale mining lease that its holder must lodge a proposed later development plan for the mining lease as provided for under this section.

*Note—*

If the holder wishes to renew the lease, a proposed later development plan must be included in the renewal application. See section 318DI(2)(c).<sup>196</sup>

- (2) The condition is complied with only if the proposed later development plan—
- (a) is lodged at—
- (i) the office of the department for lodging proposed later development plans, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
- (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive; and
- (b) complies with the requirements under section 318ED (the *later development plan requirements*); and
- (c) is accompanied by the relevant fee.
- (3) A proposed later development plan must be lodged—
- (a) at least 40, but no more than 80, business days before the end of the plan period for its current development plan (the *current plan period*); or

---

<sup>195</sup> See also section 318DZ (Ministerial approval of proposed plan).

<sup>196</sup> Section 318DI (General additional provisions for renewal application)

- (b) as soon as practicable after the holder proposes or becomes aware of a significant change to the nature and extent of an authorised activity that is not already dealt with under the current development plan for the lease; or
  - (c) within 20 business days after a coordination arrangement relating to the lease ends.
- (4) However, if before the end of the current plan period, a decision is made not to approve a proposed later development plan lodged under subsection (3), the holder may, within the period, lodge another proposed later development plan.
- (5) If the holder does not lodge any proposed later development plan before the end of the current plan period or if subsection (4) applies and the holder does not lodge another proposed later development plan within the current plan period—
  - (a) the holder must be given a notice requiring the holder to lodge a proposed later development plan for the lease within 20 business days after the giving of the notice; and
  - (b) the holder must comply with the requirement.
- (6) In this section—

**relevant fee**, for the lodgment of the proposed plan, means—

  - (a) if the proposed plan is lodged within the time required under subsection (3)—the fee prescribed under a regulation; or
  - (b) if the proposed plan is lodged after the time required under subsection (3)—
    - (i) if it is lodged under subsection (4)—nil; or
    - (ii) if it is not lodged under subsection (4) and it is lodged before the end of the current plan period—an amount that is 10 times the prescribed fee; or
    - (iii) if it is not lodged under subsection (4) and it is lodged after the end of the current plan period—an amount that is 20 times the prescribed fee.

**318EC Consequence of failure to comply with notice to lodge proposed later development plan**

- (1) If a coal or oil shale mining lease holder does not comply with a requirement under section 318EB(5)(a), the lease is cancelled.
- (2) However, the cancellation does not take effect until the holder is given a notice stating that the lease has been cancelled because of the operation of subsection (1).

**318ED Later development plan requirements**

- (1) A proposed later development plan must—
  - (a) comply with the initial development plan requirements, as if the reference in section 318DU(2)<sup>197</sup> to the term sought for the mining lease were a reference to the remaining term, or the renewed term, of the lease;<sup>198</sup> and
  - (b) highlight any significant changes from the current development plan for the mining lease; and
  - (c) state whether the current development plan has been complied with; and
  - (d) if the current development plan has not been complied with—state the details of, and the reasons for, each noncompliance.
- (2) For subsection (1), section 318DU<sup>199</sup> applies as if a reference to the term sought for the mining lease is a reference to the term of the mining lease.
- (3) If the effect of the proposed plan is to significantly change an activity provided for under the current development plan, the proposed plan must also state reasons for the change.

---

197 Section 318DU (Plan period)

198 See subdivision 2 (Requirements for proposed initial development plans).

199 Section 318DU (Plan period)

**318EE Mining lease taken to have development plan until decision on whether to approve proposed later development plan**

- (1) This section applies until the happening of the following event if, under section 318EB, the holder lodges a proposed later development plan before the end of the plan period for the current development plan for the mining lease—
  - (a) if the proposed plan is approved—the holder is given notice of the approval;
  - (b) if approval of the proposed program is refused—when the refusal takes effect.<sup>200</sup>
- (2) Despite the ending of the plan period for the current development plan—
  - (a) the mining lease is taken to have a development plan; and
  - (b) the holder may carry out any authorised activity for the lease.

**318EF Criteria for deciding whether to approve proposed plan**

The matters that must be considered in deciding whether to approve the proposed later development plan include each of the following—

- (a) the criteria under section 318EA<sup>201</sup> for deciding whether to approve a proposed initial development plan;
- (b) the extent to which the current development plan for the mining lease has been complied with;
- (c) the CSG assessment criteria;<sup>202</sup>
- (d) the effect of any approval of the proposed plan on any relinquishment condition for the mining lease;

---

200 For when the decision takes effect, see section 318EH (Steps after, and taking effect, of decision).

201 Section 318EA (Deciding whether to approve proposed plan)

202 See also section 318DZ (Ministerial approval of proposed plan).

- (e) if the proposed plan provides for a significant change that is a cessation or reduction of mining or other purposes for which the mining lease is granted—
  - (i) whether the cessation or reduction is reasonable; and
  - (ii) whether the mining lease holder has taken all reasonable steps to prevent the cessation or reduction.

### **318EG Power to require partial surrender application**

- (1) This section applies if the proposed plan provides for a significant change that is a cessation or reduction of mining or other purposes for which the mining lease is granted.
- (2) The Minister may approve the proposed plan, but—
  - (a) decide (a *deferral decision*)—
    - (i) to defer the taking of effect of the approval until the mining lease holder applies under section 309<sup>203</sup> to surrender a stated part or percentage of the area of the lease on or before a stated day; and
    - (ii) that the decision to approve the proposed plan is replaced by a decision not to approve it if the surrender application is not made on or before the stated day; or
  - (b) impose a condition on the petroleum lease requiring its holder to apply under section 309 to surrender a stated part or percentage of the area of the lease at stated times or intervals.
- (3) The public interest must be considered before making a deferral decision or imposing the condition.

### **318EH Steps after, and taking effect, of decision**

- (1) On approval of the proposed later development plan, the chief executive must give the holder notice of the approval.

---

203 Section 309 (Surrender of mining lease)

- (2) For the following, the notice must be an information notice—
  - (a) a decision to refuse to approve the proposed plan;
  - (b) an approval of the proposed plan that, under section 318EG, is deferred;
  - (c) a decision under section 318EG(2)(b).
- (3) An approval without any deferral under section 318EG(2)(a) takes effect when the holder is given the notice or, if the notice states a later day of effect, on that later day.
- (4) A refusal does not take effect until the end of the appeal period under section 318EI.
- (5) In this section—

*information notice* means a notice stating—

  - (a) the reasons for the decision; and
  - (b) that the holder may appeal against the decision; and
  - (c) how to appeal.

## **Subdivision 5 Appeals**

### **318EI Right of appeal against cancellation, deferral or refusal**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) under section 318DZ,<sup>204</sup> it is decided not to approve a proposed development plan; or
  - (b) under section 318EC,<sup>205</sup> it is decided to cancel the petroleum lease; or
  - (c) it is decided not to approve the proposed later development plan; or
  - (d) under section 318EG, it is decided to defer an approval of the later development plan.

---

204 Section 318DZ (Ministerial approval of proposed plan)

205 Section 318EC (Consequence of failure to comply with notice to lodge proposed later development plan)

- (2) The Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 12, part 2, applies, with necessary changes, as if—
- (a) the decision were mentioned in schedule 1, table 2 of that Act; and
  - (b) the schedule stated the tribunal as the appeal body for the decision; and
  - (c) a reference in that part to an information notice were a reference to a notice under section 318EH.<sup>206</sup>

## **Division 10                      Confidentiality of information**

### **318EJ Application of div 10**

- (1) This division applies if a tenure holder or a person who has applied for a tenure (the *information-giver*) gives another tenure holder or a person who has applied for a tenure (the *recipient*) information—
- (a) that this part requires the information-giver to give the recipient, including, for example, information given to comply with section 318AW(a);<sup>207</sup> or
  - (b) for the purposes of this part.
- (2) However, this division applies subject to any agreement between the information-giver and the recipient about the information or its use.
- (3) In this section—

*information* means information given verbally or in writing.

*tenure* means a coal or oil shale mining tenement or a petroleum tenure.

---

206 Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, chapter 12, part 2 (Appeals), schedule 1 (Reviews and appeals) and section 824 (Period to appeal)

207 Section 318AW (Authority to prospect holder's obligations)

**318EK Confidentiality obligations**

- (1) The recipient must not disclose the information to anyone else, unless—
  - (a) the information is publicly available; or
  - (b) the disclosure is—
    - (i) someone else whom the recipient has authorised to carry out the authorised activities for the recipient's coal or oil shale mining tenement or petroleum tenure; or
    - (ii) made with the information-giver's consent; or
    - (iii) expressly permitted or required under this or another Act; or
    - (iv) to the Minister.
- (2) The recipient may use the information only for the purpose for which it is given.

**318EL Civil remedies**

If the recipient does not comply with section 318EK, a court of competent jurisdiction may order the recipient to pay the information-giver all or any of the following—

- (a) compensation for any loss the information-giver incurred because of the failure to comply with the section;
- (b) the amount of any commercial gain the recipient made because of the failure to comply with the section.



## Part 7A                      Roads

### Division 1                      Preliminary

#### 318EM Significant projects excluded from pt 7A

- (1) This part does not apply for a mining lease that is, or is included in, a project declared under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*, section 26, to be a significant project.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not limit or otherwise affect Coordinator-General's conditions included in the mining lease, under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*, part 4, division 5.<sup>208</sup>

#### 318EN What is the *road authority* for a road

The *road authority*, for a road, is—

- (a) for a State-controlled road—the chief executive of the department in which the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* is administered; or
- (b) for another road—the local government having the control of the road.

#### 318EO What is a *notifiable road use*

- (1) A *notifiable road use*, for a mining tenement, is the use of a road to haul loads at more than the following rate if the haulage relates to the transport of minerals mined in the area of the mining tenement—
  - (a) for a State-controlled road—50 000 t a year;
  - (b) for another road—10 000 t a year.
- (2) For subsection (1), a mineral is produced only if it is—

---

208 *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*, part 4, division 5 (Relationship with Mineral Resources Act)

- (a) mined, or released by mining, on the land; or
  - (b) processed on the land, including, for example, by a process in a refinery or smelter on the land under which a mineral is changed to another substance.
- (3) Subsection (1) applies even if the road is not in the area of the mining tenement.<sup>209</sup>

## **Division 2                      Notifiable road uses**

### **318EP Notice of notifiable road use**

- (1) It is a condition of each mining tenement that its holder must not use a road for a notifiable road use unless the holder has given the road authority for the road written notice that the holder proposes to carry out the use.<sup>210</sup>
- (2) The notice must—
  - (a) be given—
    - (i) at least 10 business days before the use starts; or
    - (ii) within a shorter period agreed to by the authority in writing; and
  - (b) state each of the following—
    - (i) the road proposed to be used;
    - (ii) the type of haulage under the use;  
*Examples of 'type of haulage'—*
      - Vehicle type
      - Mineral hauled
      - Frequency of vehicle movements.
    - (iii) the yearly or other rate at which the haulage is proposed to be carried out;

---

209 See however section 736 (Exclusion of pt 7A for continuance of existing notifiable road uses).

210 See also section 318EX (Compensation to be addressed before carrying out notifiable road use).

- (iv) when the use is proposed to start and end;
- (v) contact details for the holder or someone else the holder has authorised to discuss the matters stated in the notice.

### **318EQ Directions about notifiable road use**

- (1) The road authority for a road may, by written notice, give a mining tenement holder a direction (a *road use direction*) about the way the holder may use the road for notifiable road uses, being carried out, or proposed to be carried out, by the holder.
- (2) A road use direction must—
  - (a) be reasonable; and
  - (b) only be about—
    - (i) preserving the condition of the road; or
    - (ii) the safety of road-users or the public; and
  - (c) be accompanied by, or include, a statement—
    - (i) of reasons for giving the direction; and
    - (ii) that, under section 406,<sup>211</sup> the holder may apply to the tribunal to review the direction; and
    - (iii) about how to apply for the review.

*Examples of what a road use direction may be about—*

- 1 when the road may be used
  - 2 the route for the movement of heavy vehicles
  - 3 safety precautions the holder must take
- (3) The direction may also require the holder to—
    - (a) carry out an assessment of the impacts likely to arise from the notifiable road use the subject of the notice; and
    - (b) consult with the road authority in carrying out the assessment.

---

211 Section 406 (Tribunal may review direction or requirement)

- (4) However, the authority can not require an assessment of an impact to the extent it has already been assessed under an EIS under the Environmental Protection Act, or a similar document under another Act.

### **318ER Obligation to comply with road use directions**

It is a condition of each mining tenement that its holder must comply with any road use direction given to the holder relating to the tenement, unless the holder has a reasonable excuse.

## **Division 3 Compensation for notifiable road uses**

### **318ES Liability to compensate road authority**

- (1) The holder of each mining tenement is liable to compensate the road authority for a road for any cost, damage or loss it incurs, or will incur, that is or will be caused by notifiable road uses carried out by the holder that relate to the road.

*Examples of a possible cost for subsection (1)—*

- 1 Repair costs to rectify damage to the road caused, or that will be caused, by any of the uses.
  - 2 Capital costs for unplanned upgrades of the road incurred, or that will be incurred, because of any of the uses.
  - 3 Bring-forward costs, including interest charges, for a planned upgrade of the road that, because of any of the uses, is or will be required earlier than planned.
- (2) The holder's liability under subsection (1) is called the holder's *compensation liability* to the authority.
- (3) The compensation liability—
- (a) applies whether or not the holder has, under section 318EP, given notice of the use; and
  - (b) is subject to section 318EY;<sup>212</sup> and

---

212 Section 318EY (Compensation not affected by change in administration or holder)

- (c) is in addition to, and does not limit or otherwise affect, the holder's liability under another provision of this Act about compensating the authority or anyone else.

### **318ET Compensation agreement**

- (1) A mining tenement holder and the road authority for a road may enter into an agreement (a *compensation agreement*) about the holder's compensation liability to the authority relating to the road.
- (2) A compensation agreement may relate to the whole or part of the liability.
- (3) A compensation agreement must—
  - (a) be signed by or for the holder and the authority; and
  - (b) state whether it is for the whole or part of the liability; and
  - (c) if it is for only part of the liability, state—
    - (i) each part of the notifiable road use to which the agreement relates; and
    - (ii) the period for which the agreement has effect; and
  - (d) provide for how and when the liability will be met.
- (4) A compensation agreement may—
  - (a) extend the holder's compensation liability to the authority relating to the road to any renewal of the mining tenement; and
  - (b) provide for—
    - (i) monetary or non-monetary compensation; or
    - (ii) a process by which it may be amended or enforced.

#### *Example for paragraph (b)—*

A compensation agreement may provide for compensation under it to be reviewed on the happening of a material change in circumstances for the mining tenement, including a significant decrease or increase in the extent of the relevant notifiable road use.

- (5) Subsections (2) to (4) do not limit the matters that may be provided for in a compensation agreement.

### **318EU Deciding compensation through tribunal**

- (1) The road authority for a road or a mining tenement holder may apply to the tribunal for it to decide the holder's compensation liability to the authority relating to the road.
- (2) The tribunal may decide the compensation liability only to the extent it is not subject to a compensation agreement.
- (3) In making the decision, the tribunal may have regard to whether the applicant has attempted to mediate or negotiate the compensation liability.

### **318EV Criteria for decision**

- (1) The criteria the tribunal must consider, in deciding a compensation application, include—
  - (a) the reasonableness of the cost, damage or loss claimed; and
  - (b) if the road authority is a local government—the extent to which the cost, damage or loss claimed has been, will be or ought reasonably to be or to have been, met from—
    - (i) amounts the mining tenement holder has paid, or agreed to pay, the authority for notifiable road uses; or
    - (ii) rates and charges under the *Local Government Act 1993* paid or payable from the mining tenement holder to the authority; and
  - (c) any other relevant matter.
- (2) In considering the reasonableness of any cost, damage or loss claimed, the tribunal must have regard to—
  - (a) any action taken, or proposal by, the mining tenement holder to, or to attempt to, avoid, minimise or remedy the cost, damage or loss; and
  - (b) any relevant act or omission of the road authority.

- (3) Subsection (1)(b)(ii) applies whether or not the rates and charges relate to notifiable road uses.

### **318EW Tribunal review of compensation**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) compensation has been agreed to under a compensation agreement or decided by the tribunal (the *original compensation*); and
  - (b) there has, since the agreement or decision, been a material change in circumstances.

*Example of a material change in circumstances—*

A significant decrease or increase in the extent of the relevant notifiable road use.

- (2) The relevant road authority or mining tenement holder may apply to the tribunal for it to review the original compensation.
- (3) Sections 318EU and 318EV apply, with necessary changes, for the review as if the application were a compensation application.
- (4) The tribunal may, after conducting the review, decide to confirm the original compensation or amend it in a way the tribunal considers appropriate.
- (5) However, before making the decision, the tribunal must have regard to—
  - (a) the original compensation; and
  - (b) whether the applicant has attempted to mediate or negotiate an amendment of the original compensation; and
  - (c) any change in the matters mentioned in section 318EV(1) since the original compensation was agreed or decided.
- (6) If the decision is to amend the original compensation, the original compensation, as amended under the decision, is for this Act, taken to be the original compensation.

**318EX Compensation to be addressed before carrying out notifiable road use**

- (1) It is a condition of each mining tenement that the holder of the tenement must not carry out a notifiable road use on a road unless—
  - (a) the holder and the relevant road authority have signed a compensation agreement for the use; or
  - (b) the authority has given written consent to the carrying out of the use; or
  - (c) a compensation application has been made to decide the holder's compensation liability to the authority relating to the road.<sup>213</sup>
- (2) A consent under subsection (1)(b) may be given for any renewal of the mining tenement.

**318EY Compensation not affected by change in administration or holder**

- (1) An agreement or decision under this part about compensation liability is binding on—
  - (a) the relevant road authority and mining tenement holder; and
  - (b) each of their personal representatives, successors and assigns.
- (2) Subsection (1) is subject to section 318EW.<sup>214</sup>

---

213 See section 318EU(1) (Deciding compensation through tribunal).

214 Section 318EW (Tribunal review of compensation)



## **Part 8**                      **Relationship with Integrated Planning Act 1997**

### **319**    **Effect on development**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), the Planning Act does not apply to development authorised under this Act.
- (2) For administering IDAS under the Heritage Act, the Planning Act applies to a registered place under the Heritage Act even if development of the place is authorised under this Act.

### **319A**   **Effect on planning schemes**

- (1) This section applies if a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease (the *mining tenement*) is granted or renewed.
- (2) The mining registrar for the land covered by the mining tenement must give notice of the details of the tenement to—
  - (a) each local government in whose area the land is situated; and
  - (b) the chief executive (planning).
- (3) An entity given a notice under subsection (2) must make a note on each relevant map in the local government's planning scheme held by the entity.
- (4) The note must—
  - (a) identify the land covered by the mining tenement; and
  - (b) state that the Planning Act does not apply to development on the land authorised under this Act, other than for administering IDAS under the Heritage Act, in relation to a registered place under the Heritage Act; and
  - (c) state that interested persons may obtain details of the mining tenement from—
    - (i) for a mining claim or lease—the mining registrar for the land covered by the claim or lease; or

- (ii) for a mineral development licence—the chief executive of the department in which this Act is administered.
- (5) In this section—
- chief executive (planning)* means the chief executive of the department in which the Planning Act is administered.

## Part 9 Royalties

### 320 Royalty return and payment

- (1) The holder of a mining claim, mining lease or other authority under this Act or any other Act relating to mining who mines or allows to be mined mineral, whether or not the Crown has the property in the mineral, from land the subject of that mining claim, mining lease or other authority shall pay royalty as prescribed at the rate for the time being prescribed in respect of that mineral.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of—
  - (a) coal, that is not the property of the Crown, mined under the authority of a mining lease granted or renewed or deemed to be granted or renewed under this Act for as long as there subsists an agreement made prior to the commencement of the *Mining Act Amendment Act 1976* with the owner of the coal or the owner's predecessor in title as to the royalty to be paid to the owner in respect of the coal mined or where such an agreement has, as provided in that agreement, been renewed, whether before or after the commencement of the *Mining Act Amendment Act 1976* for as long as there subsists a renewal of such an agreement; or
  - (b) mineral, that is not the property of the Crown and is not referred to in paragraph (a), mined under the authority of a mining claim or mining lease granted or renewed under this Act for so long as there subsists an agreement made prior to the commencement of this Act with the owner of the mineral or the owner's predecessor in title

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

as to the royalty to be paid to the owner in respect of the mineral mined or where such an agreement has, as provided in that agreement, been renewed, whether before or after the commencement of this Act for so long as there subsists a renewal of such an agreement.

- (3) Where mineral is mined under the authority of a mining claim or a mining lease royalty payable under this part shall be payable—
  - (a) where the Crown has the property in the mineral—to the Crown; or
  - (b) in any other case—to the person who has the property in the mineral.
- (4) The holder of a mining claim, mining lease or another authority under this Act or another Act about mining who mines mineral or allows mineral to be mined from land the subject of the mining claim, mining lease or other authority must, whether or not the State has property in the mineral, lodge royalty returns as required under a regulation.
- (5) Unless a regulation otherwise provides, the holder of a mining claim or mining lease that authorises the mining of minerals for which royalty is or would be payable must lodge a royalty return whether or not mineral has been mined during the period of the return.
- (6) Where, during a period in respect of which a royalty return is required to be lodged, mineral is mined by more than 1 person under a mining claim or mining lease or other authority under this Act or any other Act the holder shall ensure lodgment of the prescribed royalty return and payment of the prescribed royalty in respect of all mineral mined during the whole of the period under the mining claim, mining lease or other authority.
- (7) A person who mines mineral from land other than under a mining claim, mining lease or other authority mentioned in subsection (1) or (2), must, whether or not the State has the property in the mineral—
  - (a) lodge the royalty returns as required under a regulation; and

- (b) pay royalty to the State or anyone else who has property in the mineral at the rate required under a regulation.
- (8) The Minister may in the Minister's discretion determine that for the purpose of calculating royalty payable under this part, mineral has been mined under the 1 mining operation notwithstanding that that operation may be carried on under more than 1 authority granted under this or any other Act to mine that mineral.

### **321 Prescription of royalty**

- (1) Regulations made pursuant to section 417, may prescribe the royalties payable in respect of mineral mined from land to the Crown or other person who had the property in the mineral.
- (2) Royalty may be prescribed whether the obligation to pay the royalty arises under this Act or under any agreement made with the State of Queensland or under any undertaking given by any person and shall be calculated at such rate or rates, in such manner and on such basis or bases as are prescribed by regulation.
- (3) Without limiting the authority of the Governor in Council to regulate with respect to royalty, a rate of royalty and the manner and basis of its calculation—
  - (a) may be prescribed by reference to the quantity of mineral-bearing ore removed or by reference to the quantity of mineral mined;
  - (b) may be prescribed by reference to a proportion of the profits made from specified operations or from a particular operation or of the gross proceeds of the sale or disposal of the product of specified operations or of a particular operation;
  - (c) may vary as between royalties payable in respect of different minerals;
  - (d) may vary as between royalties payable by the same person or by different persons whether—
    - (i) in respect of the same mineral or different minerals;

- (ii) in respect of mineral mined at the same place or at different places;
- (iii) in respect of mineral mined at the same point in time or at different points in time;
- (iv) in respect of mineral mined by the same method of mining or by different methods of mining;
- (e) may be prescribed to apply generally throughout the State or in any prescribed locality of the State;
- (f) may be prescribed in respect of all mining operations in the State or in respect of a particular mining operation or in respect of the mining operations of a particular person.

### **322 Minister may request audit**

- (1) Without in any way limiting the powers of the Minister or any other person under this Act, in order to ascertain the accuracy of any royalty return document or statement lodged as prescribed by or under this Act for the purposes of this part by a person who is or was the holder of a mining claim or mining lease or who otherwise mines or who, the Minister suspects, may have mined from any land mineral, the Minister may, at any time, request and authorise—
  - (a) the auditor-general; or
  - (b) a suitably qualified public service officer who carries out duties in the administration of this Act or another suitably qualified person engaged to carry out the duties;to examine that person's accounts and accounting records and to compare such records with the return, document or, as the case may be, statement.
- (2) The auditor-general or officer authorised under subsection (1)—
  - (a) shall examine such of that person's accounts and accounting records as the auditor-general or officer considers necessary and forthwith upon completion of the examination and comparison, shall report to the Minister the result thereof;

- (b) shall have, in respect of that person's accounts and accounting records, the subject of the examination and comparison, such powers as are prescribed;
  - (c) if the return, document or statement has been lodged by or for a corporation—may rely on work performed by auditors who have examined the corporation's accounts.
- (3) The provisions of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977* that apply in relation to audits of accounts required by any Act to be performed by the auditor-general apply in relation to examinations and reports under this section.

### **323 Resolving inconsistency between differing royalty provisions**

Where there is inconsistency between the requirements of the regulations and the provisions of any agreement made with the State of Queensland or of any undertaking given by any person (whether made or given before or after the commencement of the *Mining Royalties Act 1974* and whether or not such provisions have the force of law) as respects the royalty payable to the Crown in respect of mineral mined or mineral-bearing ore removed in any mining operation or as respects the manner or basis of its calculation, the requirements of the regulations shall prevail and the royalty payable and the manner and basis of its calculation shall be as prescribed by regulation, and any amount of royalty paid pursuant to such agreement or undertaking in relation to any period shall be offset against the amount of royalty duly payable pursuant to the regulations in relation to the same period.

### **324 Utilisation of security deposit towards royalty payments**

- (1) Where royalty is payable under this part by a person in respect of 1 mining operation (as determined by the Minister pursuant to section 320(8)) and is unpaid, that amount may be recovered by the Minister or, as the case may be, the mining registrar by utilisation of security deposited by or on behalf of that person in respect of mining claims or mining leases or any of them under which the mining operation is carried on.

- (2) This section shall not be construed to limit the right to utilise a security deposit for any purpose under any other provision of this Act.

### **325 Royalty return and payment upon assignment or surrender of mining claim or mining lease**

- (1) A person who assigns or surrenders, otherwise than for the purpose of a grant of a new mining claim or mining lease, a mining claim or a mining lease shall lodge with the document of assignment or surrender a royalty return with respect to mineral mined under the authority of the mining claim or mining lease for the current return period up to the last day of the month immediately preceding the lodgment of the assignment or surrender and shall lodge with the return the prescribed royalty in respect of that mineral.
- (2) Nothing in subsection (1) shall abrogate the liability of a holder of a mining claim or mining lease at the time that minerals are mined thereunder to pay royalty on the minerals mined during the period from the date up to which the return required under subsection (1) is required up to the date the assignment or surrender thereof takes effect.

### **326 Maintenance of records**

- (1) A person who is the holder of a mining claim or a mining lease or who otherwise mines mineral from land shall keep accurate and proper accounting records such as are necessary to determine the amount of royalty payable from time to time under this part in respect of mineral mined.
- (2) Such records shall be retained by that person for a period of 7 years after the completion of the transactions, acts or operations to which they relate.

### **327 Minister may require information**

- (1) The Minister may, for the purpose of—
  - (a) ascertaining whether there is any liability on a person to pay an amount of royalty under this Act, and if so, the amount of the liability; or

- (b) ascertaining whether a person is required to comply with this part or whether this part has been contravened or not complied with by a person in any respect; or
- (c) inquiring into any matter connected with the administration of this part;

require a person—

- (d) to lodge a royalty return as prescribed in respect of a specified period, whether or not any mineral has been mined during that period; or
  - (e) to give information of a kind and in a form or manner required or to produce records (or copies thereof) (being information or records believed to be within the knowledge, in the custody or under the control of the person) at a place and within a time specified by the Minister, to the Minister or an officer authorised by the Minister; or
  - (f) to attend before the Minister or other officer specified by the Minister at a time and place specified by the Minister and there to give information and to produce records of a kind specified (being information or records believed to be within the knowledge, in the custody or under the control of the person) and to answer questions or to do all or any of those things.
- (2) A person appointed for that purpose by the Minister and all other persons acting in aid of the person may enter any place wherein or whereon that person suspects on reasonable grounds that there are accounts, records, documents or other information in respect of which a requirement could be made under subsection (1), may search for and require production at that place, at the mining registrar's office or at any other specified place of such accounts, records, documents and information and may examine, copy and make extracts from any such accounts, records, documents and information.
- (3) Before a person referred to in subsection (2) enters a part of any place which part is used exclusively as a dwelling house the person shall, save where the person has the permission of the occupier of that part to the person's entry, obtain from a justice a warrant to enter.



- (4) A justice who is satisfied upon the complaint of a person referred to in subsection (2) that there is reasonable cause to suspect that in any place there are accounts, records, documents or other information referred to in subsection (2), may issue the justice's warrant directed to the complainant to enter the place named in the warrant for the purpose of exercising therein the powers conferred upon that person under this Act.
- (5) A complaint made under subsection (4) shall be made on oath or affirmation and shall set out the grounds on which the suspicion of the person making the same is based.
- (6) A justice who is the chief executive or other officer of the department of the Government for the time being administering this Act is not competent to issue a warrant to which subsections (3), (4) and (8) apply.
- (7) A justice who issues the justice's warrant pursuant to subsection (4) shall forward a copy of the warrant to the mining registrar for the mining district in which the dwelling house is situated.
- (8) A warrant shall be, for the period of 1 month from the date of its issue, sufficient authority for the person named therein and all persons acting in aid of the person—
  - (a) to enter the place specified in the warrant; and
  - (b) to exercise therein the powers conferred upon the person named therein by or under this Act.
- (9) In subsections (3) to (8) premises that are used as a dwelling house do not include the curtilage of those premises.
- (10) The Minister or an officer authorised by the Minister pursuant to subsection (1) may require information sought under this section to be given, verbally on oath or in writing by statutory declaration, as the case may be, and for that purpose the Minister, that officer or any justice may administer an oath or take a declaration.
- (11) The Minister or an officer authorised by the Minister pursuant to subsection (1) may cause to be made copies of or extracts from the whole or part of the information or accounts, records or documents produced in accordance with subsection (1).

- (12) A requirement pursuant to subsection (1) which requires a person to give information to, to attend before or to produce accounts, records or documents to an officer authorised by the Minister pursuant to subsection (1) may specify that officer by name or by the office that the officer holds.
- (13) Notwithstanding that a requirement made pursuant to subsection (1) requires a person to give information to, to attend before or to produce accounts, records or documents to an officer whose name or office is specified in the requirement, the Minister may at any time (without notice to the person to whom the notice was given) authorise another officer for that purpose to exercise any power or perform any duty that the officer would be able to exercise or perform if the officer were authorised pursuant to subsection (1).
- (14) Any reasonable expenses incurred by a person whose attendance is required under this section which are acceptable to the Minister may be allowed.

### **328 Offence not to comply with s 327**

- (1) A person shall not fail to comply with a requirement made of the person under section 327.
- (2) A person shall not be convicted of an offence defined in subsection (1), if the court hearing the charge is satisfied—
  - (a) that the defendant could not, by the exercise of reasonable diligence, have complied with the requirement to which the charge relates; or
  - (b) that the defendant complied with that requirement to the extent of the defendant's ability to do so.
- (3) A person is not excused from complying with a requirement under section 327 to give information or answer a question on the ground that the information or answer might tend to incriminate the person or make the person liable to a penalty.
- (4) Information given or an answer made by a person in complying with a requirement under section 327, which might tend to incriminate the person or make the person liable to a penalty, is not admissible against the person in any proceedings brought against the person in a court in

Queensland with a view to the person's punishment for an alleged offence except—

- (a) proceedings in respect of an offence under this Act; or
  - (b) proceedings in respect of an offence in connection with verification of the information or answer by oath or affirmation.
- (5) Where a person commits an offence defined in subsection (1)—
- (a) the offence shall be a continuing offence and be deemed to continue for as long as the requirement in respect of which the offence was committed is not complied with; and
  - (b) the court may, upon convicting the person of the offence, in addition to any penalty that it may impose under subsection (1), order the person to pay a penalty of 5 penalty units for each day on which the offence is, pursuant to paragraph (a), deemed to have continued to the date of the person's conviction of the offence.
- (6) Subsection (5) applies notwithstanding that the failure or conduct alleged against a defendant related to a particular time by or a particular period in which the requirement was to be complied with.
- (7) Where a person has been convicted of an offence against subsection (1), the court may, in addition to imposing a penalty that it may impose under subsection (1) and, where applicable, subsection (5), order the person to comply with the requirement in respect of which the offence was committed.
- (8) Where a court makes an order under subsection (7), it shall specify therein a place where and a time or period by or within which the order is to be complied with.
- (9) A person shall not fail to comply with an order made by the court pursuant to subsection (7).
- (10) A person who after conviction of an offence defined in subsection (1) or this subsection (the *previous conviction*) continues to fail to comply with the requirement in respect of which the person incurred the previous conviction commits an offence against this Act.

Maximum penalty—10 penalty units for each day on which the person has continued to fail to comply with the requirement from the date of the last occurring previous conviction to the date of the person's conviction for the offence under this subsection last committed by the person.

- (11) When a person is convicted of an offence as defined in subsection (1) and the court makes an order under subsection (7), the person shall not be punished under subsection (10) for continuing to fail to comply with the requirement to which the order relates.

### **329 False or misleading statements**

- (1) A person shall not give an answer, whether orally or in writing, that is false or misleading in a material particular to a question put to the person under section 327.
- (2) A person shall not, in providing information in accordance with section 327, make a statement or representation that is false or misleading in a material particular.
- (3) It is a defence to a charge under subsection (1) or (2) to prove that the defendant believed on reasonable grounds that the answer, statement or representation was neither false nor misleading.

### **330 Determination of facts by Minister**

Where, in the opinion of the Minister a person who is required by this Act to lodge a royalty return in respect of a period fails to lodge the return as prescribed or fails to keep adequate records to enable the amount of royalty payable by that person to be determined, or the Minister considers that all relevant information has not been specified or information supplied is inaccurate or inappropriate, the Minister may determine what are the facts relevant to the determination of the royalty payable and the royalty payable shall be calculated and be payable accordingly.

**331 Reassessment of royalty**

- (1) If the Minister, at any time, is satisfied that royalty has been assessed upon incorrect or inaccurate facts, the Minister may reassess the royalty payable.
- (2) Where the royalty payable, upon a reassessment, is greater than any amount paid the person liable to pay the royalty shall pay the difference in the time specified by the Minister.
- (3) Where the royalty paid, upon a reassessment, is greater than the royalty payable the Minister shall cause the difference to be refunded.

**332 Interest upon unpaid royalty**

A person who fails to pay any amount of royalty payable by the person to the Crown under this part by the prescribed time for payment may be liable at the discretion of the Minister to pay to the Crown interest on the amount outstanding at the rate prescribed for the time being which interest shall form part of the royalty payable.

**333 Recovery of unpaid royalties**

Without limiting in any way any other means of recovery thereof, the Crown or any other person to whom any royalty is payable under this part may recover as a debt the royalty or such part as remains unpaid and, in the case where the royalty is payable to the Crown interest at the prescribed rate from the person by whom the royalty is payable as a debt due and owing to the Crown or, as the case may be, that other person.

**334 Confidentiality of information**

- (1) Except as provided in this section, an officer shall not disclose information or publish a record obtained by that officer or another person in connection with the administration of this part, unless the disclosure or publication is made—
  - (a) with the consent (express or implied) of the person to whose affairs the information or record relates; or
  - (b) in connection with the administration of this Act; or

- (c) for the purpose of any legal proceedings (including any report thereon) arising out of this Act; or
  - (d) with the consent of the Minister.
- (2) The Minister may, if the Minister is of the opinion that it is necessary to do so for the purpose of enforcing a law which is designed to protect the public revenue of Queensland, disclose information or publish a record referred to in subsection (1) to such persons as necessary for the purpose of enforcing that law so as to enable those persons to exercise or perform a power or duty conferred or imposed on those persons by law.
- (3) A person shall not disclose information or publish a record communicated to the person under subsection (2) unless the disclosure or publication—
  - (a) is made with the consent of the Minister; and
  - (b) is to enable a person to exercise or perform, for a purpose referred to in subsection (2), a power or duty conferred or imposed on the person by law.
- (4) Neither the Minister nor an officer nor a person authorised by the Minister to represent the Minister shall be required to produce in court any return, declaration, statement, assessment, notice or any other document or disclose to a court the fact that the Minister has received any information or the nature thereof or the name of the person who gave such information or any matter or thing coming under the Minister's notice in the performance of the Minister's duties under this part, except when it is necessary to do so for the purposes of the administration of this Act.
- (5) In this section—

*officer* means an officer of the public service whose duties include the carrying out of duties in the administration of this Act and other persons engaged to carry out such duties.

### **335 Furnishing false particulars etc.**

A person whether liable to the payment of royalty or not shall not—

- (a) fail or neglect to furnish a royalty return as and when required to do so by this Act; or
- (b) fail or neglect to comply with any requirement of the Minister in regard to a royalty return; or
- (c) make or deliver a false royalty return or supply false information with respect to a royalty return so made or delivered by the person.

## **Part 10 Administration and judicial functions**

### **Division 1 Mining registrars and other officers**

#### **336 Appointment of mining registrars and other officers**

- (1) The mining registrars, deputy mining registrars, field officers and other officers necessary for this Act, and any other Act about mining, are to be employed under the *Public Service Act 1996*.
- (2) A mining registrar may from time to time appoint a bailiff or bailiffs to carry out the service and execution of all process, judgments and orders authorised under this Act or any other Act relating to mining and such other duties as may be prescribed.

#### **337 Acting mining registrar**

The Minister may appoint an appropriate person to act as a mining registrar during—

- (a) any vacancy, or all vacancies, in the office; or
- (b) any period, or all periods, when the mining registrar is absent from the State or, for another reason, can not perform the functions of the office.

**338 Disability of mining registrars, deputy mining registrars and field officers**

- (1) A mining registrar, deputy mining registrar or field officer shall not hold or be entitled (directly or indirectly) to the benefits of any interest in any mining tenement.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

- (2) A mining registrar, deputy mining registrar or field officer who has or acquires an entitlement or expectation of entitlement which, but for the operation of section 410, would be an interest referred to in subsection (1), shall forthwith upon becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the chief executive giving the prescribed particulars.
- (3) If, in relation to carrying out any of his or her functions in respect of a particular matter, a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar or field officer is aware that his or her having an entitlement or expectation of an entitlement (referred to in subsection (2)) could be construed as influencing his or her conduct, the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar or field officer must—
- (a) tell the parties concerned; and
  - (b) if asked by a party, arrange for another mining registrar, deputy mining registrar or field officer, as the case may be, to attend to the matter.

**339 Scope of authority of mining registrars and deputy mining registrars**

- (1) Each mining registrar shall be a mining registrar for the whole State.
- (1A) Each deputy mining registrar is a deputy mining registrar for the whole State.
- (2) The Minister may assign from time to time a mining registrar to a mining district.



**340 Scope of authority of field officers**

A field officer appointed pursuant to section 336 shall be a field officer for the whole State.

**341 Establishment of offices of mining registrars**

The Minister may from time to time appoint or cancel the appointment of a place within a mining district at which the office of the mining registrar for that district shall be established or located.

**342 Powers of mining registrars and others**

- (1) At all times—
- (a) a mining registrar; and
  - (aa) a deputy mining registrar; and
  - (b) a field officer; and
  - (c) a person of a class prescribed under a regulation; and
  - (d) any other person (including an officer appointed pursuant to section 336) who in the particular case is authorised in that behalf by the Minister;
- may—
- (e) have full and free access to and enter any land and whilst thereon may—
    - (i) drill, dig, take cores, samples of soil, air, water or rock, make such inspections and carry out such investigations and do such other acts ordinarily connected with prospecting, exploring or mining as the person thinks fit;
    - (ii) if the person is satisfied that a post, cairn or other thing, not being a survey mark or other thing required by any other Act not to be removed, purporting to mark or apparently marking out boundaries of land for the purposes of this Act do not relate to any existing mining claim, mining lease or application for the grant of a mining claim or mining lease duly made under this Act—remove

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- or cause to be removed that post, cairn or other thing;
- (iii) make such investigation and inquiry as is necessary to ascertain whether the provisions of this Act including the conditions applying to any mining tenement or other authority granted under this Act are being complied with;
  - (f) stop, detain and search any vehicle or vessel used or that the person believes on reasonable grounds is being or is likely to be used for prospecting, exploring or mining;
  - (g) subject to subsection (11)—question a person found by the person in any place to ascertain whether this Act is being complied with and require a person so found to answer the questions put;
  - (h) require a person found by him or her committing an offence against this Act or who he or she believes on reasonable grounds has committed an offence against this Act or whose name and address are in the person's opinion reasonably required to state his or her full name and the address of the person's usual place of residence and, if the person suspects on reasonable grounds that a name or address so stated is false, may require evidence of the correctness thereof;
  - (i) require a person to produce to him or her any prospecting permit, exploration permit, certificate of mining claim, mineral development licence, instrument of a mining lease or other authority under this Act granted and issued to that person or alleged by that person to have been granted to the person or any books, accounts, records or documents and may inspect, examine and make copies of or extracts from any permit, certificate, licence, instrument or authority or any book, account, record or document so produced;
  - (j) in a case where the person is obstructed or has reasonable grounds to believe that he or she will be obstructed in the exercise of powers or authorities or the discharge of functions or duties—ask a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer to help, whereupon it shall be the duty of a person so called

to assist the person as required and in accordance with this Act and a person so assisting shall have the same powers and authorities as are conferred under this Act upon the person he or she is assisting;

- (k) call to his or her aid a person who the person thinks is competent to assist in the exercise of powers and authorities or the discharge of functions and duties and a person so assisting shall have the same powers and authorities as are conferred under this Act upon the person he or she is assisting;
  - (l) use such force as is reasonably necessary in the exercise of the powers and authorities or the discharge of the functions and duties conferred or imposed upon the person by this Act;
  - (m) by order in writing—require a person who has failed to comply with this Act to take within such time as is specified such steps as are specified and to remedy those matters in respect of which noncompliance has occurred;
  - (n) exercise such other powers and authorities and discharge such other functions and duties as are prescribed.
- (2) An order pursuant to subsection (1)(m) shall not prejudice or affect in any way any proceeding or action that has been or may be taken for the failure to comply that resulted in the order, save that the person to whom the order is given is not liable for a continuance of the failure to comply during the time specified therein.
- (3) Before a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer or person enters a part of any place which part is used exclusively as a dwelling house the person shall, save where the person has the permission of the occupier of that part to the entry, obtain from a justice a warrant to enter.
- (4) A justice who is satisfied upon the complaint of a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer or person authorised by the Minister in that behalf that there is reasonable cause to suspect—

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (a) that in any place an offence against this Act has been, is being or is likely to be committed;
- (b) that there is in any place anything in respect of which an offence against this Act has been, is being or is likely to be committed;

may issue a justice's warrant directed to the complainant to enter the place named in the warrant for the purpose of exercising therein the powers conferred upon a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer or person authorised by the Minister in that behalf under this Act.

- (5) A complaint made under subsection (4) shall be made on oath or affirmation and shall set out the grounds on which the suspicion of the person making the same is based.
- (6) A justice who is the chief executive or other officer of the department of the Government for the time being administering this Act is not competent to issue a warrant to which subsections (3), (4) and (8) apply.
- (7) A justice who issues a warrant pursuant to subsection (4) shall forward a copy of the warrant to the mining registrar for the mining district in which the dwelling house is situated.
- (8) A warrant shall be, for the period of 1 month from the date of its issue, sufficient authority for the person named therein and all persons acting in aid of the person—
  - (a) to enter the place specified in the warrant; and
  - (b) to exercise therein the powers conferred upon the person named therein by or under this Act.
- (9) In this subsection premises that are used as a dwelling house do not include the curtilage of those premises.
- (10) For the purpose of gaining entry to a place a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer or person authorised by the Minister may call to the person's aid such persons as the person thinks necessary and those persons, while acting in aid in the lawful exercise by the person of the person's power of entry, shall have a like power of entry.

- (11) Except as provided in section 328, a person is not obliged under this Act to answer any question or give any information or evidence tending to incriminate the person.

**343 Seizure of minerals produced by or vehicles, machinery etc. used in unauthorised mining**

- (1) If he or she believes on reasonable grounds that any mineral is being or has been mined without authority by or under this Act or any other Act relating to mining or that any vehicle, machinery, equipment or thing of whatever description is used by any person in contravention of this Act or any authority granted under this Act—
- (a) a mining registrar; or
  - (aa) a deputy mining registrar; or
  - (b) a field officer; or
  - (c) any other officer appointed pursuant to section 336 who in the particular case is authorised in that behalf by the Minister;

may, without further authority, seize that mineral, vehicle, machinery, equipment or thing (the *subject property*) whereupon the subject property shall be taken to be in the custody of the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or, as the case may be, other officer.

- (2) A mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer who seizes the subject property may—
- (a) remove, dismantle and do all such things as the officer thinks necessary to transport the subject property to a place of safe keeping;
  - (b) direct that mineral so seized be deposited by the person from whom it is seized at a place of safekeeping set out in the direction;
  - (c) if the subject property is not removed to or deposited at a place of safekeeping, do all such things as are prescribed or, if not prescribed, as the officer thinks fit to show that the subject property has been so seized and is in his or her custody;

- (d) carry out any improvement restoration the mining registrar or officer considers appropriate for the land on which the mineral is or has been mined as if a mining tenement had been granted for the land.
- (3) Upon an application in writing by the owner of the subject property or a person acting on the owner's behalf or claiming a right to possession of the subject property the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer who has the custody of the subject property may release the subject property to the applicant.
- (4) If, upon the expiration of 3 months from the date of seizure of the subject property, the subject property is not released under subsection (3) and the subject property is not required as evidence in proceedings that have been instituted for a breach of any provision of this Act or of any other Act relating to mining alleged to have been committed by the person from whom the subject property was seized then, as soon as practicable thereafter, the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer who seized the subject property shall cause to be served by post upon the owner of the subject property, if the owner can be ascertained, at the owner's last place of address known to the person who seized the subject property notice in writing that the subject property may be collected.
- (5) The mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer who seized the subject property may, if the officer considers it desirable, give public advertisement to the owner in 1 or more newspapers circulating in the locality in which the subject property was seized or in other localities that the subject property may be collected.
- (6) If the subject property is required as evidence in any proceedings instituted for a breach of any provision of this Act or any other Act relating to mining and is not forfeited, the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer who seized the subject property shall, upon the final determination of those proceedings give the notice or advertisement referred to in subsection (4).
- (7) If within 20 business days from the date of service or advertisement of the notice, whichever shall last occur, the owner of the subject property or a person acting on the

owner's behalf or claiming a right to the possession of the subject property has not obtained possession of the subject property in accordance with the provisions of this section, the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer who seized the subject property may—

- (a) by notice published in a newspaper circulating in the locality in which the subject property was seized and, if the officer considers it desirable, in a newspaper circulating in any other locality, advertise that the officer will offer the subject property for sale at the place and time stated in the advertisement;
  - (b) at the time on the day stated in the advertisement (which day shall be not earlier than 10 business days after the date when the advertisement was first published) and at the place stated in the advertisement, offer the subject property for sale unless the owner thereof or a person acting on the owner's behalf or claiming a right to possession thereof has sooner obtained possession of the subject property in accordance with the provisions of this section.
- (8) Subject property sold pursuant to subsection (7) shall be sold by public auction unless the Minister otherwise directs.
- (9) The proceeds of the sale or disposal of the subject property shall be applied as follows—
- (a) firstly, in payment of the expenses of the sale or disposal;
  - (b) secondly, in payment of the cost of seizure of, removal of and holding the subject property and the service and advertisement of any notice served or advertised under this section;
  - (c) thirdly, in payment of the cost of any improvement restoration that is, or is likely to be, carried out under subsection (2)(d);
  - (d) fourthly, in payment of the cost of rehabilitation of land required as a result of the use of the subject property in contravention of this Act or any authority granted under this Act or any other Act relating to mining or under the Environmental Protection Act;

- (e) fifthly, in payment of the balance of the proceeds to the owner of the subject property or, if after reasonable inquiry, the owner can not be ascertained, to the public trustee as unclaimed moneys and the provisions of the *Public Trustee Act 1978* with respect to unclaimed moneys shall apply thereto.
- (10) Subject property in the custody of the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer who seized it shall not be delivered to the owner thereof, or to another person acting on the owner's behalf or claiming a right to the possession thereof unless—
- (a) the owner or person acting on the owner's behalf or claiming a right to possession of the subject property has applied in writing signed by the owner to the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer for the release of the subject property;
  - (b) the applicant has furnished proof to the satisfaction of the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer of ownership or right to possession of the subject property and, in the case of the applicant being a person acting on behalf of the owner, has furnished proof to the satisfaction of the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer, of the person's authority to so act;
  - (c) the applicant has paid all expenses incurred by the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer and not waived pursuant to the provisions of this subsection in connection with the seizure of, removal of and holding the subject property and the service or advertisement of any notice served or advertised by the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer in relation to the availability for collection or intended sale of the subject property;
  - (d) the applicant has signed a receipt for the delivery of the subject property to the applicant.
- (11) If the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer who seized the subject property considers that special circumstances exist, the officer may recommend to the



chief executive that the chief executive waive payment of the whole or part of the expenses referred to in subsection (10)(c).

- (12) A person who takes delivery, or obtains possession of or removes or attempts to remove from or interferes in any way with subject property which is in the custody of a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer who seized the property except in accordance with the provisions of this section commits an offence against this Act.
- (13) In this section—  
*subject property* includes any part of the subject property.

## **Division 2                    The tribunal**

### **363    Substantive jurisdiction**

- (1) The tribunal shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine actions, suits and proceedings arising in relation to prospecting, exploration or mining or to any permit, claim, licence or lease granted or issued under this Act or any other Act relating to mining.
- (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the tribunal shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine actions, suits and proceedings with respect to—
- (a) the right to possession of or other interest or share in any mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease; and
  - (b) the rights and entitlements to minerals mined under any mining tenement or other authority granted under this Act or any other Act relating to mining and to the products of mining; and
  - (c) the area, dimensions and boundaries of land (including the surface area of land) the subject of a mining tenement; and
  - (d) any encroachment or trespass upon or interference with or damage to land the subject of a prospecting permit, mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence, mining lease or other authority granted under

this Act or the buildings, plant, machinery or equipment thereon; and

- (e) any matter arising between applicants or holders in relation to prospecting, exploring or mining, or arising between applicants or holders and owners of land in relation to prospecting, exploring or mining; and
  - (ea) any dispute or other matter arising between persons identified in native title protection conditions as an explorer or as a native title party, if the conditions—
    - (i) under section 25AA, are included in the conditions imposed on a prospecting permit; or
    - (ii) under section 141AA, are included in the conditions determined for an exploration permit; or
    - (iii) under section 194AAA, are included in the conditions determined for a mineral development licence; and
  - (f) any determination or review of compensation as provided for under this Act or any other Act relating to mining; and
  - (g) the enforcement of any agreement or determination as to compensation under this Act or any other Act relating to mining; and
  - (h) any assessment of damage, injury or loss arising from activities purported to have been carried on under the authority of this Act or any other Act relating to mining; and
  - (i) any application required by this Act or any Act relating to mining to be made or heard in the tribunal.
- (3) The tribunal also has jurisdiction to hear and determine actions, suits and proceedings with respect to any demand for debt or damages arising out of or made in respect of—
- (a) the carrying on of prospecting, exploring or mining;
  - (b) any agreement relating to prospecting, exploring or mining.

- (4) This section does not confer jurisdiction on the tribunal in relation to the recovery of wages or amounts owing under an industrial award or agreement.

### **364 Application for interim orders by remote means**

- (1) Where by reason of distance, urgency or other circumstances affecting a particular case, it is impracticable for a party to a cause or matter within the jurisdiction, under this Act, of the tribunal to make application to the tribunal for an order for the detention or preservation of any property or thing, being the subject matter of the litigation or as to which any question may arise therein, the party may make the application to the mining registrar in the mining district in which the property or thing is situated in the same manner that an application could be made to the tribunal.
- (2) Where an application is made pursuant to subsection (1) to a mining registrar, the mining registrar shall forthwith advise the tribunal (whether by means of telephone, radio, telex, facsimile transmission or other facility for distance communication) of the application and of all relevant details and any supporting evidence produced to the mining registrar in respect of the application.
- (3) On the giving of the advice under subsection (2), the tribunal may make any order it could have made had the application been made in its presence.
- (4) Upon making an order pursuant to subsection (3) the tribunal shall forthwith inform the mining registrar by like means referred to in subsection (2) of the order and the mining registrar must, as soon as practicable, give each party a copy of the order.
- (5) The order must state the day and place that the order was made.

### **370 Jurisdiction of Supreme Court**

- (1) The Supreme Court has jurisdiction to hear and determine any proceeding challenging or otherwise relating to the validity of any grant that has been made pursuant to this Act or any Act repealed by this Act or any other Act relating to mining and,

notwithstanding any other Act or law, that proceeding shall be heard and determined in that court only.

- (2) It is immaterial that the Crown is not a party to the proceeding.
- (3) If the grant in question is declared by the Supreme Court to be invalid, the declaration binds the Crown and a copy of the judgment or order of the court in respect thereof shall be served by the party who benefits from that declaration on the chief executive within 15 business days from the date of that judgment or order.

### **378 Power to order deposit of mineral etc.**

- (1) At any stage after proceedings, under this Act, before the tribunal have been commenced, the tribunal may, upon an application duly made by a party thereto and subject to such terms as to costs or otherwise as the tribunal thinks fit, direct a party to that proceeding having possession, custody or control of any money, mineral, chattel, ore or other thing or which may later come into the possession, custody or control of that party to deposit it in accordance with the order with such person at the place and upon the terms specified in the order to abide the determination of the proceeding or in the event of an appeal from that determination, the judgment on the appeal.
- (2) An application referred to in subsection (1) is not duly made if the tribunal is not satisfied that the applicant has given at least 12 hours notice that the applicant proposes to make the application to—
  - (a) all parties to the proceeding who may wish to oppose the application; or
  - (b) such of the parties referred to in paragraph (a) as, in the opinion of the tribunal, are sufficiently representative of all those parties.
- (3) Where an appeal is lodged against a determination of a proceeding determined by the tribunal, for the purposes of subsection (1), that proceeding is not determined until judgment on the appeal.
- (4) An order made under subsection (1) shall specify—

- (a) the person with whom; and
- (b) the place at which; and
- (c) the time or times within which; and
- (d) the terms upon which, any money, mineral or other substance or thing specified therein shall be deposited.

**380 Tribunal may order survey**

If, at any time before or during the hearing for a proceeding, under this Act, in the tribunal, it appears to the tribunal that it is necessary for the proper determination of the proceeding that a survey be made of any land, water, stack or other accumulation of ore, buildings or any other thing the tribunal may order any party to the proceeding as, to it, appears just to cause the survey to be made and the costs of or incidental to the survey shall be costs in the proceeding and shall be paid as the tribunal orders.

**381 Power of tribunal to order surrender of minerals**

- (1) The tribunal may, upon determining any proceeding before it, order that a person ordered by the tribunal to pay any amount in respect of a debt, damages or costs shall, within the time appointed by the tribunal, deliver to the party to whom payment is ordered to be made or to the tribunal itself for delivery to such party any ore or mineral in the possession of and being the property of that person in satisfaction or part satisfaction of the amount ordered to be paid and for this purpose may fix a value of that which is ordered to be delivered.
- (2) An order made under subsection (1) shall not prejudice the recovery of the amount ordered to be paid by any other process or, where delivery of ore or mineral is made in part satisfaction of the amount ordered to be paid, the recovery of the balance of that amount.

## Part 11

## General

### 387 Registers to be maintained

- (1) Within each mining district the mining registrar shall maintain a register in which shall be recorded particulars as prescribed of—
  - (a) all prospecting permits, mining claims and mining leases the applications for the grant of which were lodged with the mining registrar; and
  - (b) applications for the grant of mining claims and of mining leases the lodgment of which is accepted by the mining registrar; and
  - (c) assignments, mortgages and other dealings in respect of mining claims, mining leases and of applications for mining leases duly lodged with the mining registrar and approved as provided for under this Act; and
  - (d) caveats duly lodged in respect of mining claims, mining leases and of applications for mining leases recorded in the register; and
  - (e) such other matters and things relating to the mining district as are prescribed to be recorded in the register.
- (2) The chief executive shall maintain a register in which shall be recorded particulars of—
  - (a) all exploration permits and mineral development licences; and
  - (b) applications for the grant of exploration permits and of mineral development licences; and
  - (c) assignments of exploration permits and assignments and mortgages of mineral development licences duly lodged and approved as provided for under this Act; and
  - (d) caveats duly lodged in respect of exploration permits and of mineral development licences; and
  - (e) such other matters and things as are prescribed to be recorded in the register maintained by the chief executive.

**388 Notice of change of address for service**

- (1) Subsection (2) applies to a person who, under this Act, gives the Minister, the chief executive or a mining registrar (each the *official*) the person's address for service.
- (2) If the address for service changes during the time it may be required under this Act, the person must immediately notify, in the approved form, the official to whom it was given.
- (3) In this section—

*address for service*, for a person, means the person's address, or the name and address of someone else, for service of notices on the person.

**389 Duplicate permits, leases etc.**

- (1) A holder of a mining tenement who has lost the instrument of, or for, the tenement may apply in writing to the chief executive or mining registrar who maintains the relevant register for a duplicate thereof.
- (2) The application shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.
- (3) If the chief executive or, as the case may be, mining registrar is satisfied that the applicant has lost the instrument and is entitled to a duplicate thereof the chief executive or mining registrar may issue a duplicate, endorsed accordingly, and deliver it to the applicant.
- (4) For the purposes of this Act the duplicate instrument issued under this section shall have the same effect as the original.

**390 Priority of competing applications**

- (1) The types of grant to which subsection (2) applies are—
  - (a) mining claims;
  - (b) exploration permits;
  - (c) mining leases.
- (2) Except as provided in sections 63, 131, 185 and 251, an application for a type of grant that is effectively lodged prior to another application for a different type of grant in respect of the whole or part of the same land being effectively lodged

shall take priority over that other application for the purpose of the consideration of the application.

- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), an application is effectively lodged—
  - (a) in the case of an application for the grant of a mining claim or a mining lease upon the acceptance of the lodgment of the application;
  - (b) in the case of an application for the grant of an exploration permit on the day next following the acceptance of the lodgment of the application.
- (4) If the mining registrar is or, where the applications are lodged with different mining registrars, those registrars are of the opinion that the circumstances of the lodgment of an application for the grant of a mining claim and an application for the grant of a mining lease made in respect of or including the same land are such that the applications should be treated as having been lodged simultaneously, the mining registrar or registrars may treat the applications as having been lodged simultaneously and shall determine their respective priorities by ballot.
- (5) The mining registrar shall advise all applicants when and where the ballot is to be held.

### **391 Restriction on grants etc.**

The Governor in Council may, by regulation—

- (a) prohibit the grant, or applications for the grant, of mining tenements; or
- (b) determine that a mining tenement must not be granted over an area that exceeds a specified area; or
- (c) provide that a single person must not, at any time, be the holder (whether alone or with others) of more than a specified number of exploration permits, mineral development licences or mining leases; or
- (d) provide that a single person must not, at any time, be the holder (whether alone or with others) of—



- (i) mining leases the aggregate area of which exceeds a specified area; or
  - (ii) mineral development licences the aggregate area of which exceeds a specified area; or
  - (iii) exploration permits the aggregate area of which exceeds a specified area; or
- (e) determine that an application for the grant of a prospecting permit, mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease is to be referred to a specified department, Commonwealth Government department, local government or statutory body, seeking its views on the application.

### **391A Restriction on decisions or recommendations about mining tenements**

- (1) This section applies if, apart from this section, a person may—
- (a) decide to grant, assign, vary or renew a mining tenement; or
  - (b) recommend that a mining tenement be granted, assigned, varied or renewed.
- (2) However, this section does not apply to a decision or recommendation by the tribunal.
- (3) The decision or recommendation to grant, vary or renew must not be done or made unless a relevant environmental authority has been issued.
- (4) The decision or recommendation to assign must not be done or made unless the proposed assignee holds a relevant environmental authority.
- (5) This section applies despite any other provision of this Act.
- (6) In this section—

*relevant environmental authority* means an environmental authority under the Environmental Protection Act for all activities authorised, or to be authorised, under the mining tenement.

**391B Right of access for authorised activities includes access for rehabilitation and environmental management**

If, under this part, a mining tenement holder has the right to enter land to carry out authorised activities for the tenement, the right includes the right to enter the land to carry out rehabilitation or environmental management required of the holder under any relevant environmental requirement under the Environmental Protection Act.

**392 Substantial compliance with Act may be accepted as compliance**

Where this Act provides that in respect of any matter, the Governor in Council, the Minister, the chief executive, the tribunal or a mining registrar may act if anything has been done in the prescribed way, but that thing has not been done in the prescribed way, the Governor in Council, the Minister, the chief executive, the tribunal or, as the case may be, a mining registrar who is satisfied that there has been substantial compliance with the prescribed way in respect of that thing may record that fact in writing and may so act and the thing shall be deemed to have been done in the prescribed way.

**393 Applicant or holder excused for neglect or default of mining registrar etc.**

- (1) Where the holder of or an applicant for the grant of a mining tenement is required to do anything to comply with a provision of this Act and the holder or applicant proves to the satisfaction of the Minister that—
  - (a) the holder or applicant had been unable to do that thing as prescribed by reason of the neglect or default of the Minister, chief executive, tribunal, mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other officer authorised under this Act or of circumstances over which the holder or applicant did not have any control; and
  - (b) the holder or applicant has done all that the holder or applicant could to comply with that provision, whether or not within any time prescribed therefor;

the Minister may determine in writing that the holder or applicant has complied with that provision and the holder or applicant shall be deemed to have complied with that provision accordingly.

- (2) A determination made under subsection (1) may be conditional upon the holder or applicant complying with any specified conditions.

### **394 Declaration of State forests etc. over land subject to grants**

- (1) For the purposes of setting apart and declaring a State forest, timber reserve or forest entitlement area under the *Forestry Act 1959*, Crown land that is the subject of an exploration permit shall be Crown land within the meaning of that Act.
- (2) Prior to taking action to set apart and declare Crown land as a State forest, timber reserve or forest entitlement area under the *Forestry Act 1959* which land is the subject of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease or an application therefor, the views of the Minister shall be obtained and taken into account and, if the Minister agrees, that land shall be Crown land within the meaning of the *Forestry Act 1959*.
- (3) The agreement of the Minister may be subject to compliance with specified conditions.

### **395 Act's application to holder of fossickers licence**

A holder of a fossickers licence under the *Fossicking Act 1994* does not need a prospecting permit or mining claim to fossick under the licence.

### **396 Application of other Acts**

Except as otherwise provided in this Act or any other Act relating to mining, the provisions of the *Recreation Areas Management Act 1988* or of any other Act shall not operate to restrict the entry of persons on land under the authority of any mining tenement or other authority granted under this Act or any other Act relating to mining.

**396A Transfer of coal exploration or production well to petroleum tenure holder**

- (1) Subsection (3) permits, in particular circumstances, the transfer of a coal exploration or production well by a mining tenement holder.
- (2) A purported transfer of a coal exploration or production well is of no effect unless—
  - (a) the transfer is permitted under subsection (3); and
  - (b) the requirements under subsection (3) for making the transfer have been complied with.
- (3) The mining tenement holder may transfer the coal exploration or production well to the holder of a petroleum tenure if—
  - (a) it is in the area of the mining tenement and the petroleum tenure; and
  - (b) a notice in the approved form and the transfer fee prescribed under a regulation have been lodged at—
    - (i) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
    - (ii) if no office is gazetted under subparagraph (i)—the office of the chief executive.
- (4) If the well is transferred under subsection (3), any obligation the transferor had under this Act or another law in relation to the coal exploration or production well ceases.
- (5) In this section—

***coal exploration or production well*** means a well or drill hole drilled and authorised under this Act to—

- (a) explore for coal or coal seam gas; or
- (b) mine or produce coal or coal seam gas; or
- (c) monitor the mining or production of coal or coal seam gas; or
- (d) monitor the impacts of an activity mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c).

*transfer*, of a coal exploration or production well means a transfer of—

- (a) the control of and responsibility for the well; and
- (b) the ownership of any works constructed in connection with the well.

### **397 Liability of owner restricted**

Notwithstanding any Act or law, an owner of land is not civilly liable for injury suffered by any person to the extent that the injury was caused by prospecting, exploring or mining carried on by any person, other than by or on behalf of the owner, on that land where the owner has not contributed to that injury.

### **398 Delegation by Minister**

The Minister may delegate all or any of the Minister's powers under this Act to an officer or employee of the department.

### **399 Mode of service of documents**

- (1) A notice or other document required by this Act to be given or served by a holder of, or applicant for the grant of, a mining tenement to an owner of land shall be duly given or served if—
  - (a) it is served personally upon the owner; or
  - (b) it is sent by registered post to the place of residence or business of the owner last known to the holder or applicant.
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (1), a direction, notice, order or other document required or authorised by this Act to be given or served upon any person by the Minister, tribunal, mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or any other officer authorised under this Act or person shall be duly given or served if—
  - (a) it is served personally upon the person to whom it is directed; or

- (b) it is left at the place of residence or business of the person to whom it is directed last known to the person who gives or serves it; or
  - (c) it is sent by registered post to the place of residence or business of the person to whom it is directed last known to the person who gives or serves it.
- (3) Where this Act in respect of a matter requires or authorises a person's name and address to be specified then for the purpose of service of any direction, notice, order or other document in respect of that matter the last address of that person recorded in the register in respect of that matter shall be deemed to be the person's place of residence or business last known to the person so giving or serving.
- (4) Where this Act in respect of a matter requires or authorises the name and address for service of a person upon whom any notice may be served on behalf of another person or other persons to be specified, then service upon the person so specified shall be deemed to be service upon the other person or other persons.
- (5) In this section—
- registered post* means a type of post that requires the recipient's signature as proof of receipt.

#### **400 Acting in aid of mining registrar etc.**

Whenever a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other authorised officer is empowered or required by this Act to cause any act to be performed it shall be lawful for any person to perform such an act under the oral authority of the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other authorised officer where the act is performed in his or her presence or under the written authority of the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other authorised officer where the act is performed in his or her absence.

**401 Protection against liability**

No act, omission, thing or decision done or made by the Minister, the chief executive, tribunal, mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer, other authorised officer or anyone else acting under the authority of any of those persons as provided by this Act—

- (a) for the purpose of giving effect to any provision of this Act; or
- (b) purporting to be for the purpose of giving effect to any provision of this Act and done or made in good faith and without negligence;

shall render the Crown, the Minister, the chief executive, tribunal, mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer, other authorised officer or other person liable at the suit of any person.

**401A Protection against liability as condition of approval**

- (1) This section applies if the holder of a mining tenement, granted after 1 January 1994, applies for an approval under section 96, 151, 198 or 300.<sup>215</sup>
- (2) As a condition of the grant of the approval, the Minister or mining registrar may require any or all of the parties for the mining tenement—
  - (a) to waive any right to make a claim against the State because of a relevant matter; or
  - (b) to agree to keep the State, Minister or mining registrar harmless against loss arising out of a claim made by anyone because of a relevant matter.
- (3) This section is taken to have commenced on 1 January 1994.
- (4) In this section—

*claim* includes any action, proceeding and demand.

---

215 Section 96 (Assignment or mortgage of mining claim)

Section 151 (Assignment of exploration permit)

Section 198 (Assignment or mortgage of mineral development licence)

Section 300 (Assignment, mortgage or sublease of mining lease)

**holder** of a mining tenement that is a mining lease includes an applicant for the mining lease.

**mining tenement** means—

- (a) a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease; or
- (b) an interest in a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease.

**parties**, for a mining tenement, means the following—

- (a) the holder of the mining tenement;
- (b) for an approval to assign the mining tenement—the proposed assignee;
- (c) for an approval to mortgage the mining tenement—the proposed mortgagee;
- (d) for an approval to sublease the mining tenement—the proposed sublessee;
- (e) if the mining tenement is subject to a mortgage—the mortgagee.

**relevant matter** means—

- (a) the existence of native title; or
- (b) a claim or decision that native title to any land covered by the mining tenement exists; or
- (c) a claim or decision that the grant of the mining tenement, or an approval under section 96, 151, 198 or 300, is invalid because of—
  - (i) the existence of native title; or
  - (ii) a claim or decision that native title to any land subject to the mining tenement exists; or
  - (iii) the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cwlth); or
  - (iv) any other law relating to native title; or
- (d) any action taken under the mining tenement by the holder of the mining tenement, or any person acting for or with the authority of the holder, is unlawful or unauthorised because of—



- (i) the existence of native title; or
- (ii) a claim or decision that native title to any land subject to the mining tenement exists; or
- (iii) the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cwlth); or
- (iv) any other law relating to native title.

#### **402 Offences with respect to unauthorised mining etc.**

- (1) A person shall not—
  - (a) enter or be upon land to carry on prospecting, exploration or mining unless the person is the holder of the relevant authority granted pursuant to this Act or is otherwise duly authorised under this Act or any other Act relating to mining;
  - (b) employ or suffer any other person to enter or be upon land to carry on prospecting, exploration or mining unless that other person is the holder of the relevant authority granted pursuant to this Act or is otherwise duly authorised under this Act or any other Act relating to mining;
  - (c) stay upon or erect any structure, including a residence, on land for purposes associated with prospecting, exploring or mining unless the person is duly authorised under this Act or any other Act relating to mining;
  - (d) carry on mining operations upon or remove mineral or ore from land unless the person is duly authorised under this Act or any other Act relating to mining;
  - (e) in a mining district or part of a mining district the subject of a regulation, use machinery or equipment for the purpose of prospecting, exploring or mining which under a regulation has been declared shall not be used for that purpose.
- (2) A person found on land contravening any provision of subsection (1) may, whether or not the person is prosecuted for an offence, be ejected from that land using such force as is necessary for that purpose, by a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar or a field officer, any other officer authorised under this Act or anyone else helping them.

**403 Offences regarding land subject to mining claim or mining lease**

- (1) A person shall not—
- (a) enter or be upon land; or
  - (b) use or occupy land; or
  - (c) erect any building or structure on or make any other improvement to land;
- that is the subject of a mining claim or the surface area of a mining lease unless—
- (d) the person is authorised by or under this Act, any other Act relating to mining or the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004* in that regard; or
  - (e) the person is the owner of the land or is authorised in that behalf by the owner and, in either case, the person has the consent of the holder of the mining claim or, as the case may be, mining lease.
- (2) Subsection (1)(a) shall not operate to prevent a police officer or an inspector or other person appointed or authorised under any Act or law to enter land for the purpose of carrying out duties from so entering and carrying out those duties.

**404 Offence to resist bailiff etc.**

A person shall not—

- (a) assault, resist, obstruct or attempt to obstruct a bailiff, mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other authorised officer engaged in executing a duty or exercising powers for the purposes of this Act or of any other Act relating to mining;
- (b) forcibly or clandestinely retake or attempt to retake possession of land from which the person has been removed pursuant to this Act or of any part of that land;
- (c) resist or wilfully obstruct any person in the exercise of rights under a determination of the tribunal or engaged in putting such a determination into effect;

- (d) assault any person in whose favour a determination of the tribunal has been made on account of that determination.

#### **404A Distance of excavation from railway works**

- (1) This section applies if railway works for a railway are in, on or near the land to which a mining claim or mining lease relates.
- (2) The holder of the mining claim or mining lease must not excavate the land less than 12 m horizontally, or 15 m vertically, from the railway works.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (3) However, subsection (2) does not apply if the holder—
  - (a) has written consent from the chief executive officer of Queensland Rail and
  - (b) has lodged the consent with the mining registrar.
- (4) In this section—

*railway works*, for a railway, means works erected or placed for the railway, and includes, for example, a bridge, culvert, cutting, drain, embankment or pier.

#### **404B Interference with particular things**

- (1) A person must not, unless the person has a reasonable excuse, interfere with any of the following—
  - (a) a post, cairn of stones or other thing (a *boundary marker*), used for marking out the boundary of the land to which an application for a mining claim or mining lease relates;

- (b) a certificate of public notice placed, under section 64B(2)(a) or 252B(1)(a),<sup>216</sup> on a post or cairn of stones;
- (c) a number (a *marked number*) marked or engraved, under section 64B(2)(b) or 252B(1)(b), on a post or cairn of stones;
- (d) a survey mark placed on the land to which an application for a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease relates.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (2) For subsection (1), it is a reasonable excuse for a person to interfere with a boundary marker, certificate of public notice or marked number, if the marker, certificate or number is no longer required under this Act.

- (3) In this section—

*interfere with*, a boundary marker, certificate of public notice, marked number or survey mark, includes damage, destroy or remove the marker, certificate, number or mark.

#### **404C Information requirements for holders of mining tenements**

- (1) The following person may, by giving a holder of a mining tenement a notice, require the holder to provide information about the tenement and activities carried on under the tenement—
  - (a) for a mining claim—a mining registrar;
  - (b) for another mining tenement—the chief executive.
- (2) The notice must state—
  - (a) the information that must be provided; and
  - (b) how the information must be provided; and
  - (c) the day by which the information must be provided.

---

<sup>216</sup> Section 64B (Applicant's obligations for certificate of public notice) or 252B (Applicant's obligations for certificate of public notice)

- (3) Subject to section 342(11),<sup>217</sup> the holder must comply with the notice.  
Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.
- (4) The chief executive may—
- (a) use the information to produce statistics and other data; and
  - (b) publish the statistics and other data produced under paragraph (a).
- (5) However, the use or publication mentioned in subsection (4) must not relate to an exempt matter under the *Freedom of Information Act 1992*.

#### **404D False or misleading document**

- (1) A person must not give the chief executive or a mining registrar (the *recipient*) a document containing information the person knows is false or misleading in a material particular.  
Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person if the person, when giving the document—
- (a) tells the recipient, to the best of the person's ability, how it is false or misleading; and
  - (b) if the person has, or can reasonably obtain, the correct information—gives the correct information.
- (3) In a proceeding for an offence against subsection (1), it is enough to state the document was 'false or misleading' to the person's knowledge, without specifying which.

#### **405 Directions to be complied with**

A person must comply with a direction given to, or a requirement made of, the person by a mining registrar, deputy

---

217 Section 342 (Powers of mining registrars and others).

mining registrar, field officer or other authorised officer under this Act, unless the person has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—1 500 penalty units.

#### **406 Tribunal may review direction or requirement**

- (1) A person dissatisfied with the following may, if no other right of appeal against the direction or requirement is given under this Act, apply in writing to the tribunal for a review of the direction or requirement—
  - (a) a direction or requirement given or made by a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other authorised officer;
  - (b) a road use direction.
- (2) The application must—
  - (a) set out the grounds for review; and
  - (b) be filed at the office of the mining registrar for the mining district in which the direction or requirement was given or made.
- (3) If the registrar is not the person who gave the direction or made the requirement, the registrar must give a copy of the application to the person who gave or made it.
- (4) The tribunal must review the direction or requirement and may make any inquiry the tribunal considers appropriate to help the tribunal reach a decision.
- (5) The tribunal may—
  - (a) confirm the direction or requirement; or
  - (b) amend the direction or requirement; or
  - (c) revoke the direction or requirement.
- (6) If the tribunal amends the direction or requirement, the tribunal's decision is taken to be the direction or requirement of the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or authorised officer.
- (7) The tribunal must notify the decision to—
  - (a) the person dissatisfied; and

- (b) the mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or authorised officer who gave or made the direction or requirement.

#### **407 Minister may require survey**

- (1) Upon the request in writing of the Minister given at any time, the applicant for the grant of or holder of a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease shall have the land the subject thereof or any part thereof specified by the Minister surveyed or further surveyed as indicated in the request.
- (2) The land must be surveyed by a cadastral surveyor.
- (3) Liability at law shall not attach to the Crown, the Minister or any officer of the department of the Government for the time being administering this Act for any error or inaccuracy in a survey or plan of survey carried out by a cadastral surveyor for the purpose of this section or for anything done or omitted to be done on the assumption that the survey or plan was accurate.
- (4) The applicant or holder to whom a request is made under subsection (1) shall incur and be liable to pay all costs associated with the work carried out by a cadastral surveyor under this section.

#### **408 Surveyor not to have interest**

- (1) A cadastral surveyor who holds or is entitled (directly or indirectly) to the benefits of any share or interest in a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease or in an application for the grant of any of them shall not carry out a survey of land the subject thereof for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) A cadastral surveyor who has an entitlement or expectation of entitlement to share in profits of a public company which company is entitled to the benefits (directly or indirectly) of any share or interest referred to in subsection (1) does not have a share or interest referred to in subsection (1).

**409 Removal orders**

- (1) Where a person is alleged to be in occupation of or upon any land, or to have erected or possess or control any building or structure or to have made any other improvement to land that is the subject of a mining claim or the surface area of a mining lease, without any authority that the person is required to have by this Act or any other Act relating to mining or in contravention of this or that Act, upon the application of—
  - (aa) a deputy mining registrar; or
  - (a) a field officer; or
  - (b) any other officer duly authorised pursuant to this Act; or
  - (c) a police officer; or
  - (d) a person who claims to be entitled to occupy that land; or
  - (e) a holder of any authority granted under this Act or any other Act relating to mining in respect of that land (other than a prospecting permit, exploration permit or mineral development licence);that person may be summonsed to appear before the tribunal at a time and place therein named to show cause why the person should not be removed from that land or ordered to remove any building, structure or other improvement.
- (2) If a person summonsed pursuant to subsection (1) fails to appear at the time and place specified or having appeared fails to show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of the tribunal, the tribunal may order—
  - (a) the removal of the person summonsed from the land in question;
  - (b) the removal, disposal or destruction of any building, structures or other improvements erected on or made to the land in contravention of this Act or any other Act relating to mining;
  - (c) the removal, seizure or disposal of any machinery or equipment upon the land that is or is capable of being used in contravention of this Act or of any other Act relating to mining and is not lawfully upon that land.



- (3) An order made pursuant to subsection (2) may direct the person summonsed to appear to—
- (a) remove himself or herself from the land in question; or
  - (b) remove, dispose of or destroy buildings, structures or other improvements; or
  - (c) remove machinery or equipment;
- forthwith or within a time specified in the order and may further direct that if action referred to in paragraph (b) or (c) specified to be taken in the order is not taken in the time specified, the mining registrar and all persons acting under the mining registrar's direction, using such force as is necessary, may enter upon the land and do all things necessary to seize and dispose of buildings, structures, improvements, machinery and equipment specified in the order.
- (4) Anything seized by the mining registrar pursuant to subsection (3) shall be forfeited to and becomes the property of the Crown and shall be disposed of in such manner as the Minister determines.
- (5) At the time of making an order pursuant to subsection (2) or at any later time, the tribunal may issue a warrant addressed to the person who commenced proceedings and to all police officers requiring the appropriate action to be taken and the warrant shall be sufficient authority for that person or any police officer to execute the warrant according to its tenor using such force as is necessary for the purpose.
- (6) The costs reasonably incurred by the mining registrar in taking any action under this section shall be a debt due and owing to the Crown by the person who failed to take the action ordered by the tribunal and may be recovered in the tribunal.
- (7) In an action under subsection (6) for the recovery of a debt due to the Crown, the production to the tribunal of a certificate by the mining registrar certifying the amount of that debt shall be evidence and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, conclusive evidence of the debt and the amount thereof.

**410 Certain interests not interests for certain purposes**

For the purposes of this Act a person who holds or becomes entitled (directly or indirectly) to the benefits of any interest in a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease by virtue of—

- (a) the person being a beneficiary in a deceased estate; or
- (b) the person entitlement to share in profits of a public company;

does not hold an interest in the mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease.

**411 Indemnity against liability**

- (1) Neither the Crown, a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer, other authorised officer, police officer nor any other person who acts or purports to act under the authority of section 342(10) or 343 shall be liable to pay damages or compensation for loss or injury suffered on account of anything done or omitted by any person acting pursuant to any provision of section 342(10) or 343 or purporting to act bona fide and without negligence for the purposes of that provision.
- (2) A mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer, other authorised officer, police officer or any other person who acts or purports to act under the authority of section 342(10) or 343 shall not be criminally liable on account of anything done pursuant to any provision of section 342(10) or 343<sup>218</sup> or purportedly pursuant to any such provision bona fide and without negligence for the purposes of that provision.

**412 Offences and recovery of penalties etc.**

- (1) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of this Act, other than a provision of the native title provisions, commits an offence against this Act and, save where a specified penalty is otherwise prescribed, is liable to a

---

218 Section 342 (Powers of mining registrars and others) or 343 (Seizure of minerals produced by or vehicles, machinery etc. used in unauthorised mining)

penalty of 200 penalty units or to imprisonment for 12 months.

- (2) A proceeding for an offence against this Act may be instituted in a summary way under the *Justices Act 1886*.
- (3) All moneys payable under this Act, other than by way of a penalty (whether for an offence, or for a breach of the conditions of a mining tenement or other authority under this Act, or otherwise) and not recovered by way of utilisation of any security deposit may be recovered as a debt.
- (4) Where a person convicted of an offence against this Act is a company, every person who at the time of the commission of the offence was a member of the governing authority of that company shall be deemed to have committed a like offence and be liable to the penalty prescribed for the offence unless the person proves—
  - (a) that the offence was committed without the person's knowledge; and
  - (b) that the person used all due diligence to avoid the contravention of or noncompliance with this Act in question.

#### **413 Evidentiary provision**

- (1) This section applies to a proceeding under this Act.
- (2) The appointment or power of the chief executive, a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other authorised officer must be presumed unless a party, by reasonable notice, requires proof of—
  - (a) the appointment; or
  - (b) the power to do anything under this Act.
- (3) A signature purporting to be the signature of the chief executive, a mining registrar, deputy mining registrar, field officer or other authorised officer is evidence of the signature it purports to be.
- (4) A certificate purporting to be signed by a person mentioned in subsection (3), and stating any of the following matters is evidence of the matter—

- (a) a stated document is—
    - (i) an authority or a copy of an authority; or
    - (ii) an order, direction, requirement or decision, or a copy of an order, direction, requirement or decision, given or made under this Act; or
    - (iii) a notice, or a copy of a notice, given under this Act; or
    - (iv) a record, or a copy of a record, kept under this Act;
  - (b) on a stated day, or during a stated period, a stated person was or was not the holder of an authority or a stated authority;
  - (c) a stated authority was or was not in force on a stated day or during a stated period;
  - (d) on a stated day, a stated authority terminated or was surrendered;
  - (e) on a stated day, a stated person was given a stated notice, order, requirement or direction under this Act;
  - (f) a stated fee or other amount is payable by a stated person to the State and has not been paid;
  - (g) anything else prescribed under a regulation.
- (5) A certificate purporting to be signed by the chief executive of the department within which the *Land Act 1994* is administered, stating things about stated land that are material to classifying the land as being or not being occupied land, is evidence of the things stated.
- (6) In this section—
- authority** means—
- (a) a prospecting permit; or
  - (b) a mining claim; or
  - (c) an exploration permit; or
  - (d) a mineral development licence; or
  - (e) a mining lease.

**414 Failure to supply information constitutes noncompliance with Act**

Where a provision of this Act relating to an application that may be made under this Act provides for a request that may be made to the applicant to supply any further information, the failure to supply the information within the time provided therefor shall be deemed to be a failure to comply with the requirements of this Act that apply in respect of the application.

**415 Copies of decisions to be sent to chief executive**

Upon the making of any decision or other order by any court or tribunal exercising jurisdiction in Queensland upon any matter relating to prospecting, exploring or mining or to this Act or any other Act relating to mining, the registrar or other proper officer of the court or tribunal performing the duties of a registrar shall forthwith forward a copy of that decision or order to the chief executive.

**416 Rights independent of this Act preserved**

Save in relation to compensation expressed to be payable by sections 85, 86, 125, 281, 282, 317 and 418B, the provisions of this Act shall not be construed to abrogate or prejudice any right had by any person independently of this Act to recover damages or obtain any other remedy in respect of damage or injury suffered or loss incurred by the person by reason of prospecting, exploring or mining.

**416A Approval of forms**

- (1) The chief executive may approve forms for use under this Act.
- (2) A form may be approved for use under this Act that is combined with, or is to be used together with, an approved form under another Act.

**417 Regulation-making power**

- (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations under this Act.
- (2) A regulation may be made about the following matters—
  - (a) the fees to be paid under this Act;
  - (b) the amounts or rates or methods of calculation of amounts of the annual rentals payable in respect of mining claims, exploration permits, mineral development licences and mining leases which in respect of each such type of grant may vary according to the respective areas of land or upon such other criteria as are specified in the regulations;
  - (c) the identification (by pegging, surveying or otherwise) of land the subject of any mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease, granted or any application therefor under this Act;
  - (d) the conditions which shall and conditions which may be imposed in respect of any mining tenement or other authority under this Act;
  - (e) the making and content of statements under section 245(1)(o)(iii);
  - (f) matters the mining registrar must consider in deciding whether or not to accept a statement under section 245(1)(o)(iii);
  - (g) the location of mine workings at minimum distances from public or private roads or railways;
  - (h) the disposal of coal seam gas;
  - (i) drilling, completing and abandoning drill holes, and hazard reporting;
  - (j) the protection from injury or unlawful removal of any improvements, machinery, plant or equipment situated on any land the subject of a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease and of any races, drains, dams, reservoirs, stored water, pegs, posts, fences, notices or other things used in connection with mining; the protection from obstruction of races, drains,

- dams, reservoirs, channels and watercourses used in connection with mining;
- (k) the powers and duties of mining registrars and all other persons whatsoever in the discharge of their functions for the purposes of this Act;
  - (l) the amount or rates or methods of calculation of royalty to be paid under this Act and the time and manner of its assessment and payment, the collection and enforcement of payment;
  - (m) the manner of making and lodging royalty returns, documents and statements and the keeping of records and books of accounts;
  - (n) the furnishing of information, reports, returns, documents and statements for the purposes and by the persons specified in the regulations;
  - (o) the medium and format (whether by electronic or digital means or otherwise) by which information shall be supplied;
  - (p) the particulars to be recorded in registers and the examination or provision of particulars from registers maintained under this Act and the prescribing of the fees payable in respect thereof;
  - (q) penalties for a contravention or failure to comply with any regulation.
- (3) A regulation may constitute a contravention or failure to comply with a regulation or an order of a court a continuing offence and impose a penalty that it is to be calculated by reference to the length of time the offence continues notwithstanding that the total penalty so calculated would exceed the maximum pecuniary penalty prescribed by section 412.

#### **418 References to repealed Acts**

A reference in an Act or document to the following Acts is taken to be a reference to this Act—

- Mining Act 1898 62 Vic No. 24
- Mining Act 1968 No. 51.

**418A Validation of granting of mining lease 1978**

- (1) This section applies to mining lease 1978.
- (2) The mining lease is taken to be, and always to have been, validly granted under section 234.
- (3) The land comprised in the mining lease is taken to exclude, and always to have excluded, the parts of Crinum Creek, within the boundaries of the mining lease, as shown on RP 805034 and RP 615398.
- (4) The surface area comprised in the mining lease is taken to include, and always to have included, the surface area of the land (other than the land described as lot 6 on RP 806552) that, under subsection (3), is comprised in the mining lease.
- (5) To remove any doubt, it is declared that nothing in this section affects an agreement, or determination by the tribunal, made under this Act before the commencement of this section about compensation payable by the holder of the mining lease for the surface area of any land being included in the mining lease.

**418B Provisions about compensation for owners of lots 65 and 66 on RP 909055**

- (1) This section applies to—
  - (a) lot 65 on RP 909055 (*lot 65*), part of the surface area of which, under section 418A, is taken to be, and always to have been, included in mining lease 1978; and
  - (b) lot 66 on RP 909055 (*lot 66*) part of which is comprised in mining lease 1978.
- (2) The holder of the mining lease must pay compensation to the owner of lot 65.
- (3) The compensation amount and the terms on which it is payable must be—



- (a) the subject of an agreement between the holder and the owner; or
  - (b) decided by the tribunal under section 281 as if it were compensation referred to in section 279.
- (4) This Act<sup>219</sup> applies as if the agreement mentioned in subsection (3)(a) were an agreement mentioned in section 279(1)(a).
- (5) No compensation is payable by the holder of the mining lease to the owner of lot 66.
- (6) Subsection (5) applies despite section 416<sup>220</sup> and the *Property Law Act 1974*.

#### **418C Cancellation of Shelburne Bay mining leases**

- (1) On and from the commencement of this section—
- (a) the relevant mining leases are cancelled; and
  - (b) without limiting paragraph (a), and despite any entitlement there may otherwise be under this Act for the renewal of the relevant mining leases—
    - (i) any application made before the commencement for the renewal of the leases must not be further dealt with under this Act; and
    - (ii) the Minister must not recommend to the Governor in Council to grant a renewal of the leases; and
    - (iii) the Governor in Council must not grant a renewal of the leases.
- (2) No compensation is payable to any person because of the operation of subsection (1).
- (3) Subsection (2) applies despite any other provision of this Act and despite any other Act or law.
- (4) In subsection (1)—

---

219 See, for example, sections 279(3) and (4) and 281.

220 Section 416 (Rights independent of this Act preserved)

*relevant mining leases* means mining leases 5940 and 5941 over land situated in the Mareeba mining district.

#### **418D Particular mineral development licences and mining leases**

- (1) A mineral development licence or a mining lease granted before the commencement of this section wholly or partly in respect of relevant land for an exploration permit is taken to have been validly granted.
- (2) An application for a mineral development licence or a mining lease to the extent the application is in respect of relevant land for an exploration permit is taken to have been validly made if the application—
  - (a) was lodged before the commencement of this section; and
  - (b) would have complied with the Act in all respects if the relevant land had not been excluded from the exploration permit.
- (3) In this section—

*relevant land*, for an exploration permit, means land that was excluded under a condition of the permit to the effect that land subject to native title is excluded from the permit.

## **Part 12 Introduction to native title provisions**

### **419 Application of native title provisions**

- (1) The native title provisions state additional requirements that apply for certain grants, renewals and variations of, and certain other acts concerning, mining tenements, including requirements for compensation, if the grants, renewals, variations and other acts concern non-exclusive land.
- (2) Whether or not the additional requirements apply for particular acts concerning mining tenements, and the extent to

which the additional requirements apply, may be determined from individual application provisions located in parts 13 to 18, and part 19, division 2.

- (3) However, no additional requirements under parts 13 to 18, and part 19, division 2 apply to an act if a notice under section 29<sup>221</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act in relation to the act, required to be given as part of complying with the right to negotiate provisions, was given before the commencement of this section.
- (4) Parts 12 to 17 do not apply to an act that is excluded from the operation of the right to negotiate provisions under section 26D of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

#### **420 Exclusion of certain agreed acts from pts 13 to 17**

Parts 13 to 17 do not apply to an act that is the grant of a prospecting permit, or the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease if—

- (a) there is an indigenous land use agreement registered on the register of indigenous land use agreements; and
- (b) the agreement includes statements to the effect that—
  - (i) the parties to the agreement consent, with or without stated conditions, to the doing of the act; and
  - (ii) the right to negotiate provisions are not intended to apply to the act.

#### **421 Effect of failure to comply with native title provisions**

An act to which the native title provisions apply is invalid to the extent that it affects native title unless—

- (a) the procedures of the native title provisions that are required to be complied with by the State before the act is done are complied with by the State, to the extent that

---

221 Section 29 (Notification of parties affected) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

the State is a party to any consultation or negotiation about the doing of the act; and

- (b) the procedures of the native title provisions that are required to be complied with by the applicant for the doing of the act before the act is done are complied with by the applicant.

## **422 Definitions for native title provisions**

In the native title provisions—

***applicant***, for a proposed mining tenement, includes a person who intends to apply for the proposed mining tenement.

***approved opal or gem mining area*** means an area of land that is—

- (a) an approved opal or gem mining area determined in writing by the Commonwealth Minister under section 26C<sup>222</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act; and
- (b) prescribed under a regulation.

***decision*** includes the following—

- (a) a determination;
- (b) a recommendation made by the Minister or the tribunal and any thing done by the Minister or the tribunal for the making of a recommendation.

***mining tenement*** means a prospecting permit, mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease.

***native title notification party***, for land, means an entity that is—

- (a) a registered native title body corporate in relation to any of the land; or
- (b) a registered native title claimant in relation to any of the land; or

---

222 Section 26C (Excluded opal or gem mining) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

- (c) a representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander body for an area that includes any of the land.

***non-exclusive land*** means land over which native title has not been extinguished, but only to the extent that the land is a place mentioned in section 26(3)<sup>223</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

***registered native title rights and interests*** means—

- (a) in relation to a registered native title claimant—the native title rights and interests described in the relevant entry on the Register of Native Title Claims; and
- (b) in relation to a registered native title body corporate—the native title rights and interests described in the relevant entry on the National Native Title Register established and maintained under part 8 of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

***relevant special interest publication***, for a proposed mining tenement, means a newspaper or magazine that—

- (a) caters mainly or exclusively for the interests of Aboriginal peoples or Torres Strait Islanders; and
- (b) circulates in the geographical area that may be affected by the proposed mining tenement or, if the area is an offshore place, the geographical area closest to it; and
- (c) is published at least once a month.

***right to negotiate provisions*** means part 2, division 3, subdivision P<sup>224</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

## **423 Other provisions for interpretation of native title provisions**

- (1) Words and expressions used in the Commonwealth Native Title Act and the native title provisions have the same meaning in the native title provisions as they have in the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

<sup>223</sup> Section 26(3) (When Subdivision applies—*Sea and intertidal zone excluded*) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

<sup>224</sup> Part 2 (Native Title), division 3 (Future acts etc. and native title), subdivision P (Right to negotiate) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

- (2) Subsection (1) applies except so far as the context or subject matter otherwise indicates or requires.
- (3) However, subsection (1) does not apply to a word or expression defined in the schedule.
- (4) Without limiting subsection (3), a reference in the native title provisions to land, or to land or waters, is a reference to land as defined in the schedule.

## **Part 13                      Native title provisions for prospecting permits**

### **Division 1                      Preliminary**

#### **425      Purpose of pt 13**

The purpose of this part is—

- (a) to state additional requirements that apply for—
  - (i) the granting of a prospecting permit under part 3 if the permit is a proposed low impact prospecting permit over non-exclusive land; and
  - (ii) the exercise of the entitlement, under a low impact prospecting permit, to enter non-exclusive land; and
- (b) in stating the additional requirements, to provide a basis for a determination by the Commonwealth Minister under section 26A<sup>225</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

#### **426      Application of pt 13**

- (1) This part applies to the granting of a prospecting permit if—

---

<sup>225</sup> Section 26A (Approved exploration etc. acts) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

- (a) the permit is a low impact prospecting permit; and
  - (ab) the application for the permit was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the granting of the permit is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) to which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise applied; and
    - (iii) that is an approved exploration etc. act under a determination in force under section 26A(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.
- (2) However, this part applies to the granting of the prospecting permit—
- (a) only to the extent that the prospecting permit relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea; and
  - (b) only to the extent that the land the subject of the permit is non-exclusive land.
- (3) The requirements of this part are additional to the requirements of part 3.

#### **427 Exclusion of certain prospecting permits from pt 13**

This part does not apply to a prospecting permit if the permit is solely for purposes necessary to enable the permit holder to apply for the granting of a mining claim or mining lease.

#### **428 Limited application of pt 13 to prospecting permit in approved opal or gem mining area**

This part does not apply to an act relating to a prospecting permit in an approved opal or gem mining area to the extent that the act is excluded from the application of the right to negotiate provisions under section 26(2)(d)<sup>226</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

---

226 Section 26 (When Subdivision applies) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

**429 Definitions for pt 13**

In this part—

***access agreement***, for entry to an area under a low impact prospecting permit, means an agreement between the permit holder and a registered native title party for the area concerning the holder's access to the area.

***applicant*** means the applicant for the proposed low impact prospecting permit.

***application notice*** see section 431(1).

***consultation period*** see section 435(1).

***consultation period advice day*** see section 435(2).

***low impact prospecting permit*** see section 430.

***registered native title party***, for an area the subject of a low impact prospecting permit, means—

- (a) from the start of the consultation period advice day for entry to the area until immediately before the start of the consultation period for entry to the area—an entity that is, on the consultation period advice day, in relation to land included in the area—
  - (i) a registered native title body corporate; or
  - (ii) a registered native title claimant; and
- (b) from the start of the consultation period—an entity that is, on the first day of the consultation period, in relation to land included in the area—
  - (i) a registered native title body corporate; or
  - (ii) a registered native title claimant.

**430 Meaning of *low impact prospecting permit* for pt 13**

For this part, a ***low impact prospecting permit*** is a prospecting permit that—

- (a) is granted over land that is, or includes, non-exclusive land; and



- (b) at least to the extent the permit is granted over non-exclusive land, excludes all entitlement to enter for hand mining.

#### **430A Delayed start for prospecting permit if access agreement required**

- (1) This section applies if, before entry to an area under a low impact prospecting permit or proposed low impact prospecting permit it is necessary for—
  - (a) there to be an access agreement for entry to the area; or
  - (b) a registered native title party for the area to have given the permit holder a written notice under section 433(4) that the party does not wish to be consulted about an access agreement for the entry.
- (2) Despite anything in section 29,<sup>227</sup> the term of the permit must not start before the first of the following to happen—
  - (a) the mining registrar receives a copy of the access agreement under section 437;
  - (b) the mining registrar receives from the permit holder a copy of the written notice mentioned in subsection (1)(b).

## **Division 2 Notification requirements**

### **431 Requirement to notify**

- (1) The applicant must give written notice (the *application notice*) of the applicant's intention to lodge an application for a low impact prospecting permit, or of the lodgement of the application, to—
  - (a) each native title notification party for the land to which the application relates; and
  - (b) the mining registrar.

---

227 Section 29 (Term of prospecting permit)

- (2) The notice must be given no earlier than 10 business days before the lodgement, and no later than—
  - (a) the lodgement; or
  - (b) if, under section 432, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.
- (3) The notice must state the following—
  - (a) the name and postal address of the applicant;
  - (b) whether or not the application has been lodged;
  - (c) a clear description of the land, and its location;
  - (d) details of the activities proposed for the land;
  - (e) an outline of the expected impact on the land of the proposed activities;
  - (f) that the applicant must not act under the permit applied for to enter non-exclusive land unless the applicant has an access agreement for entry to the land.

### **432 Failure to notify correctly**

- (1) If the mining registrar is satisfied that a written notice given, or purportedly given, under section 431 has not been given in accordance with the requirements of section 431(1) and (2) or does not comply with the requirements of section 431(3), the mining registrar must—
  - (a) give the applicant a written direction to give a new written notice under section 431; and
  - (b) in the direction, nominate a period within which the direction must be complied with.
- (2) The new notice, when given, must—
  - (a) state that it is a replacement notice; and
  - (b) identify the previous notice.

## **Division 3                      Consultation and access agreement requirements before entry**

### **433      Requirement for consultation and access agreement**

- (1) It is a condition of a low impact prospecting permit that the permit holder must not act under the permit to enter, for the first time, any area of non-exclusive land unless the holder has consulted with each registered native title party for the area.
- (2) However, the condition does not require consultation with a registered native title party if, at any time after the start of the consultation period for entry to the area, the registered native title party gives the permit holder a written notice that the party does not wish to be consulted about the proposed activities stated in the application notice.
- (3) It is a condition of a low impact prospecting permit that the permit holder must not act under the permit to enter, for the first time, any area of non-exclusive land unless the holder has an access agreement for entry to the area with each registered native title party for the area, obtained after the start of the consultation period for entry to the area.
- (4) However, the condition does not require an access agreement for entry to the area with a particular registered native title party if, at any time after the start of the consultation period for entry to the area, the registered native title party gives the permit holder a written notice that the party does not wish to be consulted about an access agreement for the entry.

### **433A    Prospecting activities to be carried out in accordance with access agreement**

- (1) This section applies to the holder of a low impact prospecting permit if—
  - (a) the holder is carrying out activities in an area under, or purportedly under, the permit; and
  - (b) there is an access agreement for entry to the area under the permit.
- (2) The holder must not carry out the activities in a way that is inconsistent with the requirements of the access agreement.

**434 Consultation matters**

- (1) The purpose of the consultation is to minimise the impact of the low impact prospecting permit on the exercise of native title rights and interests in relation to the land that will be affected under the permit, and to obtain any necessary access agreement for entry.
- (2) In particular, the consultation must be about the matters mentioned in section 26A(7)<sup>228</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act, as follows—
  - (a) the protection and avoidance of any area or site, on the land or waters to which the native title rights and interests relate, of particular significance to the persons holding the native title in accordance with their traditional laws and customs;
  - (b) any access to the land or waters to which the native title rights and interests relate by—
    - (i) the persons mentioned in paragraph (a); or
    - (ii) any person who will do anything that is authorised because of, or results from, or otherwise relates to, the permit;
  - (c) the way in which any other thing that is authorised because of, results from, or otherwise relates to, the permit and affects native title rights and interests, is to be done.

**434A Access agreements**

- (1) An access agreement for entry to an area under a low impact prospecting permit may include provisions about any of the following—
  - (a) the periods during which the permit holder is to be permitted access to the area;
  - (b) the parts of the area the permit holder may access and the means by which access may be gained;

---

228 Section 26A (Approved exploration etc. acts) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

- (c) the kinds of low impact activities that may be carried out on the area;
  - (d) the requirements to be observed by the permit holder when on the area;
  - (e) the things the permit holder needs to do to protect the environment in carrying out low impact activities on the area;
  - (f) compensation to be paid under part 18;
  - (g) how disputes arising in connection with the agreement are to be resolved;
  - (h) the way the agreement may be changed;
  - (i) other matters the parties to the agreement agree to provide for in the agreement.
- (2) Subsection (3) applies if there is an inconsistency between—
- (a) a provision of an access agreement; and
  - (b) either of the following—
    - (i) a provision of this Act;
    - (ii) a condition of a low impact prospecting permit.
- (3) The provision of the Act or condition of the prospecting permit prevails.

### **435 Consultation period and consultation period advice day**

- (1) The *consultation period*, for entry to an area—
- (a) starts 1 month after the consultation period advice day for entry to the area; and
  - (b) ends 2 months after it starts.
- (2) The *consultation period advice day*, for entry to an area, is the day the notice is given under subsection (4).
- (3) The consultation period advice day must not be less than 3 months after the application notice relating to the low impact prospecting permit was given, or, if a replacement notice was given under section 432, the day the replacement notice was given.

- (4) The permit holder must give notice of the day on which the consultation period for entry to the area is to start, and the area to which the consultation in the consultation period is to relate, to—
  - (a) each entity that is a registered native title party for land included in the area; and
  - (b) the mining registrar.
- (5) The notice given under subsection (4) must contain a clear description of the area to be entered and its location, and a description of the nature of the low impact activities proposed for the area.

#### **436 Parties may seek mediation**

- (1) If, at the end of the consultation period for entry to an area, an access agreement for entry to the area has not been obtained between the permit holder and a registered native title party for the area, either party may ask the mining registrar to hold a conference for mediation about the access agreement.
- (2) The registered native title party or the permit holder may be represented at the conference by a lawyer.
- (3) A party to the conference must pay the party's own costs for the conference.

#### **436A Decision by tribunal**

- (1) If an access agreement for entry to an area is not obtained within 1 month after the mining registrar has been asked to hold a conference for mediation about the agreement, the permit holder or the registered native title party may ask the mining registrar to refer the matter to the tribunal for a decision.
- (2) If the mining registrar is asked to refer the matter to the tribunal for a decision—
  - (a) the mining registrar must refer the matter; and
  - (b) the tribunal must decide the terms of the access agreement.

- (3) When the tribunal decides the terms of the access agreement—
- (a) subject to any order made by the tribunal in the matter, the access agreement decided by the tribunal has effect as an access agreement as if the registered native title party and the permit holder had executed it; and
  - (b) the tribunal must also make a compensation decision or compensation trust decision for the registered native title party under part 18.

#### **437 Notice of access agreement**

The permit holder must, as soon as practicable after an access agreement for entry to an area is obtained, but in any event before the holder first enters the area, give a copy of the access agreement to the mining registrar.

#### **438 Mining registrar may take action**

The mining registrar may, by notice in writing to the permit holder, impose conditions on the permit under section 25<sup>229</sup> to address any matter raised by a registered native title party in relation to an access agreement.

## **Part 14 Native title provisions for mining claims**

### **Division 1 Preliminary**

#### **439 Purpose of pt 14**

The purpose of this part is—

---

229 Section 25 (Conditions of prospecting permit)

- (a) to state additional requirements that apply for the granting of a proposed mining claim, or variation or renewal of a mining claim, under part 4 over non-exclusive land; and
- (b) in stating the additional requirements, to provide alternative provisions under section 43 of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

**440 Limited application of pt 14 to mining claim in approved opal or gem mining area**

This part does not apply to an act relating to a mining claim in an approved opal or gem mining area to the extent that the act is excluded from the application of the right to negotiate provisions under section 26(2)(d)<sup>230</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

## **Division 4 Mining claims**

**462 Application of div 4**

- (1) This division applies to the granting of a proposed mining claim if—
  - (a) the application for the mining claim was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the granting of the mining claim is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect; and
  - (c) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this division is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.
- (2) However, this division applies to the granting of the proposed mining claim—

---

230 Section 26 (When Subdivision applies) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act



- (a) only to the extent that the mining claim relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea; and
  - (b) only to the extent that the land the subject of the mining claim is non-exclusive land.
- (3) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 4.

**463 Requirement for grant**

- (1) The additional requirements applying under part 17, division 4<sup>231</sup> for the granting of a proposed mining lease also apply for the granting of the proposed mining claim.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

**464 Applying pt 17, div 4 for grant**

- (1) This section—
  - (a) applies for applying the provisions of part 17, division 4; and
  - (b) does not limit section 463.
- (2) References to the Governor in Council or the Minister are taken to be references to the mining registrar.
- (3) For applying section 669, the pre-referral period is—
  - (a) the period of 6 months starting on the notification day (native title issues); or
  - (b) if the registered native title parties for the non-exclusive land and the applicant agree on a time, which must be later than the time that would otherwise apply under paragraph (a), and advise the mining registrar in writing of the agreed later time—the period ending at the agreed later time.
- (4) Section 671(3) is taken to require that the mining registrar must not act under section 74 to grant the mining claim unless a negotiated agreement has been reached.

---

231 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases)

- (5) Sections 672(2) to (4), 676, 678 and subdivisions 6 and 7 do not apply.
- (6) Section 680 does not apply, but the native title issues decision must be complied with by the mining registrar.
- (7) A reference in part 17, division 4 to a provision of part 7 is taken to be a reference to a corresponding provision of part 4.

## **Division 5                      Renewals of mining claims**

### **465      Application of div 5**

- (5) This division applies to the renewal of a mining claim if—
  - (a) the application for the renewal of the mining claim was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the renewal of the mining claim is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect; and
  - (c) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this subsection is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.
- (6) However, this division applies to the renewal of a mining claim mentioned in subsection (5) only to the extent that the land the subject of the mining claim is non-exclusive land.
- (7) This division applies to the renewal of a mining claim mentioned in subsection (5) only to the extent that the mining claim relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea.
- (8) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 4.
- (9) In this section—

***renewal***, of a mining claim, includes—

  - (a) the re-grant of the mining claim; and

- (b) the re-making of the mining claim; and
- (c) the extension of the term of the mining claim.

#### **470 Requirements for renewal—applying div 4**

- (1) If this division applies to the renewal of a mining claim because of section 465(5), the additional requirements applying under division 4<sup>232</sup> for the granting of a mining claim on non-exclusive land also apply for the renewal.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

#### **471 Applying div 4 for renewal**

- (1) This section—
  - (a) applies for applying the provisions of division 4; and
  - (b) does not limit section 470.
- (2) Section 464(4) does not apply.
- (3) For applying section 464, subsections (4) to (7) of this section are taken to be included in section 464.
- (4) For applying section 652(3), the following period is substituted for the periods mentioned in section 652(3)(b)(i), that is, the end of the period of 20 business days after lodgement of the application for the renewal.
- (5) For applying part 17, division 4, subdivisions 4 and 5,<sup>233</sup> if the proposed renewal is referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision, there is not a combined hearing, but there is a hearing for a native title issues decision, including the hearing of any objections lodged under section 668.
- (6) Sections 671 and 672 do not apply, but—
  - (a) the mining registrar must within 10 business days after the pre-referral period ends, fix a day for the tribunal to hear the application for the renewal; and

---

232 Division 4 (Mining claims)

233 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases), subdivisions 4 (Referral and native title issues decision) and 5 (Requirements for combined hearing)

- (b) all consultation and negotiation parties have the right to be heard at the hearing; and
  - (c) the tribunal must hear the application for the renewal and make a native title issues decision; and
  - (d) before making its native title issues decision, the tribunal must ask the mining registrar about the extent to which the mining registrar is satisfied about the matters stated in section 93(3).
- (7) For applying section 677, the tribunal must also take into account information received from the mining registrar under subsection (6)(d).

## **Division 6                      Requirements for subsidiary approvals**

### **472      Application of div 6**

- (5) This division applies to the addition, under section 105, of specified minerals to a mining claim if—
- (a) were the mining claim to be granted again, but only for the specified minerals, the granting would be an act affecting native title rights and interests; and
  - (b) the addition is an act in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect; and
  - (c) the application for the addition was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (d) the addition relates to non-exclusive land; and
  - (e) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this subsection is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.
- (7) This division applies to an addition mentioned in subsection (5) only to the extent that the addition relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea.

- (8) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 4.

#### **477 Requirements for addition—applying div 4**

- (1) If this division applies to the addition of minerals to a mining claim because of section 472(5), the additional requirements applying under division 4<sup>234</sup> for the granting of a mining claim on non-exclusive land also apply for the addition.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

#### **478 Applying div 4 for addition**

- (1) This section—
- (a) applies for applying the provisions of division 4; and
  - (b) does not limit section 477.
- (2) Section 464(4) does not apply.
- (3) For applying section 464, subsections (4) to (6) of this section are taken to be included in section 464.
- (4) For applying section 652(3), the following period is substituted for the periods mentioned in section 652(3)(b)(i), that is, the end of the period of 20 business days after lodgement of the application for the addition.
- (5) For applying part 17, division 4, subdivisions 4 and 5,<sup>235</sup> if the proposed addition is referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision, there is not a combined hearing, but there is a hearing for a native title issues decision, including the hearing of any objections lodged under section 668.
- (6) Sections 671 and 672 do not apply, but—
- (a) the mining registrar must within 10 business days after the pre-referral period ends, fix a day for the tribunal to hear the application for the addition; and

---

234 Division 4 (Mining claims)

235 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases), subdivisions 4 (Referral and native title issues decision) and 5 (Requirements for combined hearing)

- (b) all consultation and negotiation parties have the right to be heard at the hearing; and
- (c) the tribunal must hear the application for the addition and make a native title issues decision.

## **Part 15**                      **Native title provisions for exploration permits**

### **Division 1**                      **Preliminary**

#### **479**      **Purpose of pt 15**

- (1) The purpose of this part is—
  - (a) to state additional requirements that apply for—
    - (i) the granting of a proposed exploration permit, or the variation or renewal of an exploration permit, under part 5 if the permit is a low impact exploration permit over non-exclusive land; and
    - (ii) the exercise of the entitlement, under a low impact exploration permit, to enter non-exclusive land; and
  - (b) in stating the additional requirements, to provide a basis for a determination by the Commonwealth Minister under section 26A<sup>236</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.
- (2) The purpose of this part is also—
  - (a) to state additional requirements that apply for the granting of a proposed exploration permit, or the variation or renewal of an exploration permit, under part 5 if the permit is a high impact exploration permit over non-exclusive land; and

---

<sup>236</sup> Section 26A (Approved exploration etc. acts) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

- (b) in stating the additional requirements, to provide alternative provisions under section 43 of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.<sup>237</sup>

**480 Limited application of pt 15 to exploration permit in approved opal or gem mining area**

This part does not apply to an act relating to an exploration permit in an approved opal or gem mining area to the extent that the act is excluded from the application of the right to negotiate provisions under section 26(2)(d)<sup>238</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

**481 Meaning of *low impact exploration permit***

For this part, a *low impact exploration permit* is an exploration permit that—

- (a) is granted over land that is, or that includes, non-exclusive land; and
- (b) has a condition that, to the extent that the land the subject of the permit is non-exclusive land, only low impact activities may be carried out.

**482 Meaning of *low impact activity***

- (1) For this part, a *low impact activity*, for an exploration permit, means the following activities—

- (a) aerial surveys;

*Examples—*

geological, geophysical, photogrammetric and topographic aerial surveys

- (b) geological and surveying field work that does not involve clearing;

---

237 Section 43 (Modification of Subdivision if satisfactory alternative State or Territory provisions) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

238 Section 26 (When Subdivision applies) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

*Examples—*

- flagging of sites and sample locations
- geological reconnaissance and field mapping
- surveying that does not involve clearing

## (c) sampling by hand methods;

*Examples—*

- grab sampling
- mine tailings and mine mullock sampling
- panning and sieving
- rock chip sampling
- stream sediment sampling (disturbed and undisturbed samples)
- soil sampling (disturbed and undisturbed samples)
- water sampling

## (d) ground-based geophysical surveys that do not involve clearing;

*Examples—*

- potential-field methods of surveying, including, for example, gravity, magnetic and radiometric surveys
- electrical methods of surveying, including, for example, electromagnetic, ground penetrating radar, induced polarisation and resistivity surveys
- seismic methods of surveying, including, for example, 'hammer', refraction and vibration-sourced surveys

## (e) drilling and activities associated with drilling that—

- (i) do not include clearing or excavation, other than the minimum necessary to establish a drill pad for a mobile rig; and
- (ii) do not include clearing or excavation for access to a drill site; and
- (iii) do not include side hill excavation for access or drill pads as would be necessary on steep slopes; and
- (iv) do not include drilling in a watercourse or stream diversion; and



- (v) do not include clearing in densely vegetated areas;
- (f) environmental field work that does not involve clearing.

*Examples—*

- cultural heritage, environmental and geobotanical surveys
- environmental monitoring

- (2) In this section—

***clearing*** means—

- (a) in relation to grass, scrub or bush—the removal of vegetation by disturbing root systems and exposing underlying soil, but does not include—
  - (i) the flattening or compaction of vegetation by vehicles if the vegetation remains living; or
  - (ii) the slashing or mowing of vegetation to facilitate access tracks; or
  - (iii) the clearing of noxious or introduced plant species; and
- (b) in relation to trees—cutting down, ringbarking or pushing over.

***excavation*** means the use of machinery to dig below the topsoil horizon, but does not include—

- (a) minor levelling of a site to allow a drill rig to operate on a level surface for safety reasons; or
- (b) the construction of a small sump for operational purposes.

***top soil horizon*** means the top level or layer of soil that is generally less than 30 cm thick.

### **483 Meaning of *high impact exploration permit***

For this part, a ***high impact exploration permit*** is an exploration permit that—

- (a) is granted over land that is, or includes, non-exclusive land; and
- (b) allows activities to be carried out that are not limited to low impact activities.

## **Division 2                    Low impact exploration permits**

### **Subdivision 1            Preliminary**

#### **484    Application of div 2**

- (1) This division applies to the granting of a proposed exploration permit if—
  - (a) the exploration permit is a low impact exploration permit; and
  - (ab) the application for the exploration permit was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the granting of the exploration permit is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) to which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise applied; and
    - (iii) that is an approved exploration etc. act under a determination in force under section 26A(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.
- (2) However, this division applies to the granting of the proposed exploration permit—
  - (a) only to the extent that the exploration permit relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea; and
  - (b) only to the extent that the land the subject of the exploration permit is non-exclusive land.
- (3) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 5.

**485 Definitions for div 2**

In this division—

***access agreement***, for entry to an area under a low impact exploration permit, means an agreement between the permit holder and a registered native title party for the area concerning the holder's access to the area.

***applicant*** means the applicant for the proposed low impact exploration permit.

***application notice*** see section 486(1).

***consultation period*** see section 490(1).

***consultation period advice day*** see section 490(2).

***registered native title party***, for an area the subject of a low impact exploration permit, means—

- (a) from the start of the consultation period advice day for entry to the area until immediately before the start of the consultation period for entry to the area—an entity that is, on the consultation period advice day, in relation to land included in the area—
  - (i) a registered native title body corporate; or
  - (ii) a registered native title claimant; and
- (b) from the start of the consultation period—an entity that is, on the first day of the consultation period, in relation to land included in the area—
  - (i) a registered native title body corporate; or
  - (ii) a registered native title claimant.

**Subdivision 2 Notification requirements****486 Requirement to notify**

- (1) The applicant must give written notice (the ***application notice***) of the applicant's intention to lodge an application for a low impact exploration permit, or of the lodgement of the application, to—

- (a) each native title notification party for the land the subject of the proposed exploration permit; and
  - (b) the Native Title Registrar.
- (2) The notice must be given no earlier than 1 month before the lodgement, and no later than—
- (a) 10 business days after the lodgement; or
  - (b) if, under section 487, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.
- (3) The notice must state the following—
- (a) the name and postal address of the applicant;
  - (b) whether or not the application has been lodged;
  - (c) a clear description of the land, and its location;
  - (d) details of the activities proposed for the land under a program of work;
  - (e) an outline of the expected impact on the land of the proposed activities;
  - (f) that the applicant must not act under the permit applied for to enter non-exclusive land unless the applicant has an access agreement for entry to the land.

#### **487 Notification of mining registrar**

- (1) Within 5 business days after the applicant has complied, or purportedly complied, with the requirements of section 486, the applicant must give the mining registrar information in the approved form about the applicant's compliance with section 486.
- (2) A copy of the written notice given under section 486(1) must be attached to the approved form.
- (3) If the mining registrar is satisfied that a written notice given, or purportedly given, under section 486 has not been given in accordance with the requirements of section 486(1) and (2), or does not comply with the requirements of section 486(3), the mining registrar must—

- (a) give the applicant a written direction to give a new written notice under section 486; and
  - (b) in the direction, nominate a period within which the direction must be complied with.
- (4) The new notice, when given, must—
- (a) state that it is a replacement notice; and
  - (b) identify the previous notice.

### **Subdivision 3      Consultation and access agreement requirements before entry**

#### **488      Requirement for consultation and access agreement**

- (1) It is a condition of a low impact exploration permit that the permit holder must not act under the permit to enter, for the first time, any area of non-exclusive land unless the holder has consulted with each registered native title party for the area.
- (2) However, the condition does not require consultation with a registered native title party if, at any time after the start of the consultation period for entry to the area, the registered native title party gives the permit holder a written notice that the party does not wish to be consulted about the proposed activities stated in the application notice.
- (3) It is a condition of a low impact exploration permit that the permit holder must not act under the permit to enter, for the first time, any area of non-exclusive land unless the holder has an access agreement for entry to the area with each registered native title party for the area, obtained after the start of the consultation period for entry to the area.
- (4) However, the condition does not require an access agreement for entry to the area with a particular registered native title party if, at any time after the start of the consultation period for entry to the area, the registered native title party gives the permit holder a written notice that the party does not wish to be consulted about an access agreement for the entry.

**488A Exploration activities to be carried out in accordance with access agreement**

- (1) This section applies to the holder of an exploration permit if—
  - (a) the holder is carrying out activities in an area under, or purportedly under, the permit; and
  - (b) there is an access agreement for entry to the area under the permit.
- (2) The holder must not carry out the activities in a way that is inconsistent with the requirements of the access agreement.

**489 Consultation matters**

- (1) The purpose of the consultation is to minimise the impact of the low impact exploration permit on the exercise of native title rights and interests in relation to the land that will be affected under the permit, and to obtain any necessary access agreement for entry.
- (2) In particular, the consultation must be about the matters mentioned in section 26A(7)<sup>239</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act, as follows—
  - (a) the protection and avoidance of any area or site, on the land or waters to which the native title rights and interests relate, of particular significance to the persons holding the native title in accordance with their traditional laws and customs;
  - (b) any access to the land or waters to which the native title rights and interests relate by—
    - (i) the persons mentioned in paragraph (a); or
    - (ii) any person who will do anything that is authorised because of, or results from, or otherwise relates to, the permit;

---

239 Section 26A (Approved exploration etc. acts) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

- (c) the way in which any other thing that is authorised because of, results from, or otherwise relates to, the permit and affects native title rights and interests, is to be done.

#### **489A Access agreements**

- (1) An access agreement for entry to an area under a low impact exploration permit may include provisions about any of the following—
  - (a) the periods during which the permit holder is to be permitted access to the area;
  - (b) the parts of the area the permit holder may access and the means by which access may be gained;
  - (c) the kinds of low impact activities that may be carried out on the area;
  - (d) the requirements to be observed by the permit holder when on the area;
  - (e) the things the permit holder needs to do to protect the environment in carrying out low impact activities on the area;
  - (f) compensation to be paid under part 18;
  - (g) how disputes arising in connection with the agreement are to be resolved;
  - (h) the way the agreement may be changed;
  - (i) other matters the parties to the agreement agree to provide for in the agreement.
- (2) Subsection (3) applies if there is an inconsistency between—
  - (a) a provision of an access agreement; and
  - (b) either of the following—
    - (i) a provision of this Act;
    - (ii) a condition of an exploration permit.
- (3) The provision of the Act or condition of the exploration permit prevails.

**490 Consultation period and consultation period advice day**

- (1) The *consultation period*, for entry to an area—
  - (a) starts 1 month after the consultation period advice day for entry to the area; and
  - (b) ends 2 months after it starts.
- (2) The *consultation period advice day*, for entry to an area, is the day the notice is given under subsection (4).
- (3) The consultation period advice day—
  - (a) must not be before the permit holder was advised of the amount of security decided by the Minister under section 144;<sup>240</sup> and
  - (b) must not be less than 3 months after the application notice relating to the low impact exploration permit was given, or, if a replacement notice was given under section 487, the day the replacement notice was given.
- (4) The permit holder must give notice of the day on which the consultation period for entry to the area is to start, and the area to which the consultation in the consultation period is to relate, to—
  - (a) each entity that is a registered native title party for land included in the area; and
  - (b) the mining registrar.
- (5) The notice given under subsection (4) must contain a clear description of the area to be entered and its location, and a description of the nature of the low impact activities proposed for the area.

**491 Parties may seek mediation**

- (1) If, at the end of the consultation period for entry to an area, an access agreement for entry to the area has not been obtained between the permit holder and a registered native title party for the area, either party may ask the mining registrar to hold a conference for mediation about the access agreement.

---

240 Section 144 (Provision of security)



- (2) Sections 169 to 174 apply to the conference as if the request were a request made under section 169(1)(a) by an owner of land mentioned in section 169(1)(a).
- (3) Despite section 170(3),<sup>241</sup> the registered native title party or the permit holder may be represented at the conference by a lawyer.
- (4) Subject to any order made under section 174,<sup>242</sup> a party to the conference must pay the party's own costs for the conference.

#### **491A Decision by tribunal**

- (1) If an access agreement for entry to an area is not obtained within 1 month after the mining registrar has been asked to hold a conference for mediation about the agreement, the permit holder or the registered native title party may ask the mining registrar to refer the matter to the tribunal for a decision.
- (2) If the mining registrar is asked to refer the matter to the tribunal for a decision—
  - (a) the mining registrar must refer the matter; and
  - (b) the tribunal must decide the terms of the access agreement.
- (3) When the tribunal decides the terms of the access agreement—
  - (a) subject to any order made by the tribunal in the matter, the access agreement decided by the tribunal has effect as an access agreement as if the registered native title party and the permit holder had executed it; and
  - (b) the tribunal must also make a compensation decision or compensation trust decision for the registered native title party under part 18.

---

241 Section 170 (Who may attend conference)

242 Section 174 (Tribunal may award costs)

**492 Notice of access agreement**

The permit holder must, as soon as practicable after an access agreement for entry to an area is obtained, but in any event before the holder first enters the area, give a copy of the access agreement to the mining registrar.

**493 Mining registrar may recommend action**

- (1) The mining registrar may recommend action to the Minister to address any matter raised by a registered native title party in relation to an access agreement.
- (2) The Minister may give the exploration permit holder the directions the Minister considers appropriate about the recommended action.
- (3) A failure by the holder to comply with the Minister's directions is taken to be a breach of the conditions of the exploration permit.

**Division 4 High impact exploration permits****522 Application of div 4**

- (1) This division applies to the granting of a proposed exploration permit if—
  - (a) the exploration permit is a high impact exploration permit; and
  - (ab) the application for the exploration permit was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the granting of the exploration permit is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect; and
  - (c) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this division is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.

- (2) However, this division applies to the granting of the proposed exploration permit—
  - (a) only to the extent that the exploration permit relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea; and
  - (b) only to the extent that the land the subject of the exploration permit is non-exclusive land.
- (3) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 5.

### **523 Requirements for grant**

- (1) The additional requirements applying under part 17, division 4<sup>243</sup> for the granting of a proposed mining lease also apply for the granting of the proposed high impact exploration permit.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

### **524 Applying pt 17, div 4 for grant**

- (1) This section—
  - (a) applies for applying the provisions of part 17, division 4; and
  - (b) does not limit section 523.
- (2) References to the Governor in Council are taken to be references to the Minister.
- (3) For applying section 652, section 652(3)(a) does not apply, and the following period is substituted for the periods mentioned in section 652(3)(b)(i), that is, the period of 20 business days after the applicant is notified of the Minister's decision under section 144(1)<sup>244</sup> or (3) of the amount of security to be deposited if the permit is granted.

---

243 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases)

244 Section 144 (Provision of security)

- (4) For applying section 669, the pre-referral period is—
  - (a) the period of 6 months starting on the notification day (native title issues); or
  - (b) if the registered native title parties and the applicant agree on a time, which must be later than the time that would otherwise apply under paragraph (a), and advise the mining registrar in writing of the agreed later time—the period ending at the agreed later time.
- (5) For applying part 17, division 4, subdivisions 4 and 5,<sup>245</sup> if the proposed exploration permit is referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision, sections 671 and 672 do not apply, but the mining registrar must fix a date for a hearing for the native title issues decision, including the hearing of any objections lodged under section 668 as applied under this section.
- (6) Sections 675(2), 681(4) and (5), 682 and 688 and part 17, division 4, subdivision 7<sup>246</sup> do not apply.
- (7) Section 676 does not apply, but the tribunal must advise the Minister of its native title issues decision.
- (8) Section 680 does not apply, but the native title issues decision must be complied with by the Minister unless it is overruled under part 17, division 4, subdivision 6.<sup>247</sup>
- (9) A reference in part 17, division 4 to a provision of part 7 is taken to be a reference to a corresponding provision of part 5.

---

245 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases), subdivisions 4 (Referral and native title issues decision) and 5 (Requirements for combined hearing)

246 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases), subdivision 7 (Special provisions about completion of combined hearing and making of native titles issues decision)

247 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases), subdivision 6 (Overruling of native title issues decision)

## **Division 5                      Renewals of exploration permits**

### **525      Application of div 5**

- (1) This division applies to the renewal of an exploration permit if—
  - (a) the exploration permit is a low impact exploration permit; and
  - (ab) the application for the renewal of the exploration permit was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the renewal of the exploration permit is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) to which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise applied; and
    - (iii) that is an approved exploration etc. act under a determination in force under section 26A(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.
- (2) However, this division applies to the renewal of an exploration permit mentioned in subsection (1) only to the extent that the land the subject of the exploration permit is non-exclusive land.
- (5) This division also applies to the renewal of an exploration permit if—
  - (a) the exploration permit is a high impact exploration permit; and
  - (ab) the application for the renewal of the exploration permit was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the renewal of the exploration permit is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect; and
  - (c) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this subsection is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.

- (6) However, this division applies to the renewal of an exploration permit mentioned in subsection (5) only to the extent that the land the subject of the exploration permit is non-exclusive land.
- (7) This division applies to the renewal of an exploration permit mentioned in subsection (1) or (5) only to the extent that the exploration permit relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea.
- (8) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 5.
- (9) In this section—  
*renewal*, of an exploration permit, includes—
  - (a) the re-grant of the exploration permit; and
  - (b) the re-making of the exploration permit; and
  - (c) the extension of the term of the exploration permit.

### **526 Requirements for renewal—applying div 2**

- (1) If this division applies to the renewal of an exploration permit because of section 525(1), the additional requirements applying under division 2<sup>248</sup> for the granting of a low impact exploration permit also apply for the renewal.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

### **529 Requirements for renewal—applying div 4**

- (1) If this division applies to the renewal of an exploration permit because of section 525(5), the additional requirements applying under division 4<sup>249</sup> for the granting of a high impact exploration permit on non-exclusive land also apply for the renewal.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

---

248 Division 2 (Low impact exploration permits)

249 Division 4 (High impact exploration permits)

**530 Applying div 4 for renewal**

- (1) This section—
  - (a) applies for applying the provisions of division 4; and
  - (b) does not limit section 529.
- (2) For applying section 524, subsections (3) and (4) of this section are taken to be included in section 524.
- (3) The tribunal must, before making its native title issues decision, ask the Minister about the extent to which the Minister is satisfied that the holder of the exploration permit proposed to be renewed has complied with the conditions of the exploration permit.
- (4) For applying section 677, the tribunal must also consider information received from the Minister under subsection (3).

**Division 6 Requirements for subsidiary approvals****531 Application of div 6**

- (1) This division applies to the following—
  - (a) the variation of the conditions of a low impact exploration permit over non-exclusive land to allow for activities not limited to low impact activities;
  - (c) the variation of the conditions of an exploration permit granted on land where native title has been extinguished to include non-exclusive land;
  - (d) the addition, under section 176A,<sup>250</sup> of land to an exploration permit granted over land where native title has been extinguished to include non-exclusive land.

---

250 Section 176A (Application to add excluded land to existing permit)

- (2) However, this division applies to the variation or addition only if—
- (aa) the application for the variation of conditions or addition of land was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (a) either of the following applies—
    - (i) for the variation of conditions—were the exploration permit to be granted again, but containing only the varied conditions, the granting would be an act affecting native title rights and interests;
    - (ii) for the addition of land—were the exploration permit to be granted again, but only for the added land, the granting would be an act affecting native title rights and interests; and
  - (b) either of the following applies—
    - (i) the variation or addition is an act to which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise applied, and the variation or addition is an approved exploration etc. act under a determination in force under section 26A(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act;
    - (ii) the variation or addition is an act in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect, and both of the following apply—
      - (A) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act about alternative provisions applying to the variation or addition;
      - (B) this subparagraph is included in the alternative provisions.
- (3) This division applies to the variation or addition only to the extent that the variation or addition relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea.
- (4) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 5.



**532 Requirements for variation—low impact exploration permit**

For the variation of the conditions of a low impact exploration permit to allow for activities not limited to low impact activities on non-exclusive land, division 4 applies, with necessary changes, as if the variation were the granting of a high impact exploration permit.

**534 Requirements for variation or addition—other exploration permits**

- (1) This section applies to the variation of the conditions of an exploration permit granted only over land where native title has been extinguished to include non exclusive land.
- (2) This section also applies to the addition, under section 176A, of land to an exploration permit granted only over land where native title has been extinguished to include non-exclusive land.
- (3) If the variation or addition is only for low impact activities, division 2<sup>251</sup> applies, with necessary changes, as if the variation or addition were the granting of the exploration permit.
- (6) If the variation or addition is for activities not limited to low impact activities on non-exclusive land, division 4<sup>252</sup> applies, with necessary changes, as if the variation or addition were the granting of the exploration permit.

---

251 Division 2 (Low impact exploration permits)

252 Division 4 (High impact exploration permits)

## **Part 16**                      **Native title provisions for mineral development licences**

### **Division 1**                      **Preliminary**

#### **535 Purpose of pt 16**

- (1) The purpose of this part is—
  - (a) to state additional requirements that apply for—
    - (i) the granting of a proposed mineral development licence, or the variation or renewal of a mineral development licence, under part 6 if the licence is a low impact mineral development licence over non-exclusive land; and
    - (ii) the exercise of the entitlement, under a low impact mineral development licence, to enter non-exclusive land; and
  - (b) in stating the additional requirements, to provide a basis for a determination by the Commonwealth Minister under section 26A<sup>253</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.
- (2) The purpose of this part is also—
  - (a) to state additional requirements that apply for the granting of a proposed mineral development licence, or the variation or renewal of a mineral development licence, under part 6 if the licence is a high impact mineral development licence over non-exclusive land; and
  - (b) in stating the additional requirements, to provide alternative provisions under section 43<sup>254</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

---

253 Section 26A (Approved exploration etc. acts) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

254 Section 43 (Modification of Subdivision if satisfactory alternative State or Territory provisions) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

**536 Limited application of pt 16 to mineral development licence in approved opal or gem mining area**

This part does not apply to an act relating to a mineral development licence in an approved opal or gem mining area to the extent that the act is excluded from the application of the right to negotiate provisions under section 26(2)(d)<sup>255</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

**537 Meaning of *low impact mineral development licence***

For this part, a *low impact mineral development licence* is a mineral development licence that—

- (a) is granted over land that is, or includes, non-exclusive land; and
- (b) has a condition that, to the extent that the land the subject of the licence is non-exclusive land, only low impact activities may be carried out.

**538 Meaning of *low impact activity***

- (1) For this part, a *low impact activity*, for a mineral development licence, means the following activities—

- (a) aerial surveys;

*Examples—*

geological, geophysical, photogrammetric and topographic aerial surveys

- (b) geological and surveying field work that does not involve clearing;

*Examples—*

- flagging of sites and sample locations
- geological reconnaissance and field mapping
- surveying that does not involve clearing

## (c) sampling by hand methods;

*Examples—*

- grab sampling
- mine tailings and mine mullock sampling
- panning and sieving
- rock chip sampling
- stream sediment sampling (disturbed and undisturbed samples)
- soil sampling (disturbed and undisturbed samples)
- water sampling

## (d) ground-based geophysical surveys that do not involve clearing;

*Examples—*

- potential-field methods of surveying, including, for example, gravity, magnetic and radiometric surveys
- electrical methods of surveying, including, for example, electromagnetic, ground penetrating radar, induced polarisation and resistivity surveys
- seismic methods of surveying, including, for example, 'hammer', refraction and vibration-sourced surveys

## (e) drilling and activities associated with drilling that—

- (i) do not include clearing or excavation, other than the minimum necessary to establish a drill pad for a mobile rig; and
- (ii) do not include clearing or excavation for access to a drill site; and
- (iii) do not include side hill excavation for access or drill pads as would be necessary on steep slopes; and
- (iv) do not include drilling in a watercourse or stream diversion; and
- (v) do not include clearing in densely vegetated areas;

- (f) environmental field work that does not involve clearing;

*Examples—*

- cultural heritage, environmental and geobotanical surveys
- environmental monitoring

- (g) investigations associated with mine feasibility and development.

*Examples—*

- engineering and design studies
- environmental studies and monitoring

- (2) In this section—

***clearing*** means—

- (a) in relation to grass, scrub or bush—the removal of vegetation by disturbing root systems and exposing underlying soil, but does not include—

- (i) the flattening or compaction of vegetation by vehicles if the vegetation remains living; or
- (ii) the slashing or mowing of vegetation to facilitate access tracks; or
- (iii) the clearing of noxious or introduced plant species; and

- (b) in relation to trees—cutting down, ringbarking or pushing over.

***excavation*** means the use of machinery to dig below the topsoil horizon, but does not include—

- (a) minor levelling of a site to allow a drill rig to operate on a level surface for safety reasons; or
- (b) the construction of a small sump for operational purposes.

***top soil horizon*** means the top level or layer of soil that is generally less than 30 cm thick.

**539 Meaning of *high impact mineral development licence***

For this part, a *high impact mineral development licence* is a mineral development licence that—

- (a) is granted over land that is, or includes, non-exclusive land; and
- (b) allows activities to be carried out that are not limited to low impact activities.

**Division 2 Low impact mineral development licences****Subdivision 1 Preliminary****540 Application of div 2**

- (1) This division applies to the granting of a proposed mineral development licence if—
  - (a) the mineral development licence is a low impact mineral development licence; and
  - (ab) the application for the mineral development licence was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the granting of the mineral development licence is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) to which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise applied; and
    - (iii) that is an approved exploration etc. act under a determination in force under section 26A(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.
- (2) However, this division applies to the granting of the proposed mineral development licence—
  - (a) only to the extent that the mineral development licence relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea; and

- (b) only to the extent that the land the subject of the mineral development licence is non-exclusive land.
- (3) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 6.

## 541 Definitions for div 2

In this division—

***access agreement***, for entry to an area under a low impact mineral development licence, means an agreement between the licence holder and a registered native title party for the area concerning the holder's access to the area.

***applicant*** means the applicant for the proposed low impact mineral development licence.

***application notice*** see section 542(1).

***consultation period*** see section 546(1).

***consultation period advice day*** see section 546(2).

***registered native title party***, for an area the subject of a low impact mineral development licence, means—

- (a) from the start of the consultation period advice day for entry to the area until immediately before the start of the consultation period for entry to the area—an entity that is, on the consultation period advice day, in relation to land included in the area—
  - (i) a registered native title body corporate; or
  - (ii) a registered native title claimant; and
- (b) from the start of the consultation period—an entity that is, on the first day of the consultation period, in relation to land included in the area—
  - (i) a registered native title body corporate; or
  - (ii) a registered native title claimant.

## **Subdivision 2      Notification requirements**

### **542      Requirement to notify**

- (1) The applicant must give written notice (the *application notice*) of the applicant's intention to lodge an application for a low impact mineral development licence, or of the lodgement of the application, to—
  - (a) each native title notification party for the land the subject of the proposed mineral development licence; and
  - (b) the Native Title Registrar.
- (2) The notice must be given no earlier than 1 month before the lodgement, and no later than—
  - (a) 10 business days after the lodgement; or
  - (b) if, under section 543, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.
- (3) The notice must state the following—
  - (a) the name and postal address of the applicant;
  - (b) whether or not the application has been lodged;
  - (c) a clear description of the land, and its location;
  - (d) details of the activities proposed for the land;
  - (e) an outline of the expected impact on the land of the proposed activities;
  - (f) that the applicant must not act under the licence applied for to enter non-exclusive land unless the applicant has an access agreement for entry to the land.

### **543      Notification of mining registrar**

- (1) Within 5 business days after the applicant has complied, or purportedly complied, with the requirements of section 542, the applicant must give the mining registrar information in the approved form about the applicant's compliance with section 542.



- (2) A copy of the written notice given under section 542(1) must be attached to the approved form.
- (3) If the mining registrar is satisfied that a written notice given, or purportedly given, under section 542 has not been given in accordance with the requirements of section 542(1) and (2), or does not comply with the requirements of section 542(3), the mining registrar must—
  - (a) give the applicant a written direction to give a new written notice under section 542; and
  - (b) in the direction, nominate a period within which the direction must be complied with.
- (4) The new notice, when given, must—
  - (a) state that it is a replacement notice; and
  - (b) identify the previous notice.

### **Subdivision 3      Consultation and access agreement requirements before entry**

#### **544      Requirement for consultation and access agreement**

- (1) It is a condition of a low impact mineral development licence that the licence holder must not act under the licence to enter, for the first time, any area of non-exclusive land unless the holder has consulted with each registered native title party for the area.
- (2) However, the condition does not require consultation with a registered native title party if, at any time after the start of the consultation period for entry to the area, the registered native title party gives the licence holder a written notice that the party does not wish to be consulted about the proposed activities stated in the application notice.
- (3) It is a condition of a low impact mineral development licence that the licence holder must not act under the licence to enter, for the first time, any area of non-exclusive land unless the holder has an access agreement for entry to the area with each registered native title party for the area, obtained after the start of the consultation period for entry to the area.

- (4) However, the condition does not require an access agreement for entry to the area with a particular registered native title party if, at any time after the start of the consultation period for entry to the area, the registered native title party gives the licence holder a written notice that the party does not wish to be consulted about an access agreement for the entry.

**544A Mineral development activities to be carried out in accordance with access agreement**

- (1) This section applies to the holder of a mineral development licence if—
- (a) the holder is carrying out activities in an area under, or purportedly under, the licence; and
  - (b) there is an access agreement for entry to the area under the licence.
- (2) The holder must not carry out the activities in a way that is inconsistent with the requirements of the access agreement.

**545 Consultation matters**

- (1) The purpose of the consultation is to minimise the impact of the low impact mineral development licence on the exercise of native title rights and interests in relation to the land that will be affected under the licence, and to obtain any necessary access agreement for entry.
- (2) In particular, the consultation must be about the matters mentioned in section 26A(7)<sup>256</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act, as follows—
- (a) the protection and avoidance of any area or site, on the land or waters to which the native title rights and interests relate, of particular significance to the persons holding the native title in accordance with their traditional laws and customs;

---

<sup>256</sup> Section 26A (Approved exploration etc. acts) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

- (b) any access to the land or waters to which the native title rights and interests relate by—
  - (i) the persons mentioned in paragraph (a); or
  - (ii) any person who will do anything that is authorised because of, or results from, or otherwise relates to, the licence;
- (c) the way in which any other thing that is authorised because of, results from, or otherwise relates to, the licence and affects native title rights and interests, is to be done.

#### **545A Access agreements**

- (1) An access agreement for entry to an area under a low impact mineral development licence may include provisions about any of the following—
  - (a) the periods during which the licence holder is to be permitted access to the area;
  - (b) the parts of the area the licence holder may access and the means by which access may be gained;
  - (c) the kinds of low impact activities that may be carried out on the area;
  - (d) the requirements to be observed by the licence holder when on the area;
  - (e) the things the licence holder needs to do to protect the environment in carrying out low impact activities on the area;
  - (f) compensation to be paid under part 18;
  - (g) how disputes arising in connection with the agreement are to be resolved;
  - (h) the way the agreement may be changed;
  - (i) other matters the parties to the agreement agree to provide for in the agreement.

- (2) Subsection (3) applies if there is an inconsistency between—
  - (a) a provision of an access agreement; and
  - (b) either of the following—
    - (i) a provision of this Act;
    - (ii) a condition of a mineral development licence.
- (3) The provision of the Act or condition of the mineral development licence prevails.

#### **546 Consultation period and consultation period advice day**

- (1) The *consultation period*, for entry to an area—
  - (a) starts 1 month after the consultation period advice day for entry to the area; and
  - (b) ends 2 months after it starts.
- (2) The *consultation period advice day*, for entry to an area, is the day the notice is given under subsection (4).
- (3) The consultation period advice day must not be less than 3 months after the application notice relating to the low impact mineral development licence was given, or, if a replacement notice was given under section 543, the day the replacement notice was given.
- (4) The licence holder must give notice of the day on which the consultation period for entry to the area is to start, and the area to which the consultation in the consultation period is to relate, to—
  - (a) each entity that is a registered native title party for land included in the area; and
  - (b) the mining registrar.
- (5) The notice given under subsection (4) must contain a clear description of the area to be entered and its location, and a description of the nature of the low impact activities proposed for the area.

**547 Parties may seek mediation**

- (1) If, at the end of the consultation period for entry to an area, an access agreement for entry to the area has not been obtained between the licence holder and a registered native title party for the area, either party may ask the mining registrar to hold a conference for mediation about the access agreement.
- (2) Sections 217 to 222 apply to the conference as if the request were a request made under section 217(1)(a)<sup>257</sup> by an owner of land mentioned in section 217(1)(a).
- (3) Despite section 218(3),<sup>258</sup> the registered native title party or the licence holder may be represented at the conference by a lawyer.
- (4) Subject to any order made under section 222,<sup>259</sup> a consultation party must pay the party's own costs for the conference.

**547A Decision by tribunal**

- (1) If an access agreement for entry to an area is not obtained within 1 month after the mining registrar has been asked to hold a conference for mediation about the agreement, the licence holder or the registered native title party may ask the mining registrar to refer the matter to the tribunal for a decision.
- (2) If the mining registrar is asked to refer the matter to the tribunal for a decision—
  - (a) the mining registrar must refer the matter; and
  - (b) the tribunal must decide the terms of the access agreement.

---

257 Section 217 (Mining registrar may call conference in some cases)

258 Section 218 (Who may attend conference)

259 Section 222 (Tribunal may award costs)

- (3) When the tribunal decides the terms of the access agreement—
  - (a) subject to any order made by the tribunal in the matter, the access agreement decided by the tribunal has effect as an access agreement as if the registered native title party and the licence holder had executed it; and
  - (b) the tribunal must also make a compensation decision or compensation trust decision for the registered native title party under part 18.

#### **548 Notice of access agreement**

The licence holder must, as soon as practicable after an access agreement for entry to an area is obtained, but in any event before the holder first enters the area, give a copy of the access agreement to the mining registrar.

#### **549 Mining registrar may recommend action**

- (1) The mining registrar may recommend action to the Minister to address any matter raised by a registered native title party in relation to an access agreement.
- (2) The Minister may give the mineral development licence holder the directions the Minister considers appropriate about the recommended action.
- (3) A failure by the holder to comply with the Minister's directions is taken to be a breach of the conditions of the mineral development licence.

### **Division 4 High impact mineral development licences**

#### **579 Application of div 4**

- (1) This division applies to the granting of a proposed mineral development licence if—
  - (a) the mineral development licence is a high impact mineral development licence; and

- (ab) the application for the mineral development licence was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the granting of the mineral development licence is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect; and
  - (c) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this division is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.
- (2) However, this division applies to the granting of the proposed mineral development licence—
- (a) only to the extent that the mineral development licence relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea; and
  - (b) only to the extent that the land the subject of the mineral development licence is non-exclusive land.
- (3) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 6.

## **580 Requirements for grant**

- (1) The additional requirements applying under part 17, division 4<sup>260</sup> for the granting of a proposed mining lease also apply for the granting of the proposed high impact mineral development licence.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

---

260 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases)

**581 Applying pt 17, div 4 for grant**

- (1) This section—
  - (a) applies for applying the provisions of part 17, division 4; and
  - (b) does not limit section 580.
- (2) References to the Governor in Council are taken to be references to the Minister.
- (3) For applying section 652, section 652(3)(a) does not apply, and the following period is substituted for the periods mentioned in section 652(3)(b)(i), that is, the period of 20 business days after the applicant is notified of the Minister's decision under section 190(1)<sup>261</sup> and (2) of the amount of security to be deposited if the licence is granted.
- (4) For applying section 669, the pre-referral period is—
  - (a) the period of 6 months starting on the notification day (native title issues); or
  - (b) if the registered native title parties and the applicant agree on a time, which must be later than the time that would otherwise apply under paragraph (a), and advise the mining registrar in writing of the agreed later time—the period ending at the agreed later time.
- (5) For applying part 17, division 4, subdivisions 4 and 5,<sup>262</sup> if the proposed mineral development licence is referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision, sections 671 and 672 do not apply, but the mining registrar must fix a date for a hearing for the native title issues decision, including the hearing of any objections lodged under section 668 as applied under this section.

---

261 Section 190 (Provision of security)

262 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases), subdivisions 4 (Referral and native title issues decision) and 5 (Requirements for combined hearing)



- (6) Sections 675(2), 681(4) and (5) and 682 and part 17, division 4, subdivision 7<sup>263</sup> do not apply.
- (7) Section 676 does not apply, but the tribunal must advise the Minister of its native title issues decision.
- (8) Section 680 does not apply, but the native title issues decision must be complied with by the Minister unless it is overruled under part 17, division 4, subdivision 6.<sup>264</sup>
- (9) A reference in part 17, division 4 to a provision of part 7 is taken to be a reference to a corresponding provision of part 6.

## **Division 5                      Renewals of mineral development licences**

### **582      Application of div 5**

- (1) This division applies to the renewal of a mineral development licence if—
  - (a) the mineral development licence is a low impact mineral development licence; and
  - (ab) the application for the renewal of the mineral development licence was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the renewal of the mineral development licence is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) to which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise applied; and
    - (iii) that is an approved exploration etc. act under a determination in force under section 26A(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

---

263 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases), subdivision 7 (Special provisions about completion of combined hearing and making of native titles issues decision)

264 Part 17 (Native title provisions for mining leases), division 4 (Mining leases), subdivision 6 (Overruling of native title issues decision)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

- (2) However, this division applies to the renewal of a mineral development licence mentioned in subsection (1) only to the extent that the land the subject of the mineral development licence is non-exclusive land.
- (5) This division also applies to the renewal of a mineral development licence if—
  - (a) the mineral development licence is a high impact mineral development licence; and
  - (ab) the application for the renewal of the mineral development licence was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the renewal of the mineral development licence is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect; and
  - (c) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this subsection is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.
- (6) However, this division applies to the renewal of a mineral development licence mentioned in subsection (5) only to the extent that the land the subject of the mineral development licence is non-exclusive land.
- (7) This division applies to the renewal of a mineral development licence mentioned in subsection (1) or (5) only to the extent that the mineral development licence relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea.
- (8) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 6.
- (9) In this section—

*renewal*, of a mineral development licence, includes—

  - (a) the re-grant of the mineral development licence; and
  - (b) the re-making of the mineral development licence; and

- (c) the extension of the term of the mineral development licence.

**583 Requirements for renewal—applying div 2**

- (1) If this division applies to the renewal of a mineral development licence because of section 582(1), the additional requirements applying under division 2<sup>265</sup> for the granting of a low impact mineral development licence also apply for the renewal.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

**586 Requirements for renewal—applying div 4**

- (1) If this division applies to the renewal of a mineral development licence because of section 582(5), the additional requirements applying under division 4<sup>266</sup> for the granting of a high impact mineral development licence on non-exclusive land also apply for the renewal.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

**587 Applying div 4 for renewal**

- (1) This section—
  - (a) applies for applying the provisions of division 4; and
  - (b) does not limit section 586.
- (2) For applying section 581, subsections (3) and (4) of this section are taken to be included in section 581.
- (3) The tribunal must, before making its native title issues decision, ask the Minister about the extent to which the Minister is satisfied that the holder of the mineral development licence proposed to be renewed has complied with the conditions of the mineral development licence.
- (4) For applying section 677, the tribunal must also consider information received from the Minister under subsection (3).

---

265 Division 2 (Low impact mineral development licences)

266 Division 4 (High impact mineral development licences)

## **Division 6                      Requirements for subsidiary approvals**

### **588      Application of div 6**

- (1) This division applies to the following—
  - (a) the variation of the conditions of—
    - (i) a low impact mineral development licence to allow for activities not limited to low impact activities; or
    - (iii) a mineral development licence granted on land where native title has been extinguished to include non-exclusive land;
  - (b) the addition, under section 208,<sup>267</sup> of stated minerals to a mineral development licence;
  - (c) the addition, under section 226AA,<sup>268</sup> of land to a mineral development licence granted over land where native title has been extinguished to include non-exclusive land.
- (2) However, this division applies to the variation or addition only if—
  - (aa) the application for the variation of conditions or addition of stated minerals or land was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (a) either of the following applies—
    - (i) for the variation of conditions—were the mineral development licence to be granted again, but containing only the varied conditions, the granting would be an act affecting native title rights and interests;

---

267 Section 208 (Adding other minerals to licence)

268 Section 226AA (Application to add excluded land to existing licence)

- (ii) for the addition of minerals or land—were the mineral development licence to be granted again, but only for the added minerals or the added land, the granting would be an act affecting native title rights and interests; and
- (b) either of the following applies—
  - (i) the variation or addition is an act to which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise applied, and the variation or addition is an approved exploration etc. act under a determination in force under section 26A(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act;
  - (ii) the variation or addition is an act in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect, and both of the following apply—
    - (A) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act about alternative provisions applying to the variation or addition;
    - (B) this subparagraph is included in the alternative provisions.
- (3) This division applies to the variation or addition only to the extent that the variation or addition relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea.
- (4) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 6.

### **589 Requirements for variation—low impact mineral development licence**

For the variation of the conditions of a low impact mineral development licence to allow for activities not limited to low impact activities on non-exclusive land, division 4<sup>269</sup> applies, with necessary changes, as if the variation were the granting of a high impact mineral development licence.

---

269 Division 4 (High impact mineral development licences)

**591 Requirements for variation or addition—other mineral development licences**

- (1) This section applies to the variation of the conditions of a mineral development licence granted only over land where native title has been extinguished to include non-exclusive land.
- (2) This section also applies to the addition, under section 226AA of land to a mineral development licence granted over land where native title has been extinguished to include non-exclusive land.
- (3) If the variation or addition is only for low impact activities, division 2<sup>270</sup> applies, with necessary changes, as if the variation or addition were the granting of the mineral development licence.
- (6) If the variation or addition is for activities not limited to low impact activities on non-exclusive land, division 4 applies, with necessary changes, as if the variation or addition were the granting of the mineral development licence.

**592 Requirements for approval—adding minerals to mineral development licence**

- (1) For the addition, under section 208, of stated minerals to a low impact mineral development licence, division 2 applies, with necessary changes, as if the addition were the granting of the mineral development licence.
- (4) For the addition, under section 208, of stated minerals to a high impact mineral development licence on non-exclusive land, division 4 applies, with necessary changes, as if the addition were the granting of the mineral development licence.

---

270 Division 2 (Low impact mineral development licences)

## **Part 17**                      **Native title provisions for mining leases**

### **Division 1**                      **Preliminary**

#### **593**      **Purpose of pt 17**

The purpose of this part is—

- (a) to state additional requirements that apply for the granting of a proposed mining lease, or variation or renewal of a mining lease under part 7 over non-exclusive land; and
- (b) in stating the additional requirements, to provide alternative provisions under section 43<sup>271</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

#### **594**      **Limited application of pt 17 to mining lease in approved opal or gem mining area**

This part does not apply to an act relating to a mining lease in an approved opal or gem mining area to the extent that the act is excluded from the application of the right to negotiate provisions under section 26(2)(d)<sup>272</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

#### **596**      **No re-opening of issues previously decided**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) the parties to a hearing under this part about the grant of a proposed mining lease (the *mining lease hearing*) are identical to the parties to an earlier relevant agreement or hearing; and
  - (b) an issue was decided in the relevant agreement or at the relevant hearing.

---

271 Section 43 (Modification of Subdivision if satisfactory alternative State or Territory provisions) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

272 Section 26 (When Subdivision applies) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

(2) A party to the mining lease hearing must not, without the leave of the tribunal, seek to vary the decision on the issue.

(3) In this section—

*relevant agreement* means an agreement under part 15 or 16, or under the right to negotiate provisions, about the grant of the exploration permit or mineral development licence for the land the subject of the mining lease.

*relevant hearing* means a hearing under part 15 or 16, or under the right to negotiate provisions, about the grant of the exploration permit or mineral development licence for the land the subject of the proposed mining lease.

## **Division 4            Mining leases**

### **Subdivision 1        Preliminary**

#### **650    Application of div 4**

(1) This division applies to the granting of a proposed mining lease if—

(a) the application for the mining lease was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and

(b) the granting of the mining lease is an act—

(i) that affects native title rights and interests; and

(ii) in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect; and

(c) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this division is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.

(2) However, this division applies to the granting of the proposed mining lease—

(a) only to the extent that the mining lease relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea; and



- (b) only to the extent that the land is non-exclusive land.
- (3) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 7.

## **651 Definitions for div 4**

In this division—

*applicant* means the applicant for the proposed mining lease.

*closing day (native title issues)*, for the proposed mining lease, see section 653(3).

*combined hearing*, for the proposed mining lease, see section 671.

*consultation and negotiation parties*, for the proposed mining lease, see section 658(1).

*contract conditions* see section 675(1).

*land* means the land the subject of the proposed mining lease.

*Minister's decision* see section 684(2).

*native title issues decision* see section 669(1).

*negotiated agreement*, for the proposed mining lease, see section 659(1).

*notification day (native title issues)*, for the proposed mining lease, see section 653(2).

*registered native title party* see section 655.

*urgency notice* see section 683.

## **Subdivision 2 Notification and registration requirements**

### **652 Requirement to notify**

- (1) The applicant must give a written notice about the proposed mining lease to—
  - (a) all native title notification parties for the land; and
  - (b) the Native Title Registrar.

- (2) The applicant must also make sure that a public notice, containing the information contained in the written notice mentioned in subsection (1), is published in—
  - (a) a newspaper circulating generally in the area of the land; and
  - (b) a relevant special interest publication.
- (3) The written notice must be given under subsection (1), and the public notice must be published under subsection (2)—
  - (a) not earlier than 3 months before the application for the proposed mining lease is lodged; and
  - (b) not later than—
    - (i) the end of the period of 20 business days after the certificate of application for the proposed mining lease is endorsed by the mining registrar under section 252(2);<sup>273</sup> or
    - (iii) if, under section 654, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice and the publication of a new public notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.
- (4) The written notice may be about more than 1 proposed mining lease.

### **653 Content of written notice**

- (1) The written notice must state the following—
  - (a) the name and postal address of the applicant;
  - (b) the following days for the proposed mining lease—
    - (i) the notification day (native title issues);
    - (ii) the closing day (native title issues);
  - (c) how a person may become a registered native title party;
  - (d) that registered native title parties have a right—

---

<sup>273</sup> Section 252 (Certificate of application etc.)

- (i) to be consulted about the proposed mining lease;<sup>274</sup> and
  - (ii) to object to the granting of the proposed mining lease;<sup>275</sup> and
  - (iii) to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement about the granting of the proposed mining lease;<sup>276</sup>
- (e) that an objection must—
- (i) be made in writing in the approved form; and
  - (ii) be lodged with the mining registrar at any time before a negotiated agreement is reached or the proposed mining lease is referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision; and
  - (iii) state the facts and circumstances relied on by the registered native title party in support of the ground of objection;
- (f) a clear description of the land, and its location;
- (g) a description of the nature of the proposed mining lease;
- (h) that the proposed mining lease, if granted, will be granted by the Governor in Council;
- (i) how further information about the proposed mining lease, and about the matters mentioned in paragraph (d), can be obtained from the applicant and from the mining registrar.
- (2) The ***notification day (native title issues)*** must be a day that may reasonably be assumed to be a day by which—
- (a) the written notice will have been received by each person to whom it is to be given; and
  - (b) the public notice will have come to the attention of each person to whom the public notice is directed.

---

274 See sections 658 (Parties to consultation and negotiation) and 659 (Requirement for consultation and for negotiation in good faith)

275 See section 668 (Objections)

276 See section 659 (Requirement for consultation and negotiation in good faith)

- (3) The *closing day (native title issues)* must be a day at least 3 months after the notification day (native title issues).

## **654 Notification of mining registrar**

- (1) Within 5 business days after the applicant has complied, or purportedly complied, with the requirements of sections 652 and 653, the applicant must give the mining registrar information in the approved form about the applicant's compliance with sections 652 and 653.
- (2) The following must be attached to the approved form—
- (a) a copy of the written notice given under section 652 and 653(1);
  - (b) the page, or a copy of the page, of the newspaper mentioned in section 652(2)(a) that contained the public notice mentioned in section 652(2);
  - (c) the page, or a copy of the page, of the relevant special interest publication mentioned in section 652(2)(b) that contained the public notice mentioned in section 652(2).
- (3) The mining registrar must give the applicant a written direction to give a new written notice, and publish a new public notice, under sections 652 and 653 if the mining registrar is satisfied that 1 or more of the following applies—
- (a) the giving of the written notice was not in accordance with the requirements of section 652(1) and (3);
  - (b) the content of the written notice was not in accordance with the requirements of section 653;
  - (c) the publication of the public notice was not in accordance with the requirements of section 652(2) and (3).
- (4) The written direction must nominate a period within which the direction must be complied with.
- (5) The new written notice, when given, and the new public notice, when published, must—
- (a) state that it is a replacement notice; and
  - (b) identify the previous notice.

**655 Registered native title parties**

- (1) An entity is a *registered native title party* depending on when the issue has to be considered.
- (2) On the closing day (native title issues), and at any time before it, each of the following entities is a *registered native title party*—
  - (a) a registered native title body corporate in relation to the land;
  - (b) a registered native title claimant in relation to the land.
- (3) At any time in the 1 month immediately following the closing day (native title issues), each of the following entities is a *registered native title party*—
  - (a) a registered native title body corporate in relation to the land, if the body corporate was a registered native title body corporate in relation to the land on or before the closing day (native title issues);
  - (b) a registered native title body corporate in relation to the land, if the body corporate became a registered native title body corporate in relation to the land—
    - (i) after the closing day (native title issues); and
    - (ii) as a result of a native title determination application containing a claim that was filed on or before the closing day (native title issues) and was entered on the register of native title claims in the 1 month immediately following the closing day (native title issues);
  - (c) an entity that filed a native title determination application in the Federal Court in relation to the land on or before the closing day (native title issues).
- (4) At any time after the 1 month immediately following the closing day (native title issues), each of the following entities is a *registered native title party*—
  - (a) a registered native title body corporate in relation to the land, if the body corporate was a registered native title body corporate in relation to the land on or before the closing day (native title issues);

- (b) a registered native title body corporate in relation to the land, if the body corporate became a registered native title body corporate in relation to the land as a result of a native title determination application containing a claim that was filed on or before the closing day (native title issues) and was entered on the register of native title claims as at the end of the 1 month immediately following the closing day (native title issues);
- (c) an entity that is a registered native title claimant in relation to the land, if the entity—
  - (i) filed a native title determination application in the Federal Court on or before the closing day (native title issues); and
  - (ii) was a registered native title claimant in relation to the land as at 1 month after the closing day (native title issues).
- (5) If a person (the *first person*) becomes a registered native title claimant because the first person replaces another person as the applicant in relation to a claimant application, and the other person is a registered native title party, the first person also replaces the other person as the registered native title party.

## **656 Advice to mining registrar**

- (1) As soon as practicable after the closing day (native title issues) for the proposed mining lease, the applicant must give the mining registrar a list, in the approved form, of the names and addresses of—
  - (a) all registered native title parties as at the closing day (native title issues); and
  - (b) all entities that may become registered native title parties.
- (2) As soon as practicable after the end of 1 month after the closing day (native title issues) for the proposed mining lease, the applicant must give the mining registrar a list in the approved form of the names and addresses of all entities that have become registered native title parties in the month.

- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply if at the closing day (native title issues), there were no entities that might have become registered native title parties.

### **657 Ending of additional requirements**

- (1) The additional requirements provided for under this division stop applying for the proposed mining lease if, after 1 month after the closing day (native title issues)—
- (a) there are no registered native title parties; or
  - (b) all registered native title parties certify in the approved form lodged with the mining registrar that they do not object to the grant of the proposed mining lease and do not wish to be consulted about it.
- (2) However, if the Governor in Council grants the proposed mining lease, and there are 1 or more registered native title parties, the holder of the mining lease must, within 20 business days after the holder receives notice of the grant, give a written notice complying with subsection (3) to each registered native title party.
- Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.
- (3) The written notice must advise the granting of the mining lease and state any conditions of the mining lease.

## **Subdivision 3 Consultation and negotiation**

### **658 Parties to consultation and negotiation**

- (1) The parties to the consultation and negotiation required under this subdivision about the granting of the proposed mining lease are the following (the *consultation and negotiation parties* for the proposed mining lease)—
- (a) the applicant;
  - (b) the registered native title parties;
  - (c) the State.

- (2) However, the State stops being a consultation and negotiation party for the proposed mining lease if the State and all the other consultation and negotiation parties for the proposed mining lease at any time agree, in the approved form lodged with the mining registrar, that the State is not to be a consultation and negotiation party.
- (3) Also, if all the consultation and negotiation parties at any time agree, in the approved form lodged with the mining registrar, that the State is to take a particular role in the consultation and negotiation, stated in the lodged approved form, the State may adopt the stated role, even though it is no longer a consultation and negotiation party.
- (4) A registered native title party is taken to stop being a consultation and negotiation party if the party lodges an approved form under section 657(b).

#### **659 Requirement for consultation and negotiation in good faith**

- (1) The consultation and negotiation parties for the proposed mining lease must consult and negotiate in good faith with a view to obtaining the agreement of each of the registered native title parties (a *negotiated agreement*) to—
  - (a) the granting of the proposed mining lease; and
  - (b) any conditions to be complied with by the consultation and negotiation parties if the proposed mining lease is granted.
- (2) Also, as part of the consultation and negotiation—
  - (a) the applicant—
    - (i) must consult the registered native title parties about ways of minimising the impact of the grant of the proposed mining lease on their registered native title rights and interests in relation to the land, including about—
      - (A) any access to the land; and
      - (B) the way in which anything authorised by the proposed mining lease might be done; and



- (ii) for the consultation, must have regard to the guidelines set out in this subdivision for applicant consultation; and
- (b) the registered native title parties—
  - (i) must consult the other consultation and negotiation parties about the effect of the proposed mining lease on their registered native title rights and interests; and
  - (ii) for the consultation, must have regard to the guidelines set out in this subdivision for registered native title party consultation.

**660 Content of negotiation in good faith**

- (1) Subsections (3) to (5) apply for the requirement under this subdivision to negotiate in good faith.
- (2) However, subject to those subsections, this subdivision does not limit the requirements that apply for negotiation in good faith.
- (3) A consultation and negotiation party must make every reasonable effort to reach agreement.
- (4) To negotiate in good faith, a consultation and negotiation party is not required to negotiate about issues unrelated or unconnected to the proposed mining lease.
- (5) A consultation and negotiation party is not required to negotiate about matters unrelated to the impact of the grant of the proposed mining lease on the registered native title rights and interests of registered native title parties.

**661 Failure to negotiate**

The failure of 1 consultation and negotiation party to negotiate in good faith can not be used to establish that another consultation and negotiation party has not negotiated in good faith.

**662 Request for mediation**

- (1) At any time before a negotiated agreement is reached or the proposed mining lease is referred to the tribunal, by action taken under section 669, for a native title issues decision, a consultation and negotiation party may ask for mediation to help in resolving issues relevant to the consultation and negotiation.
- (2) If a consultation and negotiation party asks for mediation under subsection (1), mediation—
  - (a) must be conducted by—
    - (i) a mediator chosen by the consultation and negotiation parties; or
    - (ii) if the consultation and negotiation parties are not able to agree on a mediator and the party asks the tribunal to provide the mediation—the tribunal, or a mediator chosen by the tribunal; and
  - (b) does not extend the period that must elapse before the proposed mining lease may be referred to the tribunal, by action taken under section 669, for a native title issues decision; and
  - (c) may continue after the period mentioned in paragraph (b) has elapsed if the consultation and negotiation parties agree; and
  - (d) may end at any time—
    - (i) by decision of the mediator; or
    - (ii) by agreement of the consultation and negotiation parties.

**663 Process for consultation and negotiation—applicant consultation**

- (1) This section states guidelines for applicant consultation under this subdivision.

- (2) Within 4 months after the notification day (native title issues), the applicant should—
  - (a) give each registered native title party a true copy of the application for the proposed mining lease (but not the statement detailing the applicant's financial and technical resources) and the endorsed certificate of application; and
  - (b) convene at least 1 meeting (*consultation meeting*) to provide a reasonable opportunity for all registered native title parties to be given a presentation about the proposed mining lease.
- (3) A consultation meeting may be—
  - (a) in the town or city where the mining registrar is located; or
  - (b) in a town or city in which there is an office of the representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander body for the area that includes the land; or
  - (c) at another place agreed between the consultation and negotiation parties.
- (4) A consultation meeting should be convened at a time and place suitable for maximising attendance.
- (5) If the applicant has convened a consultation meeting under subsection (2)(b), the meeting is taken to have happened even though not all, or none, of the registered native title parties attended the meeting.
- (6) The presentation mentioned in subsection (2)(b) should be directed at providing registered native title parties with an understanding of the anticipated nature, extent and impact of the project authorised by the grant of the proposed mining lease.

**664 Process for consultation and negotiation—registered native title parties consultation**

- (1) This section states the guidelines for registered native title party consultation under this subdivision.

- (2) The consultation should be carried out as soon as practicable after the applicant consultation has been completed.
- (3) Each registered native title party should advise the other consultation and negotiation parties about the impact the party considers the grant of the proposed mining lease will have on the party's registered native title rights and interests.

**665 Process for consultation and negotiation—taking account of existing rights, interests and use**

Without limiting the scope of consultation and negotiation under this subdivision, the nature and extent of the following may be taken into account—

- (a) existing non-native title rights and interests in relation to the land;
- (b) existing use of the land by persons other than registered native title parties;
- (c) the practical effect of the exercise of any existing non-native title rights and interests mentioned in paragraph (a), and of the existing use mentioned in paragraph (b), on the exercise of native title rights and interests in relation to the land.

**666 Process for consultation and negotiation—negotiated agreement with or without conditions attached**

- (1) This section applies if a negotiated agreement is reached, whether or not the negotiated agreement includes conditions to be complied with by the consultation and negotiation parties for the proposed mining lease if the proposed mining lease is granted.
- (2) The consultation and negotiation parties must—
  - (a) give the mining registrar—
    - (i) a written notice in the approved form stating that a negotiated agreement has been reached for the proposed mining lease; and
    - (ii) a copy of the signed negotiated agreement; and
  - (b) give a copy of the notice to the tribunal.

- (3) When the approved form has been lodged under subsection (2), the additional requirements provided for under this division, other than section 667, stop applying to the proposed mining lease.
- (4) However, if the Governor in Council grants the proposed mining lease, the holder of the mining lease must, within 20 business days after the holder receives notice of the grant, give a written notice complying with subsection (5) to each registered native title party.  
Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.
- (5) The written notice must advise the granting of the mining lease and state any conditions of the mining lease.

**667 Process for consultation and negotiation—negotiated agreement with conditions attached**

- (1) This section applies if a negotiated agreement is reached, and the negotiated agreement includes conditions to be complied with by the consultation and negotiation parties for the proposed mining lease if the proposed mining lease is granted.
- (2) The negotiated agreement has effect, if the proposed mining lease is granted, as if—
  - (a) the conditions included in the agreement were the terms of a contract; and
  - (b) all the consultation and negotiation parties were parties to the contract; and
  - (c) if a registered native title party is a registered native title claimant—any individual included in the native title claim group concerned were a party to the contract.
- (3) Subsection (2) has effect in addition to any other effect that the negotiated agreement may have apart from under subsection (2).

**668 Objections**

- (1) At any time before a negotiated agreement is reached or the proposed mining lease is referred to the tribunal, by action taken under section 669, for a native title issues decision, a registered native title party may lodge an objection to the proposed mining lease.
- (2) The objection—
  - (a) must be made in writing in the approved form; and
  - (b) must be lodged with the mining registrar; and
  - (c) must state the facts and circumstances relied on by the registered native title party in support of the ground of objection.
- (3) Anything about the amount or payment of compensation is not a ground for objection.
- (4) The registered native title party must also give a copy of the objection, and all material accompanying the objection, to the other consultation and negotiation parties and the tribunal as soon as practicable after the objection is lodged with the mining registrar.
- (5) At any time before a negotiated agreement is reached or the proposed mining lease is referred to the tribunal, by action taken under section 669, for a native title issues decision, the registered native title party may withdraw the objection by lodging with the mining registrar a written notice withdrawing the objection.
- (6) The registered native title party must also give a copy of the written notice withdrawing the objection to the other consultation and negotiation parties and the tribunal as soon as practicable after the withdrawal of the objection is lodged with the mining registrar.
- (7) The registered native title party must withdraw the objection under this section if at any time a negotiated agreement is reached.

- (8) The registered native title party may object about the effect of the grant of the proposed mining lease on its registered native title rights and interests under this section only, and may not object under section 260<sup>277</sup> about the effect of the grant of the proposed mining lease on its registered native title rights and interests.
- (9) If at any time a person who has lodged an objection under this section stops being a registered native title party, the objection is taken to have been withdrawn.
- (10) However, an objection continues to have effect as an objection if the person who lodged the objection stops being a registered native title party because—
  - (a) the person is replaced by another person (the *replacing person*) under section 66B<sup>278</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act; or
  - (b) an approved determination of native title that native title exists is made, and immediately before the determination is made, the person is a registered native title claimant.
- (11) If an objection continues to have effect as an objection because of subsection (10)(a), the objection is taken to have been lodged by the replacing person.
- (12) If an objection continues to have effect as an objection because of subsection (10)(b), the objection is taken to have been lodged by the relevant registered native title body corporate.
- (13) An objection lodged under this section, if it is not withdrawn, must be given to the tribunal and must be heard by the tribunal in a combined hearing under subdivision 4.
- (14) However, the tribunal must not hear an objection if the objection has not been made in substantial compliance with this section.

---

277 Section 260 (Objection to application for grant of mining lease)

278 Section 66B (Replacing the applicant) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

## Subdivision 4 Referral and native title issues decision

### 669 Referral of proposed mining lease to tribunal

- (1) If the pre-referral period has ended, but a negotiated agreement has not been reached, a consultation and negotiation party for the proposed mining lease may refer the proposed mining lease to the tribunal for a decision under this division (a *native title issues decision*).
- (2) The referral must be—
  - (a) lodged with the mining registrar; and
  - (b) made in the approved form.
- (3) A copy of the approved form lodged with the mining registrar must also be given to the other consultation and negotiation parties for the proposed mining lease.
- (4) If there has been no referral within 3 months after the end of the pre-referral period, the Minister may reject the application for the proposed mining lease.
- (5) If the pre-referral period has ended, and a registered native title party who lodged an objection under section 668 has not withdrawn the objection, the proposed mining lease is taken to have been referred to the tribunal under subsection (1).
- (6) In this section—

*pre-referral period* means—

  - (a) if an environmental impact statement for the proposed mining lease is not required to be prepared under another State Act or a Commonwealth Act—
    - (i) the period of 6 months starting on the notification day (native title issues); or
    - (ii) if the registered native title parties and the applicant agree on a time, which must be later than the time that would otherwise apply under subparagraph (i), and advise the mining registrar in writing of the agreed later time—the period ending at the agreed later time; or



- (b) otherwise—the period which, out of the following periods, ends latest—
  - (i) the period of 3 months starting on the day the environmental impact statement is publicly notified under the other State Act or the Commonwealth Act;
  - (ii) if the registered native title parties for the non-exclusive land and the applicant agree on a time, which must be later than the time that would otherwise apply under paragraph (a), and advise the mining registrar in writing of the agreed later time—the period ending at the agreed later time;
  - (iii) the period of 6 months starting on the notification day (native title issues).

### **670 Continuing negotiation**

- (1) After the referral of the proposed mining lease to the tribunal, the consultation and negotiation parties for the proposed mining lease may continue to negotiate to reach a negotiated agreement before the native title issues decision is made.
- (2) If a negotiated agreement is reached, all referrals of the proposed mining lease to the tribunal are taken to be withdrawn, and the tribunal must not make a native title issues decision.

### **671 Combined hearing**

- (1) The hearing under part 7 of the application for the grant of the proposed mining lease must include the following—
  - (a) the hearing of the objections and other matters mentioned in section 268(1);<sup>279</sup>
  - (b) the hearing for a native title issues decision, including the hearing of any objections lodged under section 668.
- (2) The hearing mentioned in subsection (1) is a ***combined hearing***.

---

279 Section 268 (Hearing of application for grant of mining lease)

- (3) The tribunal must not act under section 270<sup>280</sup> to dispense with a hearing, unless a negotiated agreement has been reached.
- (4) All consultation and negotiation parties have the right to be heard at the combined hearing.

### **672 Fixing of date for combined hearing**

- (1) Subsections (2) to (5) apply if the mining registrar is required to fix under section 265<sup>281</sup> a hearing date for the combined hearing, but there has not yet been a referral (other than a referral that has been withdrawn) of the mining lease for a native title issues decision.
- (2) The mining registrar may, if the applicant agrees, fix a hearing date for the application for the proposed mining lease, and any objections to the application, under section 265 as if the hearing were not a combined hearing.
- (3) At the hearing, the tribunal may—
  - (a) proceed with the hearing of the application for the proposed mining lease, and any objections to the application, as if the hearing were not a combined hearing; and
  - (b) at an appropriate time adjourn the hearing.
- (4) However, as soon as practicable after a negotiated agreement is reached or the proposed mining lease is referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision, the tribunal must reconvene the combined hearing.
- (5) The mining registrar may defer fixing a date for the combined hearing until the proposed mining lease is referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision.

---

280 Section 270 (Procedure where no objections lodged)

281 Section 265 (Mining registrar to fix hearing date)

- (6) If the proposed mining lease has been referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision, but the mining registrar is not yet required under section 265 to fix a hearing date for the combined hearing, the mining registrar must fix a date for the combined hearing when the mining registrar is able to fix a date under section 265.

## **Subdivision 5 Requirements for combined hearing**

### **673 Directions about conduct of combined hearing**

At any time after the referral of the proposed mining lease for a native title issues decision, the tribunal may give directions to the consultation and negotiation parties, including directions about the filing and serving of the following—

- (a) a statement by the applicant that includes a copy of the material provided to the registered native title parties under subdivision 3;
- (b) a statement of impact by each registered native title party, setting out the effect the party considers the grant of the proposed mining lease will have on the party's registered native title rights and interests;
- (c) submissions by any of the consultation and negotiation parties on the matters the tribunal will be required to take into account for making its native title issues decision.

### **674 Issue of negotiation in good faith**

- (1) If a consultation and negotiation party raises the issue of whether another consultation and negotiation party has complied with subdivision 3, including with the requirement for negotiation in good faith, the issue must be dealt with as a part of the combined hearing for the application for the grant of the proposed mining lease.

- (2) If at the combined hearing the tribunal is not satisfied that the applicant or the State has complied with subdivision 3, including with the requirement for negotiation in good faith, it may adjourn the combined hearing to allow for the subdivision to be complied with by all the consultation and negotiation parties.
- (3) An adjournment under subsection (2) may only be for a maximum period of 3 months.
- (4) If the tribunal is satisfied that a registered native title party did not comply with subdivision 3, including with the requirement for negotiation in good faith, the tribunal may not adjourn the combined hearing on that ground alone.
- (5) However, the tribunal may take the failure of a consultation and negotiation party to comply with subdivision 3 into account in making its native title issues decision.
- (6) A consultation and negotiation party can not raise the issue of the State's compliance with subdivision 3, including the requirement for negotiation in good faith, on the ground that the State stopped being a consultation and negotiation party under section 658(2) or took a particular role under section 658(3).

### **675 Nature of native title issues decision**

- (1) The native title issues decision must be 1 of the following—
  - (a) that the proposed mining lease may be granted;
  - (b) that the proposed mining lease may be granted, but subject to either or both of the following—
    - (i) that conditions, described or identified in the native title issues decision, are to be included in the mining lease;
    - (ii) that conditions (*contract conditions*), described or identified in the native title issues decision, are required to be complied with by 1 or more of the consultation and negotiation parties (even though the conditions are not included in the mining lease);
  - (c) that the proposed mining lease should not be granted.

- (2) If, at the end of the combined hearing, the consultation and negotiation parties have not reached an agreement about compensation, the tribunal, whether or not an application has been made to the tribunal about compensation, must also make any compensation decision or compensation trust decision that is required to be made under part 18 before the mining lease is granted.
- (3) The tribunal must not include a condition, whether or not a contract condition, that has the effect that a registered native title party is entitled to payments from the applicant worked out by reference to 1 or more of the following—
  - (a) the amount of profits to be made under the proposed mining lease;
  - (b) the amount of any income to be derived under the proposed mining lease;
  - (c) anything to be produced under the proposed mining lease.

### **676 Timing of tribunal's recommendation and native title issues decision**

The tribunal must advise the Minister of its native title issues decision when the tribunal forwards its recommendation to the Minister under section 269(1).<sup>282</sup>

### **677 Tribunal's native title issues decision**

- (1) In making its native title issues decision, the tribunal must take into account the following—
  - (a) the effect of the grant of the proposed mining lease on—
    - (i) the enjoyment by the registered native title parties of their registered native title rights and interests; and
    - (ii) the way of life, culture and traditions of any of the registered native title parties; and

---

282 Section 269 (Tribunal's recommendation on hearing)

- (iii) the development of social, cultural and economic structures of any of the registered native title parties; and
  - (iv) the freedom of access by any of the registered native title parties to the land; and
  - (v) the freedom of any of the registered native title parties to carry out rites, ceremonies or other activities of cultural significance on the land in accordance with their traditions; and
  - (vi) any area or site on the land of particular significance to the registered native title parties in accordance with their traditions;
- (b) the interests, proposals, opinions or wishes of the registered native title parties in relation to the management, use or control of land in relation to which there are registered native title rights and interests of the registered native title parties that will be affected by the grant of the proposed mining lease;
  - (c) the economic or other significance of the grant of the proposed mining lease to Australia, Queensland, the area in which the land is located and Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders who live in the area;
  - (d) any public interest in the granting of the proposed mining lease;
  - (e) any other matter the tribunal considers relevant.
- (2) In deciding the effect of the grant of the proposed mining on the matters mentioned in subsection (1)(a), the tribunal must also take into account the nature and extent of—
    - (a) existing non-native title rights and interests in relation to the land; and
    - (b) existing use of the land or waters by persons other than the registered native title parties.
  - (3) In complying with subsections (1) and (2) the tribunal must take into account all objections lodged under this division to the granting of the proposed mining lease, and any other documents lodged or filed under this division.

- (4) Taking into account the effect of the grant of the proposed mining lease on an area or site mentioned in subsection (1)(a)(vi) does not affect the operation of any law of the State for the preservation or protection of those areas or sites.
- (5) Before making the native title issues decision—
  - (a) the tribunal must establish whether there are any issues relevant to its decision on which the consultation and negotiation parties are currently in agreement; and
  - (b) if there are agreed issues under paragraph (a), and all the consultation and negotiation parties consent—the tribunal, in making its native title issues decision—
    - (i) must take the agreed issues into account; and
    - (ii) need not take into account the matters mentioned in subsection (1)(a) to (e) to the extent the matters are the subject of the agreed issues.

## **678 Deferred matters**

- (1) As well as making the native title issues decision, the tribunal may make a decision about matters (the *deferred matters*) that—
  - (a) were the subject of negotiation between the consultation and negotiation parties; and
  - (b) under an agreement that includes all the consultation and negotiation parties, are to be the subject of further negotiation, or are to be decided in a way stated in the decision under this section; and
  - (c) are not reasonably capable of being decided when the native title issues decision is made; and
  - (d) are not directly relevant to the native title issues decision.
- (2) The tribunal must give a copy of its decision under this section to—
  - (a) the consultation and negotiation parties; and

- (b) if the State is not a consultation and negotiation party—the mining registrar.
- (3) The tribunal’s decision under this section about the deferred matters is binding on all the consultation and negotiation parties.
- (4) If the decision under this section is that the deferred matters are to be decided by arbitration, and, after the decision is made, the consultation and negotiation parties can not agree on the way the arbitration is to take place, the tribunal, on the application of a consultation and negotiation party, has jurisdiction to decide the deferred matters.

### **679 General time requirement for making native title issues decision**

- (1) The tribunal must take all reasonable steps to make sure that the native title issues decision is made within 6 months after the proposed mining lease is referred to the tribunal for the decision.
- (2) If the native title issues decision is not made within the 6 months, the tribunal must, as soon as practicable after the 6 months ends, give a written notice to the Minister—
  - (a) advising why the native title issues decision has not yet been made; and
  - (b) giving an estimate of when the decision is likely to be made.

### **680 Effect of native title issues decision**

- (1) The native title issues decision must be complied with by the Minister, including in any recommendation of the Minister to the Governor in Council under section 271,<sup>283</sup> unless the Minister overrules the native title issues decision under subdivision 6.
- (2) If the native title issues decision is that the proposed mining lease should not be granted, the tribunal may nevertheless

---

<sup>283</sup> Section 271 (Minister to consider recommendation made in respect of application for grant of mining lease)



recommend under section 269<sup>284</sup> that the application for the proposed mining lease should be granted.

- (3) However if subsection (2) applies, the Minister must not recommend to the Governor in Council under section 271 that the proposed mining lease be granted unless the Minister overrules the native title issues decision under section 681.

## **Subdivision 6      Overruling of native title issues decision**

### **681      Minister may overrule native title issues decision**

- (1) The Minister may overrule the native title issues decision, but only if—
  - (a) it is in the interests of Queensland or in the national interest to overrule the native title issues decision; and
  - (b) the Minister overrules the decision within 2 months after the native titles issues decision is made.
- (2) If the Minister overrules the native title issues decision, the Minister must make a substituted decision.
- (3) The substituted decision—
  - (a) must comply with the requirements of section 675(1) and (3) for a native title issues decision; and
  - (b) when made, takes the place of the native title issues decision.
- (4) The substituted decision can not overrule a compensation decision or compensation trust decision, for the granting of the proposed mining lease, already made by the tribunal under part 18.
- (5) If the substituted decision is that the proposed mining lease may be granted with or without conditions, the Minister must refer the matter to the tribunal for—
  - (a) if a compensation decision or compensation trust decision has already been made under part 18 for the

---

284 Section 269 (Tribunal's recommendation on hearing)

granting of the proposed mining lease—a new compensation decision or compensation trust decision; or

- (b) otherwise—a compensation decision or compensation trust decision under part 18 for the granting of the proposed mining lease.
- (6) The Minister must give a copy of the substituted decision to the tribunal and the consultation and negotiation parties.

## **682 Effect of overruling**

- (1) This section applies if the Minister makes a substituted decision under section 681.
- (2) If the substituted decision is that the proposed mining lease may be granted, but subject to conditions to be included in the mining lease, any recommendation of the Minister to the Governor in Council under section 271<sup>285</sup> that the proposed mining lease be granted, must include a recommendation that the proposed mining lease be granted subject to the conditions.
- (3) If the substituted decision is that the proposed mining lease should not be granted, the Minister must not recommend to the Governor in Council under section 271 that the proposed mining lease be granted.

## **Subdivision 7 Special provisions about completion of combined hearing and making of native titles issues decision**

### **683 Giving of urgency notice**

- (1) This section applies if the tribunal's native titles issues decision has not been made, and a negotiated agreement has not been reached, 4 months after the proposed mining lease

---

<sup>285</sup> Section 271 (Minister to consider recommendation made in respect of application for grant of mining lease)

was referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision, other than under a referral that was later withdrawn.

- (2) The Minister may give the tribunal a written notice (an *urgency notice*) asking the tribunal to complete its combined hearing and make its native title issues decision within the period stated in the written notice.
- (3) The period stated under subsection (2) must be a period ending after the end of the period of 6 months after the proposed mining lease was referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision.

#### **684 Minister's decision if tribunal recommendation delayed**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) the Minister has given the tribunal an urgency notice under section 683 in relation to the proposed mining lease; and
  - (b) the period stated in the urgency notice for the tribunal to complete its combined hearing and make its native title issues decision has ended; and
  - (c) the tribunal has not made its native title issues decision; and
  - (d) the consultation required under this subdivision (including under this section) for the making of a decision by the Minister has happened.
- (2) The Minister may make a decision (the *Minister's decision*) under this section about the native title issues decision.
- (3) The Minister may make a decision under this section that has the effect of a native title issues decision that the proposed mining lease may be granted, with or without conditions and whether or not contract conditions, only if the Minister has first consulted with the Commonwealth Minister about the making of the decision.
- (4) The Minister may make a decision under this section only if—
  - (a) the making of the native title issues decision is unlikely to happen within a period that is reasonable, taking into account all the circumstances; and

- (b) it is in the interests of Queensland to make the decision at the time it is made.
- (5) Subsection (4)(a) and (b) does not stop the Minister from taking into account other matters in deciding whether to make a decision under this section.

### **685 Consultation before Minister's decision**

- (1) Before making the Minister's decision, the Minister must give a written notice under subsections (2) and (3).
- (2) The Minister must give written notice to the tribunal requiring it, by the end of the day stated in the notice, to give the Minister and each consultation and negotiation party a summary of the material presented to the tribunal in the course of the tribunal considering what the native title issues decision should be.
- (3) The Minister must give a written notice to each consultation and negotiation party stating the following—
  - (a) that the Minister is considering making the decision;
  - (b) that each consultation and negotiation party—
    - (i) may, by the end of the day stated in the written notice, give the Minister any submission or other material that the consultation and negotiation party wants the Minister to take into account in deciding whether to make the decision and, if so, its terms; and
    - (ii) if the consultation and negotiation party gives the Minister a submission or other material, must also give each of the other consultation and negotiation parties a copy of the submission or other material; and
    - (iii) may, within 5 business days after the day stated in the written notice, in response to any submission or other material given by any other consultation and negotiation party or the tribunal, give the Minister any further submission or other material that the consultation and negotiation party wants the Minister to take into account.

- (4) The day stated in the written notices given under subsections (2) and (3) must be—
- (a) the same day in all of the written notices given under the subsections; and
  - (b) a day by which, in the Minister's opinion, it is reasonable to assume that all of the written notices given will have been received by, or will otherwise have come to the attention of, the persons who must be notified under this section.
- (5) If the Minister complies with subsection (1), there is no requirement for any person to be given any further hearing before the Minister makes the decision.
- (6) In making the decision, the Minister—
- (a) must take into account—
    - (i) any submission or material provided by a consultation and negotiation party under subsection (3), but only if the consultation and negotiation party has complied with the Minister's written notice in the way mentioned in subsection (3)(b)(ii); and
    - (ii) any report provided by the tribunal; and
    - (iii) the Minister's consultation with the Commonwealth Minister under this subdivision; and
    - (iv) any issues about which the consultation and negotiation parties have agreed in writing and advised to the Minister; and
  - (b) may, but need not, take into account any other matter or thing.
- (7) The fact that no submission or other material of the kind mentioned in subsection (3) has been given to the Minister before the end of the day stated in the written notices does not stop the Minister from making the decision.

**686 Minister's decisions generally**

- (1) The Minister's decision has effect as a native title issues decision.
- (2) The Minister's decision must, as for a native title issues decision for section 675, be 1 of the following—
  - (a) that the proposed mining lease may be granted;
  - (b) that the proposed mining lease may be granted, but subject to either or both of the following—
    - (i) that conditions, described or identified in the Minister's decision, are to be included in the mining lease;
    - (ii) contract conditions;
  - (c) that the proposed mining lease should not be granted.
- (3) If the Minister's decision is a decision mentioned in subsection (2)(a) or (b), the Minister must refer the matter to the tribunal for a compensation decision or compensation trust decision under part 18.
- (4) The Minister does not have a duty to make a Minister's decision, despite the following—
  - (a) the giving of any notice by the Minister;
  - (b) the giving of any submission or other material to the Minister;
  - (c) any request by a consultation and negotiation party for the Minister to make the decision;
  - (d) any other circumstance.
- (5) The Minister's decision must be made by the Minister personally.
- (6) The Minister must table in the Legislative Assembly a report containing the Minister's decision, and the reasons for the decision, within 15 sitting days after making the decision.

## **Subdivision 8      Miscellaneous matters about grant**

### **687      Contract conditions**

- (1) If the Governor in Council grants the proposed mining lease, a contract condition has effect, in addition to any effect that it may have other than under this subsection, as if it were included in the terms of a contract between the consultation and negotiation parties.
- (2) If a consultation and negotiation party is a registered native title claimant, any individual included in the native title claim group concerned is a party to the contract.

### **688      Notice of grant to registered native title parties**

- (1) If the Governor in Council grants the proposed mining lease, the holder of the mining lease must, within 20 business days after the holder receives notice of the grant, give a written notice complying with subsection (2) to each registered native title party.

Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.

- (2) The written notice must—
  - (a) advise the granting of the mining lease; and
  - (b) state—
    - (i) any contract conditions; and
    - (ii) the conditions of the mining lease.

## **Division 5              Renewals of mining leases**

### **689      Application of div 5**

- (5) This division applies to the renewal of a mining lease if—
  - (a) the application for the renewal of the mining lease was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the renewal of the mining lease is an act—
    - (i) that affects native title rights and interests; and

- (ii) in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise had effect; and
  - (c) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this subsection is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.
- (6) However, this division applies to the renewal of a mining lease mentioned in subsection (5) only to the extent that the land the subject of the mining lease is non-exclusive land.
  - (7) This division applies to the renewal of a mining lease mentioned in subsection (5) only to the extent that the mining lease relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea.
  - (8) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 7.
  - (9) In this section—
    - renewal*, of a mining lease, includes—
      - (a) the re-grant of the mining lease; and
      - (b) the re-making of the mining lease; and
      - (c) the extension of the term of the mining lease.

#### **694 Requirements for renewal—applying div 4**

- (1) If this division applies to the renewal of a mining lease because of section 689(5), the additional requirements applying under division 4 for the granting of a mining lease on non-exclusive land also apply for the renewal.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

#### **695 Applying div 4 for renewal**

- (1) This section—
  - (a) applies for applying the provisions of division 4; and
  - (b) does not limit section 694.
- (2) For applying section 652(3), the following period is substituted for the periods mentioned in section 652(3)(b)(i),



that is, the end of the period of 20 business days after lodgement of the application for the renewal.

- (3) For applying section 669, the pre-referral period is—
  - (a) the period of 6 months starting on the notification day (native title issues); or
  - (b) if the registered native title parties and the applicant agree on a time, which must be later than the time that would otherwise apply under paragraph (a), and advise the mining registrar in writing of the agreed later time—the period ending at the agreed later time.
- (4) For applying division 4, subdivisions 4 and 5,<sup>286</sup> if the proposed renewal is referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision, there is not a combined hearing, but there is a hearing for a native title issues decision, including the hearing of any objections lodged under section 668.<sup>287</sup>
- (5) Sections 671 and 672 do not apply, but—
  - (a) the mining registrar must within 10 business days after the pre-referral period ends, fix a day for the tribunal to hear the application for the renewal; and
  - (b) all consultation and negotiation parties have the right to be heard at the hearing; and
  - (c) the tribunal must hear the application for the renewal and make a native title issues decision; and
  - (d) before making its native title issues decision, the tribunal must ask the Minister about the extent to which the Minister is satisfied about the matters stated in section 286(3).<sup>288</sup>
- (6) Section 676 does not apply, but the tribunal must advise the Minister of its native title issues decision.

---

286 Division 4 (Mining leases), subdivisions 4 (Referral and native title issues decision) and 5 (Requirements for combined hearing)

287 Section 668 (Objections)

288 Section 286 (Renewal of mining lease)

- (7) For applying section 677, the tribunal must also take into account information received from the Minister under subsection (4)(d).
- (8) Division 4, subdivision 7<sup>289</sup> does not apply.
- (9) Section 680(2) and (3) does not apply.

## **Division 6                      Requirements for subsidiary approvals**

### **696      Meaning of *approval* in div 6**

In this division—

*approval* means—

- (a) the approval, under section 237,<sup>290</sup> to conduct drilling and other activities on land not included in the surface area covered under a mining lease; or
- (b) the grant, on an application under section 275,<sup>291</sup> of an additional area of surface of land to be included in a mining lease; or
- (c) the approval, under section 298,<sup>292</sup> for the holder of a mining lease to mine specified minerals, or for the addition of another purpose to a mining lease.

### **697      Application of div 6**

- (5) This division applies to an approval if—
  - (a) were the mining lease to which the approval relates to be granted again, the granting of the mining lease would be an act affecting native title rights and interests if the mining lease were to provide only for—

---

289 Division 4 (Mining leases), subdivision 7 (Special provisions about completion of combined hearing and making of native titles issues decision)

290 Section 237 (Drilling and other activities on land not included in surface area)

291 Section 275 (Application for inclusion of surface of land in mining lease)

292 Section 298 (Mining other minerals or use for other purposes)

- (i) the drilling and other activities mentioned in section 696, definition *approval*, paragraph (a); or
  - (ii) the additional area of surface mentioned in section 696, definition *approval*, paragraph (b); or
  - (iii) the mining of the specified minerals, or the added purpose, mentioned in section 696, definition *approval*, paragraph (c); and
- (ab) the application for the approval was lodged on or before 31 March 2003; and
  - (b) the approval is an act in respect of which the right to negotiate provisions would have otherwise have effect; and
  - (d) the approval relates to non-exclusive land; and
  - (e) a determination is in force under section 43(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act and this subsection is included in the alternative provisions the subject of the determination.
- (6) However, this division applies to the approval mentioned in subsection (5) only to the extent that the approval relates to non-exclusive land.
  - (7) This division applies to an approval mentioned in subsection (5) only to the extent that the approval relates to a place that is on the landward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea.
  - (8) The requirements of this division are additional to the requirements of part 7.

**699 Requirements for approval (additional area)—applying div 4**

- (1) If this division applies to an approval because of section 697(5), and the approval is the grant of an additional area of surface of land to be included in a mining lease, the

additional requirements applying under division 4<sup>293</sup> for the granting of a mining lease also apply for the approval.

- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

#### **704 Requirements for approval (other changes)—applying div 4**

- (1) If this division applies to an approval because of section 697(5), and the approval is other than the grant of an additional area of surface land, the additional requirements applying under division 4 for the granting of a mining lease also apply for the approval.
- (2) The requirements apply with necessary changes.

#### **705 Applying div 4 for approval**

- (1) This section—
  - (a) applies for applying the provisions of division 4 (because of section 704); and
  - (b) does not limit section 704.
- (2) For applying section 652(3), the following period is substituted for the periods mentioned in section 652(3)(b)(i), that is, the end of the period of 20 business days after lodgement of the application for the approval.
- (3) For applying section 669, the pre-referral period is—
  - (a) the period of 6 months starting on the notification day (native title issues); or
  - (b) if the registered native title parties and the applicant agree on a time, which must be later than the time that would otherwise apply under paragraph (a), and advise the mining registrar in writing of the agreed later time—the period ending at the agreed later time.

- (4) For applying division 4, subdivisions 4 and 5,<sup>294</sup> if the proposed approval is referred to the tribunal for a native title issues decision, there is not a combined hearing, but there is a hearing for a native title issues decision, including the hearing of any objections lodged under section 668.<sup>295</sup>
- (5) Sections 671 and 672 do not apply, but—
- (a) the mining registrar must within 10 business days after the pre-referral period ends, fix a day for the tribunal to hear the application for the approval; and
  - (b) all consultation and negotiation parties have the right to be heard at the hearing; and
  - (c) the tribunal must hear the application for the approval and make a native title issues decision.
- (6) Section 676 does not apply, but the tribunal must advise the Minister of its native title issues decision.
- (7) Section 680 does not apply, but the native title issues decision must be complied with by the Minister unless the Minister overrules the native title issues decision under division 4, subdivision 6.<sup>296</sup>
- (8) Section 682 does not apply.
- (9) Division 4, subdivision 7<sup>297</sup> does not apply.
- (10) In sections 687 and 688, a reference to the Governor in Council is a reference to the Minister.

---

294 Division 4 (Mining leases), subdivisions 4 (Referral and native title issues decision) and 5 (Requirements for combined hearing)

295 Section 668 (Objections)

296 Division 4 (Mining leases), subdivision 6 (Overruling of native title issues decision)

297 Division 4 (Mining leases), subdivision 7 (Special provisions about completion of combined hearing and making of native titles issues decision)

## Part 18 Compensation provisions

### Division 1 Preliminary

#### 706 Definitions for pt 18

In this part—

**compensation decision**, for a relevant act, means a decision of the tribunal, other than a compensation trust decision, that provides for—

- (a) whether compensation is to be paid to a registered native title body corporate in relation to the relevant act; and
- (b) if compensation is to be paid—the amount of money to be paid.

**compensation trust decision**, for a relevant act, means a decision of the tribunal about the payment of an amount to be held in trust for any entitlement to compensation for the doing of the relevant act.

**relevant act** means the grant, renewal or variation of, or another act concerning, a mining tenement, if the act happens after the commencement of this section, and is an act—

- (a) to which—
  - (i) part 13 applies; or
  - (ii) part 14 or 17, division 4, 5 or 6 applies; or
  - (iii) part 15 or 16, division 2, 4, 5 or 6 applies; or
- (b) to which part 13 would apply, or part 14 or 17, division 4, 5 or 6 would apply, or part 15 or 16, division 2, 4, 5 or 6 would apply, were it not that—
  - (i) the act relates to a mining tenement in an approved opal or gem mining area, and is excluded from the application of the right to negotiate provisions under section 26(2)(d) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act; or

- (ii) the mining tenement relates to a place that is on the seaward side of the mean high-water mark of the sea; or
  - (iii) the act relates to a mining lease for the sole purpose of the construction of an infrastructure facility associated with mining, and is an act mentioned in section 24MD(6B)(b) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act; or
- (c) that is a renewal to which part 14, 15, 16 or 17, division 5 would apply, were it not that the renewal is an act—
  - (i) to which the right to negotiate provisions do not apply because of section 26D(1) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act; and
  - (ii) in relation to which the earlier right to mine mentioned in section 26D(1)(a) is an earlier right mentioned in section 26D(1)(b)(ii); and
  - (iii) for which compensation has not previously been agreed.

## **Division 2                    General principles**

### **707    Native title compensation**

- (1) An entity is entitled to compensation for the effect of a relevant act on the entity's native title rights and interests, including for activities carried out under the mining tenement the subject of the relevant act as a result of the relevant act.
- (2) However, the entity may receive compensation only in a way provided for in this part.
- (3) Nothing in subsections (1) and (2) stops—
  - (a) compensation from being agreed to before a relevant act is done, based on the expected effect of the relevant act on an entity's native title rights and interests; or
  - (b) a compensation decision or compensation trust decision being made, in accordance with the requirements of the native title provisions, including this part, before a

relevant act is done, having regard to the expected effect of the relevant act on an entity's native title rights and interests.

- (4) Subject to the provisions of this part under which the tribunal may require the State to pay an amount of compensation in relation to a relevant act, the tribunal may order only the following to pay an amount under a compensation decision or compensation trust decision for a relevant act—
  - (a) the applicant for, or the holder for the time being of, the mining tenement the subject of the relevant act;
  - (b) another entity, if the tribunal considers that it would be just and equitable that the entity should be ordered to pay the amount, having regard to the circumstances of the entity's past or present, direct or indirect, financial or other connection with—
    - (i) the relevant act, including the activities carried out under the mining tenement the subject of the relevant act; or
    - (ii) an entity that is or was the holder of the mining tenement the subject of the relevant act.
- (5) There is no entitlement to be compensated more than once for the effect on native title rights and interests of an act if compensation has already been provided under this part for what is essentially the same effect of the same act.
- (5A) Without limiting subsection (1), the tribunal, in arriving at a compensation decision or compensation trust decision, must apply all relevant principles applicable under this Act for deciding amounts of compensation.
- (6) The tribunal must not, in relation to any part of the land the subject of a relevant act relating to a mining claim or mining lease, make more than 1 compensation trust decision for the relevant act.

## **708 Agreement for compensation**

- (1) The applicant for the doing of a relevant act, or the holder of a mining tenement the subject of a relevant act, may enter into



an agreement with an entity about compensation for the effect of the relevant act on—

- (a) if the entity is a registered native title body corporate that holds native title rights and interests in trust for common law holders—the native title rights and interests that the body corporate holds in trust; or
  - (b) if the entity is a registered native title body corporate that acts as an agent or representative for common law holders—the native title rights and interests of the common law holders; or
  - (c) if the entity is a registered native title claimant—the native title rights and interests of the native title claim group; or
  - (d) otherwise—the entity’s native title rights and interests.
- (2) An agreement about compensation is not effective as an agreement under this part unless the agreement—
- (a) is in writing, and signed by or on behalf of the parties to it; and
  - (b) has been filed in the office of the mining registrar.
- (3) If a registered native title body corporate is a party to an agreement about compensation, each common law holder for whom the body corporate holds native title rights and interests in trust or acts as an agent or representative is a party to the agreement.
- (4) If a registered native title claimant is a party to an agreement about compensation, each individual included in the native title claim group concerned is a party to the agreement.

## **709 Application for compensation**

- (1) An entity may apply to the tribunal for a compensation decision or a compensation trust decision for a relevant act if the entity is not a party to an agreement about compensation for the relevant act, but is—
- (a) for a compensation decision—
    - (i) a registered native title body corporate claiming compensation for the effect of the relevant act on

the native title rights and interests that the body corporate holds in trust for common law holders;  
or

- (ii) a registered native title body corporate claiming compensation for the effect of the relevant act on the native title rights and interests of the common law holders for whom the body corporate acts as an agent or representative; or
- (b) for a compensation trust decision—a registered native title claimant claiming compensation for the effect of the relevant act on the native title rights and interests of the native title claim group.
- (2) Also, an entity may apply to the tribunal for a compensation decision or a compensation trust decision for a relevant act if the entity is the applicant for the doing of the relevant act, or the holder of the mining tenement the subject of the relevant act.
- (3) An entity can not apply to the tribunal for a compensation decision or compensation trust decision for a relevant act if it is not an entity that may apply under subsection (1) or (2).

## **710 Compensation provided in non-monetary form**

- (1) This section applies if the tribunal makes a compensation decision for a relevant act and the decision is that compensation is payable.
- (2) If the registered native title body corporate asks the tribunal to make a recommendation that the whole or part of the amount of the compensation should instead take the form of non-monetary compensation, the tribunal—
- (a) must consider the request; and
  - (b) may recommend that the person required under the compensation decision to pay the compensation should, within the period specified in the tribunal's recommendation, provide non-monetary compensation in accordance with the recommendation.
- (3) If the tribunal makes the recommendation, the person required to pay the compensation under the compensation decision

may provide non-monetary compensation in accordance with the recommendation.

- (4) If the person does provide non-monetary compensation in accordance with the recommendation, the non-monetary compensation is full compensation for the relevant act to the extent of the compensation that was the subject of the recommendation.
- (5) If the non-monetary compensation is not provided in the way recommended by the tribunal, the registered native title body corporate entitled to receive compensation under the compensation decision may ask the tribunal to vary the compensation decision.
- (6) The variation of the compensation decision may take into account the extent to which non-monetary compensation has been provided under the recommendation.
- (7) In this section—  
*non-monetary compensation* includes the following—
  - (a) the transfer of land or other property;
  - (b) the provision of goods or services;
  - (c) the creation of employment opportunities.

## **711 Conditions of agreement or compensation decision**

If there is an agreement about compensation under this part, or a compensation decision, for a relevant act relating to a mining claim or mining lease, it is a condition of the mining claim or mining lease that the holder of the claim or lease must comply with the terms of the agreement or decision that apply to the holder.

## **712 Compensation trust decisions**

- (1) If the tribunal makes a compensation trust decision for a relevant act, any amount required to be paid into trust under the decision—
  - (a) must be paid to the tribunal; and

- (b) must be held in the way prescribed under a regulation until it is paid to an entity in a way provided for in this part.
- (2) The applicant for, or holder of, a mining tenement the subject of a relevant act can not be required to pay an amount under a compensation decision for the relevant act to the extent that the land the subject of the relevant act is the subject of a compensation trust decision for the relevant act.

### **713 State's right to be heard**

The State has the right to be heard at any proceeding before the tribunal under this part.

## **Division 3 Payment of compensation in particular circumstances**

### **714 Compensation before relevant act relating to mining claim or mining lease if registered native title body corporate**

- (1) This section applies to a relevant act relating to a mining claim or mining lease if there is a registered native title body corporate in relation to any part (the *identified part*) of the land the subject of the relevant act.
- (2) The relevant act may be done only if—
  - (a) for the identified part, compensation has been decided by—
    - (i) agreement between the applicant for the doing of the relevant act and the registered native title body corporate; or
    - (ii) a compensation decision; and
  - (b) the conditions of the agreement or decision, required under the agreement or decision to be complied with by the applicant before the relevant act is done, have been complied with by the applicant.

- (3) If the relevant act can not be done because of the operation of subsection (2)(a), the mining registrar must ask the tribunal to make a compensation decision for the relevant act if—
- (a) either of the following applies—
    - (i) an agreement for the doing of the act has been made, but the agreement did not include agreement about compensation, and 3 months have passed since the agreement was entered into;
    - (ii) the tribunal has decided in favour of the doing of the relevant act, and 3 months have passed since the making of the tribunal’s decision; and
  - (b) neither the applicant for the doing of the relevant act nor the registered native title body corporate has applied to the tribunal for a compensation decision for the relevant act.
- (4) If the mining registrar asks the tribunal under subsection (3) to make a compensation decision, the tribunal must—
- (a) fix a day for a hearing for the compensation decision; and
  - (b) notify the applicant for the doing of the relevant act and the registered native title body corporate—
    - (i) of the mining registrar’s action under subsection (3); and
    - (ii) of the day fixed for the hearing; and
    - (iii) that the applicant and the registered native title body corporate have a right to be heard at the hearing; and
  - (c) on or after the hearing day, make a compensation decision.

**715 Compensation before relevant act relating to mining claim or mining lease if registered native title claimant**

- (1) This section applies to a relevant act relating to a mining claim or mining lease if there is a registered native title claimant in relation to any part (the *identified part*) of the land the subject of the relevant act.

- (2) The relevant act may be done only if—
  - (a) for the identified part, either of the following applies—
    - (i) an agreement about compensation has been reached between the applicant for the doing of the relevant act and the registered native title claimant;
    - (ii) the tribunal has made a compensation trust decision for the relevant act; and
  - (b) either of the following applies—
    - (i) if paragraph (a)(i) applies—the conditions of the agreement, required under the agreement to be complied with by the applicant before the relevant act is done, have been complied with by the applicant;
    - (ii) if paragraph (a)(ii) applies—the amount ordered by the tribunal under the compensation trust decision to be paid to the tribunal to be held in trust has been paid to the tribunal.
- (3) If the relevant act can not be done because of the operation of subsection (2)(a), the mining registrar must ask the tribunal to make a compensation trust decision for the relevant act if—
  - (a) either of the following applies—
    - (i) an agreement for the doing of the act has been made, but the agreement did not include agreement about compensation, and 3 months have passed since the agreement was entered into;
    - (ii) the tribunal has decided in favour of the doing of the relevant act, and 3 months have passed since the making of the tribunal's decision; and
  - (b) neither the applicant for the doing of the relevant act nor the registered native title claimant has applied to the tribunal for a compensation trust decision for the relevant act.
- (4) If the mining registrar asks the tribunal under subsection (3) to make a compensation trust decision, the tribunal must—
  - (a) fix a day for a hearing for the compensation trust decision; and

- (b) notify the applicant for the doing of the relevant act and the registered native title claimant—
  - (i) of the mining registrar's action under subsection (3); and
  - (ii) of the day fixed for the hearing; and
  - (iii) that the applicant and the registered native title claimant have a right to be heard at the hearing; and
- (c) on or after the hearing day, make a compensation trust decision.

**716 Compensation after relevant act relating to mining claim or mining lease**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) when a relevant act relating to a mining claim or mining lease is done, there is no registered native title body corporate or registered native title claimant in relation to land the subject of the relevant act; and
  - (b) after the doing of the relevant act an entity becomes a registered native title body corporate or registered native title claimant in relation to the land.
- (2) If the entity becomes a registered native title body corporate, the entity may, at any time after the relevant act is done—
  - (a) recover compensation under an agreement about compensation between the holder of the mining claim or mining lease and the registered native title body corporate; or
  - (b) apply to the tribunal for a compensation decision for the relevant act.
- (3) If the entity becomes a registered native title claimant, the entity may at any time after the relevant act is done—
  - (a) recover compensation for the relevant act under an agreement about compensation between the holder of the mining claim or mining lease and the registered native title claimant; or

- (b) apply to the tribunal for a compensation trust decision for the relevant act.

**717 Compensation after relevant act relating to other mining tenement if registered native title body corporate**

- (1) This section applies to a relevant act relating to a prospecting permit, exploration permit or mineral development licence if there is a registered native title body corporate in relation to land the subject of the relevant act.
- (2) Without limiting section 707, the registered native title body corporate may, at any time after the relevant act is done—
  - (a) recover compensation under an agreement about compensation between the holder of the prospecting permit, exploration permit or mineral development licence and the registered native title body corporate; or
  - (b) apply to the tribunal for a compensation decision for the relevant act.

**718 Compensation after relevant act relating to other mining tenement if registered native title claimant**

- (1) This section applies to a relevant act relating to a prospecting permit, exploration permit or mineral development licence if there is a registered native title claimant in relation to land the subject of the relevant act.
- (2) Without limiting section 707, a registered native title claimant may at any time after the relevant act is done—
  - (a) recover compensation for the relevant act under an agreement about compensation between the holder of the prospecting permit, exploration permit or mineral development licence and the registered native title claimant; or
  - (b) apply to the tribunal for a compensation trust decision for the relevant act.



**719 State liable to pay compensation in particular circumstances**

- (1) This section applies if, in relation to any part of the land the subject of a relevant act—
  - (a) there is an agreement under this part about compensation for the doing of the relevant act; and
  - (b) an entity obtains an approved determination of native title that native title exists; and
  - (c) the entity was not a party to the agreement about compensation; and
  - (d) the agreement does not provide for compensation for the entity or successor of the entity, including for example, a registered native title body corporate holding the native title rights and interests claimed by the entity; and
  - (e) the registered native title body corporate for the native title the subject of the approved determination applies to the tribunal for a compensation decision for the relevant act; and
  - (f) the tribunal makes a compensation decision for the relevant act.
- (2) This section also applies if, in relation to any part of the land the subject of a relevant act—
  - (a) a registered native title body corporate applies to the tribunal for a compensation decision for the relevant act; and
  - (b) no amount is held in trust under a compensation trust decision for the relevant act; and
  - (c) the tribunal makes a compensation decision for the relevant act; and
  - (d) the tribunal is satisfied that—
    - (i) there is no longer in existence an entity of a type mentioned in section 707(4)(a) or (b) that can be ordered to pay compensation; or
    - (ii) there is in existence an entity of a type mentioned in section 707(4)(a) or (b) that can be ordered to pay compensation, and the entity is unable to pay

the whole or a part of the amount of compensation decided by the tribunal under the compensation decision.

- (3) If this section applies because of subsection (1) or (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d)(i), the State must pay the amount of compensation decided by the tribunal under the compensation decision.
- (4) If this section applies because of subsection (2)(a), (b), (c) and (d)(ii), the State must pay the amount of compensation decided by the tribunal under the compensation decision, except to the extent that the tribunal orders the entity mentioned in subsection (2)(d)(ii) to pay part of the amount.

## **Division 4                      Amounts held in trust**

### **720      Repayment of amount held in trust for compensation**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) an amount is held in trust under a compensation trust decision for a relevant act; and
  - (b) either of the following happens—
    - (i) the application for the doing of the relevant act is not granted and is no longer a current application;
    - (ii) the relevant act is done, but an approved determination of native title is made and it is apparent, from the terms of the determination, that immediately before the relevant act was done, native title did not exist in relation to land the subject of the relevant act.
- (2) A person who claims to have an interest in the amount paid into trust, or the State, may apply to the tribunal for an order about the payment of the amount.
- (3) The tribunal may—
  - (a) order the payment of some or all of the amount to the person who paid the amount; or
  - (b) if the person no longer exists, make an appropriate order about the payment of some or all of the amount.

- (4) If subsection (1)(b)(ii) applies, the tribunal, in making its order under subsection (3), must have regard to the extent to which the approved determination relates to the land the subject of the relevant act.

**721 Dealing with amount held in trust for compensation—determination of native title**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) an amount is held in trust under a compensation trust decision for a relevant act; and
  - (b) the relevant act is done; and
  - (c) an approved determination of native title is made that native title exists in relation to land the subject of the relevant act.
- (2) The registered native title body corporate for the native title the subject of the approved determination may apply to the tribunal for a compensation decision for the relevant act.
- (3) As well as making the compensation decision, the tribunal must also, having regard to the extent to which the approved determination relates to the land the subject of the relevant act, order how much (the *trust amount*) of the amount held in trust under the compensation trust decision must be paid to the registered native title body corporate.
- (4) If the amount payable under the compensation decision is more than the trust amount, the difference must be paid by the State to the registered native title body corporate.

**722 Dealing with amount held in trust for compensation—no applicable provision**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) an amount is held in trust under a compensation trust decision for a relevant act; and
  - (b) no other provision of this part provides for the disposal of the amount; and

- (c) the tribunal decides, on an application by a person, that it would be just and equitable in all the circumstances to pay some or all of the amount held in trust to a person.
- (2) The tribunal must order the payment of some or all of the amount held in trust in the way the tribunal considers appropriate.

## **Part 19                      Transitional provisions**

### **Division 1                      Transitional provisions for Act No. 27 of 1998**

#### **723      At Risk agreement conditions**

- (1) This section applies to the following—
  - (a) a mining lease granted under the repealed Mining Act 1968, No. 51;
  - (b) a mineral development licence or mining lease granted before the commencement of the *Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1998*.
- (2) To remove doubt, a condition contained in the licence or lease requiring the holder to comply with the At Risk agreement is and always was a valid condition.

#### **724      Application of Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1998**

- (1) This section applies to the following if they were subject to a condition requiring the holder to comply with the At Risk agreement—
  - (a) a mining lease granted under the repealed *Mining Act 1968*;
  - (b) a mineral development licence or mining lease granted before the commencement of the *Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1998*.

- (2) To remove doubt, sections 194A and 278A, inserted by the *Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1998*, apply to the lease or licence.

## **Division 2                      Transitional provisions for Act No. 38 of 1998**

### **725      Application of div 2**

- (1) This division applies to an application if—
- (a) it is an application for—
    - (i) the granting of a mining tenement; or
    - (ii) an approval relating to a mining lease; and
  - (b) the application was lodged before the native title provisions start day for the application; and
  - (c) the application is still current; and
  - (d) immediately before the native title provisions start day for the application—
    - (i) if paragraph (a)(i) applies—the granting of the mining tenement would have been an act to which the right to negotiate provisions applied; or
    - (ii) if paragraph (a)(ii) applies—the approval would have been an act to which the right to negotiate provisions applied.
- (2) However, this division does not apply to an application relating to a mining tenement if a notice under section 29<sup>298</sup> of the Commonwealth Native Title Act in relation to the act the subject of the application, required to be given as part of complying with the right to negotiate provisions, was given before the native title provisions start day for the application.
- (3) The Minister may by gazette notice notify, in relation to an application, a native title provisions start day.

---

298 Section 29 (Notification of parties affected) of the Commonwealth Native Title Act

- (4) The Minister, in notifying the native title provisions start day—
- (a) must have regard to when the native title provisions relevant to the application start to have application; and
  - (b) accordingly, is not stopped from notifying as the native title provisions start day a day that is earlier than the day the gazette notice is published.

## **726 Definitions for div 2**

In this division—

*approval* has the meaning given in section 696.<sup>299</sup>

*native title provisions start day*, for an application, means the native title provisions start day notified in relation to the application under section 725(3) and (4).

*notification commencement day*, for an application, means the notification commencement day advised for the application under section 727.

## **727 Giving advice of notification commencement day**

- (1) The mining registrar must give a notice to—
- (a) the applicant under each application for the granting of a mining claim or mining lease, advising the applicant of the notification commencement day for the application; and
  - (b) the applicant under each application for an approval relating to a mining lease, advising the applicant of the notification commencement day for the application.
- (2) The chief executive must give a notice to the applicant under each application for the granting of an exploration permit or mineral development licence, advising the applicant of the notification commencement day for the application.

---

<sup>299</sup> Section 696 (Meaning of *approval* in div 6)

**728 Existing prospecting permit applications**

- (1) This section applies to an application if—
  - (a) the application is for the granting of a prospecting permit; and
  - (b) the granting of the prospecting permit is an act to which part 13 applies.
- (2) Subsection (3) applies to the giving of the application notice under section 431, instead of section 431(2).
- (3) The notice must be given no later than—
  - (a) 2 months after the native title provisions start day for the application; or
  - (b) if, under section 432, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.

**729 Existing mining claim applications**

- (1) This section applies to an application for the granting of a mining claim.
- (7) If part 17, division 4 is to be applied to the granting of the mining claim, subsection (8) applies to the giving and publication of notice under section 652, instead of section 652(3).
- (8) The written notice must be given under section 652(1), and the public notice must be published under section 652(2), no earlier than the notification commencement day for the application, and no later than—
  - (a) four months after the notification commencement day for the application; or
  - (b) if, under section 654, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice and the publication of a new public notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.

**730 Existing exploration permit applications**

- (1) This section applies to an application for the granting of an exploration permit.
- (2) The chief executive must ask the applicant to nominate which of the following the applicant now seeks to be granted—
  - (a) a low impact exploration permit under part 15;
  - (c) a high impact exploration permit under part 15, for the granting of which part 15, division 4 applies.
- (3) If the applicant nominates a low impact exploration permit, subsection (4) applies to the giving of the application notice under section 486, instead of 486(2).
- (4) The notice must be given no earlier than the notification commencement day for the application, and no later than—
  - (a) two months after the notification commencement day for the application; or
  - (b) if, under section 487, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.
- (7) If the applicant nominates a high impact exploration permit, and part 17, division 4 is to be applied to the granting of the permit, subsection (8) applies, instead of section 524(2).
- (8) For applying section 652, the written notice must be given under section 652(1), and the public notice must be published under section 652(2), no earlier than the notification commencement day, and the following period is substituted for the periods mentioned in section 652(3)(b)(i), that is, the period of 4 months after the notification commencement day.

**731 Existing mineral development licence applications**

- (1) This section applies to an application for the granting of a mineral development licence.
- (2) The chief executive must ask the applicant to nominate which of the following the applicant now seeks to be granted—
  - (a) a low impact mineral development licence under part 16;



- (c) a high impact mineral development licence under part 16 for the granting of which part 16, division 4 applies.
- (3) If the applicant nominates a low impact mineral development licence, subsection (4) applies to the giving of the application notice under section 542, instead of 542(2).
- (4) The notice must be given no earlier than the notification commencement day for the application, and no later than—
  - (a) two months after the notification commencement day for the application; or
  - (b) if, under section 543, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.
- (7) If the applicant nominates a high impact mineral development licence, and part 17, division 4 is to be applied to the granting of the licence, subsection (8) applies, instead of section 581(3).
- (8) For applying section 652, the written notice must be given under section 652(1), and the public notice must be published under section 652(2), no earlier than the notification commencement day, and the following period is substituted for the periods mentioned in section 652(3)(b)(i), that is, the period of 4 months after the notification commencement day.

## **732 Existing mining lease applications**

- (1) This section applies to an application for the granting of a mining lease.
- (7) If part 17, division 4 is to be applied to the granting of the mining lease, subsection (8) applies to the giving and publication of notice under section 652, instead of section 652(3).
- (8) The written notice must be given under section 652(1), and the public notice must be published under section 652(2), no earlier than the notification commencement day for the application, and no later than—
  - (a) four months after the notification commencement day for the application; or

- (d) if, under section 654, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice and the publication of a new public notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.

### **733 Existing applications for certain approvals**

- (1) This section applies to an application for an approval relating to a mining lease.
- (4) If part 17, division 4 is to be applied to the approval, subsection (5) applies to the giving and publication of notice under section 652 instead of section 652(3).
- (5) The written notice must be given under section 652(1), and the public notice must be published under section 652(2), no earlier than the notification commencement day for the application, and no later than—
  - (a) four months after the notification commencement day for the application; or
  - (b) if, under section 654, the mining registrar has given a direction for the giving of a new written notice and the publication of a new public notice—the end of the period nominated in the direction.

### **734 Separate hearings**

- (1) This section applies if, for an application for the granting of a mining claim or mining lease—
  - (a) the provisions of this Act, other than the native title provisions, have been complied with, wholly or partly; and
  - (b) part 17, division 4 is to be applied to the granting; and
  - (c) a hearing (the *earlier hearing*) has already been held under part 4 or 7 for the granting of the mining claim or mining lease.
- (2) The tribunal is not required, at a hearing under part 17, division 4, to consider any issue dealt with at the earlier hearing.

- (4) If a hearing is required under part 17, division 4, sections 671 and 672 do not apply, but—
- (a) the mining registrar must, within 10 business days after the pre-referral period ends, fix a day for the hearing; and
  - (b) all consultation and negotiation parties have the right to be heard at the hearing; and
  - (c) the tribunal must hear the application and make a native title issues decision.

### **Division 3                      Transitional provisions for Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2000**

#### **735 Existing Act continues to apply for special agreement Acts**

- (1) The existing Act continues to apply for an activity, circumstance, or matter provided for under, or to which, a special agreement Act applies as if the amending Act had not been enacted.
- (2) In this section—

***amending Act*** means the *Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2000*.

***existing Act*** means this Act as it was in force immediately before the amending Act, section 6<sup>300</sup> commenced.

***special agreement Act*** means any of the following Acts and any agreement or lease under or mentioned in the Acts—

- (a) *Alcan Queensland Pty. Limited Agreement Act 1965*;
- (c) *Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968*;
- (d) *Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement and Queensland Coal Trust Act 1984*;

- (e) *Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement (Amendment) Act 1986*;
- (f) *Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Amendment Act 1989*;
- (g) *Commonwealth Aluminium Corporation Pty. Limited Agreement Act 1957*;
- (h) *Greenvale Agreement Act Amendment Act 1974*;
- (i) *Greenvale Agreement Act Amendment Act 1975*;
- (j) *Mount Isa Mines Limited Agreement Act 1985*;
- (k) *Queensland Cement & Lime Company Limited Agreement Act 1977*;
- (l) *Queensland Nickel Agreement Act 1970*;
- (m) *Queensland Nickel Agreement Act 1988*;
- (n) *Thiess Peabody Coal Pty. Ltd. Agreement Act 1962*;
- (o) *Thiess Peabody Mitsui Coal Pty. Ltd. Agreements Act 1965*.

## **Division 4                      Transitional provision for Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2002**

### **736      Exclusion of pt 7A for continuance of existing notifiable road uses**

- (1) Part 7A does not apply for a notifiable road use (the *continuing use*) carried out by a mining tenement holder if—
  - (a) at any time within 12 months before the commencement of section 318EP,<sup>301</sup> the holder carried out a notifiable road use (the *existing use*); and
  - (b) the type of haulage under the continuing use is the same, or substantially the same, as the type of haulage under the existing use.

---

<sup>301</sup> Section 318EP (Notice of notifiable road use)

- (2) Subsection (1) applies even if the continuing use stops and later starts again.

## **Division 5                      Transitional provisions for Natural Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2003**

### **737      No notification commencement day advised before 31 March 2003**

- (1) This section applies to an application if—
- (a) it is an application to which division 2 applies; and
  - (b) the mining registrar or the chief executive is required under section 727<sup>302</sup> to give the applicant under the application a notice advising the applicant of the notification commencement day for the application; and
  - (c) the notice is not given on or before 31 March 2003.
- (2) The mining registrar or chief executive must not give the notice.
- (3) For the purpose only of deciding whether a division of part 14, 15, 16 or 17 applies in relation to the application, the application is taken to have been lodged after 31 March 2003.

### **738      Effect of extension of time for giving notice or information**

- (1) This section applies to a person if—
- (a) at any time before the commencement of this section, the person was required to give a notice or information within a stated time; and
  - (b) immediately before the commencement, the person had not given the notice or information, whether or not the stated time had expired.

---

302 Section 727 (Giving advice of notification commencement day)

(2) The time within which the person must give the notice or information may be worked out using the stated time as amended by the amending Act.

(3) In this section—

***amending Act*** means the *Natural Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2003*.

***relevant provision*** means section 486(2)(a), 487(1), 524(3), 542(2)(a), 543(1) or 581(3).

***stated time*** means the number of days stated in a relevant provision.

## **Division 6                      Transitional provisions for Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005**

### **739      Application of particular provisions**

- (1) Each of sections 81, 138(2) to (4), 139, 141, 194 and 276, as amended, applies to the mining tenement mentioned in the section whether the tenement is granted before or after the commencement of the amendment.
- (2) Each of sections 85 and 93(3)(c), as amended, applies to an application for renewal of a mining claim made, but not decided, before the commencement of the amendment.
- (3) Each of sections 85A and 279A applies if—
  - (a) the circumstances mentioned in subsection (1)(a) of the section arise before the commencement of the section; and
  - (b) the 3 month period mentioned in subsection (1)(b) of the section ends after the commencement.
- (4) Section 137(3)(h) applies to an exploration permit applied for before, but granted after, the commencement of the provision.
- (5) Each of sections 133, 147, 197 and 286 as in force immediately before the section's amendment continues to apply, despite the amendment, in relation to applications made, but not decided, before the amendment.

- (6) Section 144, as amended, applies in relation to a determination made by the Minister under section 144(1) after the commencement of the amendment, even if the application for the grant or renewal mentioned in the section was made before the commencement.
- (7) Section 269, as amended, applies in relation to an application for the grant of a mining lease made before the commencement of the amendment if the tribunal's recommendation is made after the commencement.
- (8) In this section—

*amended* means amended or repealed by the amending Act.

*amending Act* means the *Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005*.

## **Division 6                      Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004**

### **Subdivision 1              Preliminary**

#### **739      Definitions for div 6**

In this division—

*commencement*, other than for subdivision 2, means the day section 318CM commences.

*MDL* means mineral development licence.

*MDL applicant* see section 754(2)(c).

*MDL application* see section 754(1)(b).

*mineral hydrocarbon mining lease* means any of the following mining leases or its replacement, or any consolidation of 2 or more of the following leases the area of

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

which does not include land not in the area of the following mining leases—

<b>Mining lease number</b>	<b>Mining lease name</b>
ML 1759	Blackwater Mine
ML 1760	Blackwater
ML 1761	Mackenzie River
ML 1762	South Blackwater
ML 1763	Goonyella Coal Mine
ML 1764	Riverside
ML 1771	Sirius Creek
ML 1773	Laleham
ML 1775	—
ML 1781	Daunia
ML 1782	Norwich Park
ML 1789	Gregory
ML 1790	—
ML 1791	Winchester
ML 1792	Terang
ML 1800	Wilpeena Mining Lease
ML 1802	Riverside Extended
ML 1831	German Creek
ML 1860	Togara No. 2
ML 1885	Harrow Creek Extended
ML 1907	Marshmead
ML 1923	Gregory Extension



*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

---

<b>Mining lease number</b>	<b>Mining lease name</b>
ML 4749	Poitrel
ML 4750	Kemmis-walker
ML 4751	Bee Creek
ML 4752	Lancewood
ML 5591	Moura
ML 5592	Moura
ML 5593	Moura
ML 5596	Moura
ML 5597	Moura
ML 5598	Moura
ML 5599	Moura No. 3
ML 5600	Moura
ML 5601	Moura
ML 5603	Moura
ML 5604	Moura
ML 5606	Moura
ML 5607	Moura
ML 5611	Moura
ML 5630	Moura
ML 5643	Moura
ML 5644	Moura
ML 5646	Moura
ML 5650	Moura
ML 5656	Moura

<b>Mining lease number</b>	<b>Mining lease name</b>
ML 5657	Theodore
ML 70108	Moranbah North

*mining*, a substance, includes—

- (a) extracting producing, releasing or disposing of the substance; and
- (b) transporting the substance within the boundaries of the area of the mining lease under which it was mined.

*overlapping land* see section 754(1).

*special agreement Act* means any of the following—

- (a) the *Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968*; or
- (b) the *Thiess Peabody Mitsui Coal Pty. Ltd. Agreements Acts 1962 to 1965*;
- (c) an agreement, or amendment of an agreement, provided for under any an Act mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b).

## **Subdivision 2 Provisions for special agreement Acts**

### **740 Application of div 6 to special coal mining lease under special agreement Act**

This division applies to a special coal mining lease granted under a special agreement Act as if the lease were a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease.

### **741 Unfinished special coal mining lease applications**

- (1) A special coal mining lease must not be granted under a special agreement Act if the lease was applied for or requested, but not granted, before the commencement of this section.

- (2) Subject to subsection (3), an addition to the area of an existing special coal mining lease must not be made under a special agreement Act if the addition was applied for or requested, but not made, before the commencement.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply if the addition is additional surface areas within the area of the existing special coal mining lease and the special coal mining lease was granted under the *Thiess Peabody Coal Pty. Ltd. Agreement Act 1962*.
- (4) This section applies despite any provision of the Special agreement Act.
- (5) In this section—

*applied for* includes specified under clause 18<sup>303</sup> of the agreement under the *Thiess Peabody Coal Pty. Ltd. Agreement Act 1962*.

*existing special coal mining lease* means a special coal mining lease that, immediately before the commencement, was in force under a special agreement Act.

## **742 Division 6 prevails over special agreement Acts**

If a provision of this division conflicts with a provision of a special agreement Act, the provision of this division prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

## **743 No compensation**

- (1) No amount, whether by way of compensation, reimbursement or otherwise is payable by the State to any person for or in connection with the enactment or operation of this subdivision.
- (2) Subsection (1) applies despite any provision of a special agreement Act and despite any other Act or law.

---

303 Agreement, clause 18 (Grant of special coal mining leases)

### **Subdivision 3 Provision for section 3A**

#### **744 Application of s 3A to existing mining tenements**

- (1) Section 3A<sup>304</sup> applies for an existing mining tenement.
- (2) However, section 3A(3) and (7) do not apply for an authorised activity for an existing mining tenement until 3 months after the commencement.
- (3) In this section—

*commencement* means the day section 3A commences.

*existing mining tenement* means a mining tenement (other than a coal or oil shale mining tenement) in force immediately before the commencement.

### **Subdivision 4 Unfinished coal or oil shale mining lease applications for land in area of petroleum tenure**

#### **745 Application of pt 7AA**

- (1) This section applies if, immediately before the commencement—
  - (a) a coal or oil shale mining lease application had not been decided; and
  - (b) the land the subject of the application is in the area of a petroleum tenure.
- (2) Part 7AA<sup>305</sup> applies to the application.
- (3) The application may be decided only if the provisions of part 7AA, to the extent they are relevant, have been complied with.

---

304 Section 3A (Relationship with petroleum legislation)

305 Part 7AA (Provisions for coal seam gas)

- (4) However, subsections (2) and (3) are subject to sections 307 and 392.<sup>306</sup>
- (5) In this section—  
***decided*** means the making of a recommendation to the Governor in Council under section 271(1)(a) that a mining lease be granted.

## **Subdivision 5 Provisions for existing coal mining leases**

### **746 Clarification provision for coal seam gas**

- (1) This section applies to a coal mining lease, other than a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease, that was in force during the period in which the *Petroleum Act 1923*, former section 150(4),<sup>307</sup> was in force.
- (2) To remove any doubt, it is declared that despite the provisions of the *Petroleum Act 1923*, section 150(4), the entitlement under section 235 (as it was in force during that period)<sup>308</sup> of the lease holder is taken, during the period, to have included the right to extract and produce, or mine, coal seam gas.
- (3) To remove any doubt, it is declared that subsection (2) does not affect the application of part 7AA, division 8, subdivision 1<sup>309</sup> in relation to the lease.
- (4) The right under subsection (2) is subject to section 748.

---

306 Sections 307 (Abandonment of application for the grant of a mining lease) and 392 (Substantial compliance with Act may be accepted as compliance)

307 *Petroleum Act 1923*, section 150 (Declaration about certain 1923 Act petroleum tenures)

308 Section 235, as it was in force during that period, (General entitlements of holder of mining lease)

309 Part 7AA, division 8, subdivision 1 (Entitlement to coal seam gas)

**747 Continuation of particular rights relating to coal seam gas under mineral hydrocarbon mining leases**

- (1) From the commencement, a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease holder may—
- (a) mine for coal seam gas in the area of the mining lease; and
  - (b) use the coal seam gas mined for any purpose allowed under the lease, including, for example, any of the following uses allowed under the lease—
    - (i) a use that, under section 318CN,<sup>310</sup> may be made of incidental coal seam gas by a coal or oil shale mining lease holder;
    - (ii) a commercial use that may be made of coal seam gas by a petroleum lease holder.
- (2) However, the mining and the carrying out of a use mentioned in subsection (1)(b) is subject to—
- (a) section 318CO, as deferred under section 749;<sup>311</sup> and
  - (b) the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act*, chapters 9 and 10, and to the extent they apply for chapters 9 and 10, chapters 11 to 14.<sup>312</sup>
- (3) To remove any doubt, it is declared that—
- (a) subsection (1) applies despite—
    - (i) section 318CN(1), (2) and (3); or
    - (ii) the *Petroleum Act 1923*, section 150; or

---

310 Section 318CN (Use that may be made under mining lease of incidental coal seam gas)

311 Section 318CO (Restriction on flaring or venting of incidental coal seam gas)  
Section 749 (Deferral of ss 318CN(2) and 318CO for particular existing coal mining lease holders)

312 *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*, chapters 9 (Safety), 10 (Investigations and enforcement), 11 (General offences), 12 (Reviews and appeals), 13 (Evidence and legal proceedings) and 14 (Miscellaneous provisions)

- (iii) the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, sections 800 and 802;<sup>313</sup> and
- (b) the rights under subsection (1) may be exercised—
  - (i) even though the holder does not hold a petroleum tenure that allows the rights to be exercised; and
  - (ii) independently of any right the holder has under the lease to mine coal.

### **748 Restriction on flaring or venting coal seam gas**

Section 318CO<sup>314</sup> applies for a coal mining lease in force immediately before the commencement as if a reference in section 318CO to incidental coal seam gas were a reference to coal seam gas generally.

### **749 Deferral of ss 318CN(2) and 318CO for particular existing coal mining lease holders**

If, immediately before the commencement, the holder of a coal mining lease was commercially using incidental coal seam gas mined under the lease, sections 318CN(2) and 318CO<sup>315</sup> do not apply to the holder until 12 months after the commencement.<sup>316</sup>

---

313 *Petroleum Act 1923*, section 150 (Declaration about certain 1923 Act petroleum tenures)

*Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*, sections 800 (Restriction on petroleum tenure activities) and 802 (Restriction on pipeline construction or operation)

314 Section 318CO (Restriction on flaring or venting of incidental coal seam gas)

315 Sections 318CN (Use that may be made under mining lease of incidental coal seam gas) and 318CO (Restriction on flaring or venting or incidental coal seam gas)

316 See also section 747 (Continuation of particular rights relating to coal seam gas under mineral hydrocarbon mining leases).

**750 Deferral of s 318CR(1) for existing coal mining lease holders**

Section 318CR(1)<sup>317</sup> does not apply to the holder of a coal mining lease in force at the commencement until 6 months after the commencement.

**Subdivision 6 Modified application of section 318CI for particular existing exploration tenements overlapping with petroleum lease****751 Application of sdiv 6**

- (1) This subdivision applies if—
  - (a) land is in the area of—
    - (i) a coal or oil shale exploration tenement; and
    - (ii) a petroleum lease; and
  - (b) the exploration tenement and the lease are in force immediately before the commencement.
- (2) However—
  - (a) this subdivision does not apply to an MDL granted before the petroleum lease;<sup>318</sup> and
  - (b) this subdivision does not apply, or ceases to apply, if the same person holds the exploration tenement and the lease.

**752 Modified application of s 318CI until 3 months after commencement**

- (1) If, immediately before the commencement, an authorised activity for the exploration tenement was being carried out on

---

317 Section 318CR (Restriction on carrying out particular authorised activities)

318 For mineral development licences granted before the petroleum lease, see subdivision 7 (Particular provision for existing mineral development licences that overlap with a Petroleum Act lease).



the land, section 318CI<sup>319</sup> does not apply for the carrying out of the activity on the land during the period that—

- (a) starts on the commencement; and
  - (b) ends 3 months after the commencement.
- (2) However, if the carrying out of the activity during the period adversely affects the carrying out of an authorised activity for the lease, the activity may be carried out during the period only if section 318CI is complied with.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies whether or not the authorised activity for the lease has already started.

### **753 Power to relinquish if activity restricted**

- (1) If, because of the restriction under section 752(2), the activity can not be carried out, the exploration tenement holder may with the Minister's approval lodge a written notice—
- (a) relinquishing the part of the area of the exploration tenement to which the restriction applies; and
  - (b) proposing, for the Minister's approval, amendments to the exploration tenement accepted by the Minister under section 133(1)(g)(i) or 183(1)(m)(i)(B) to reflect the restriction.<sup>320</sup>
- (2) The notice must be lodged at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the notice, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) Subsection (1) does not limit section 141C.<sup>321</sup>
- (4) The proposed amendments have no effect unless the Minister approves them.

---

319 Section 318CI (Restriction)

320 Sections 133 (Application for exploration permit) and 183 (Application for mineral development licence)

321 Section 141C (Application to vary conditions of existing permit)

## **Subdivision 7 Particular provision for existing mineral development licences that overlap with a Petroleum Act lease**

### **754 Application of sdiv 7**

- (1) This subdivision applies if, before the commencement, a petroleum lease under the *Petroleum Act 1923* was granted and when it was granted the area of the lease included any of the following land (*overlapping land*)—
  - (a) land in the area of an MDL that is a coal or oil shale exploration tenement;
  - (b) land the subject of an application (the *MDL application*) for an MDL made but not decided before the commencement if the MDL applied for would, if granted, be a coal or oil shale exploration tenement under that Act.
- (2) However, this subdivision does not apply, or ceases to apply, if—
  - (a) the same person holds the lease and the MDL; or
  - (b) the overlapping land ceases to be in the area of the lease or the MDL, or subject to the MDL application; or
  - (c) the person who made the MDL application (the *MDL applicant*) is also the lessee; or
  - (d) the MDL application is rejected; or
  - (e) the MDL holder or the MDL applicant has agreed in writing with the lessee that this division does not apply.

### **755 Substituted restriction on authorised activities**

- (1) This section applies instead of section 318CI for the MDL or any licence granted because of the MDL application.<sup>322</sup>
- (2) An authorised activity for the MDL may be carried out on the overlapping land only if—

---

322 Section 318CI (Restriction)

- (a) an agreement between the MDL holder and the lessee about coordinated development or access on the overlapping land provides that the activity may be carried out; or
- (b) the required notice has been given and the carrying out of the activity—
  - (i) does not interfere with the carrying out of an authorised activity under the lease on the overlapping land; and
  - (ii) is consistent with the safety management plan under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act for any operating plant on the overlapping land, the operation of which is an authorised activity for the lease.
- (3) Subsection (2)(b) applies whether or not the authorised activity for the lease has already started.
- (4) In this section—

*required notice* means a notice from the MDL holder to the lessee, given a reasonable period before the start of the authorised activity for the MDL, that states when and where the activity is proposed to be carried out.

## **Subdivision 8      Development plans**

### **756      Application of sdiv 8**

- (1) This subdivision applies for any coal or oil shale mining lease in force immediately before the commencement.
- (2) Sections 757 to 759 also apply for any coal or oil shale mining lease granted for an application made before 31 December 2004 if the land the subject of the application was not in the area of a petroleum tenure.
- (3) For applying subsection (2), the definition *relevant period* in section 758(4) is taken to be as follows—

*relevant period* means 6 months after the first anniversary of the grant of the lease.

**757 Deferral of obligation to comply with development plan**

Sections 318DQ and 318DR<sup>323</sup> do not apply for the coal or oil shale mining lease until—

- (a) if its holder complies with section 758—when the Minister’s decision about whether to approve the holder’s proposed development plan takes effect; or
- (b) if its holder does not comply with section 758—6 months after the commencement.<sup>324</sup>

**758 Obligation to lodge proposed development plan**

- (1) It is a condition of the coal or oil shale mining lease that its holder must, within the relevant period, lodge at the following office a proposed initial development plan for the lease—
  - (a) the office of the department for lodging proposed development plans, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive;
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (2) The proposed plan must—
  - (a) comply with the initial development plan requirements;<sup>325</sup> and
  - (b) be accompanied by the fee prescribed under a regulation.
- (3) Section 318DP<sup>326</sup> and part 7AA, division 9, subdivision 3,<sup>327</sup> applies for the proposed plan as if a reference in sections 318DZ to 318EA to a proposed mining lease were a reference to the coal or oil shale mining lease.

---

323 Sections 318DQ (Requirement to have development plan) and 318DR (Obligation to comply with development plan)

324 For when the decision takes effect, see section 318EH(3) and (4) (Steps after, and taking effect, of decision), as applied under section 759.

325 See section 318ED (Later development plan requirements).

326 Section 318DP (Function and purpose).

327 Part 7AA, division 9, subdivision 3 (Approval of proposed initial development plans)

(4) In this section—

*relevant period* means—

- (a) if, at the commencement, the lease has underground coal mining operations or the holder is carrying out activities to manage or mine coal seam gas—6 months after the commencement; or
- (b) otherwise—6 months after the first anniversary of the grant of the lease that happens after the commencement.

**759 Application of pt 7AA, div 9, sdiv 3 for approval of proposed plan**

- (1) If the holder complies with section 758,<sup>328</sup> part 7AA, division 9, subdivision 3<sup>329</sup> applies—
  - (a) as if a reference in the subdivision to a proposed mining lease were a reference to the coal or oil shale mining lease; and
  - (b) subject to section 760;<sup>330</sup> and
  - (c) with other necessary changes.
- (2) For section 318AH,<sup>331</sup> the reference to a development plan approved under part 7AA, division 8 is taken to include a reference to a development plan approved under division 8 as applied under subsection (1).

**760 Additional requirement for proposed development plan for mineral hydrocarbon mining lease**

- (1) If the coal or oil shale mining lease is a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease, a proposed development plan for the lease lodged under section 758 must—

---

328 Section 758 (Obligation to lodge proposed development plan)

329 Part 7AA, division 9, subdivision 3 (Approval of proposed initial development plans)

330 Section 760 (Additional requirement for proposed development plan for mineral hydrocarbon mining lease)

331 Section 318AH (What is a *development plan* and its *plan period*)

- (a) show that the lease holder proposes to commercialise coal seam gas; or
  - (b) include, or be accompanied by, evidence that satisfies the Minister that—
    - (i) the holder has fully investigated the opportunities to commercialise coal seam gas; and
    - (ii) there is no basis to commercialise coal seam gas
- (2) In this section—
- commercialise*, for coal seam gas, means to carry out commercial mining of coal seam gas under the rights for the lease under section 747(1).<sup>332</sup>

**761 Additional condition for proposed development plan for mineral hydrocarbon mining lease**

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) the coal or oil shale mining lease is a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease; and
  - (b) the lease holder has, under section 758, lodged a proposed development plan for the lease; and
  - (c) the Minister is not satisfied as mentioned in section 760(1)(b).
- (2) The Minister may, by written notice, require the holder to carry out further investigations and lodge a written report about the investigations within a stated reasonable period at—
- (a) the office of the department for lodging the report, as stated in a gazette notice by the chief executive; or
  - (b) if no office is gazetted under paragraph (a)—the office of the chief executive.
- (3) It is a condition of the lease that the holder must comply with the requirement.
- (4) In this section—

---

<sup>332</sup> Section 747 (Continuation of particular rights relating to coal seam gas under mineral hydrocarbon mining leases)

*investigations* includes discussions with the holder of any petroleum authority the area of which is included in the area of the mineral hydrocarbon mining lease.

## **762 Omission of particular conditions to be superseded by development plan**

- (1) This section applies to a coal or oil shale mining lease as follows and the condition of the lease stated opposite the lease—

<b>Mining lease number</b>	<b>Condition</b>
----------------------------	------------------

ML 6949	condition 2.35 in the annexure to the lease
ML 70108	special condition and reservation 1 in schedule 3 to the lease
ML 70241	the special condition in schedule B to the lease

- (2) From the first approval of a development plan for the lease after the commencement the condition is no longer a condition of the lease.
- (3) The mining registrar must, as soon as practicable after the first approval, amend the instrument of the lease to omit the condition.

## **763 Development plan requirements for renewal applications if no current development plan**

- (1) This section applies for a renewal application for the coal or oil shale mining lease if the lease does not yet have a development plan.<sup>333</sup>
- (2) Subsections (3) to (5) apply instead of section 318DI(2) and 318DJ and 318DK.<sup>334</sup>
- (3) The application must include a proposed development plan for the renewed lease.

---

<sup>333</sup> See section 758 (Obligation to lodge proposed development plan)

<sup>334</sup> Sections 318DI (General additional provisions for renewal application), 318DJ (Applied provisions for renewal application) and 318DK (Mining lease taken to have development plan until renewal application decided)

- (4) The provisions of part 7AA, division 9, subdivision 3<sup>335</sup> apply—
- (a) as if a reference in the subdivision to a proposed mining lease were a reference to the coal or oil shale mining lease; and
  - (b) subject to section 760; and
  - (c) with other necessary changes.
- (5) For section 318AH,<sup>336</sup> the reference to a development plan approved under part 7AA, division 8 is taken to include a reference to a development plan approved under division 8 as applied under subsection (4).

---

335 Part 7AA, division 9, subdivision 3 (Approval of proposed initial development plans)

336 Section 318AH (What is a *development plan* and its *plan period*)



## Schedule                      Dictionary

section 5

***access agreement*** for—

- (a) part 13—see section 429; or
- (b) part 15, division 2—see section 485; or
- (c) part 16, division 2—see section 541.

***adjacent lease*** see section 318CP(a).

***adjoining lots*** includes lots that would be adjoining lots if they were not separated by a road.

***aggrieved person*** see—

- section 38
- section 116.

***applicant*** for—

- (a) the native title provisions generally—see section 422; or
- (b) part 13—see section 429; or
- (c) part 15, division 2—see section 485; or
- (d) part 16, division 2—see section 541; or
- (e) part 17, division 4—see section 651.

***application notice*** for—

- (a) part 13—see section 431(1); or
- (b) part 15, division 2—see section 486(1); or
- (c) part 16, division 2—see section 542(1).

***approval***, for part 17, division 6, see section 696.

***approved form*** see section 416A.

***approved opal or gem mining area***, for the native title provisions, see section 422.

## Schedule (continued)

**area**, of a coal or oil shale mining tenement or petroleum tenure—

- 1 The *area*, of a coal or oil shale mining tenement, is the land to which the tenement is subject.
- 2 The *area*, of a petroleum tenure, is the land to which the tenure is subject as recorded in the petroleum register under the *Petroleum Act 1923* or the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.

**At Risk agreement** means the document called the ‘At Risk’ agreement endorsed by Cabinet on 5 April 1988, and that document as amended and endorsed by Cabinet from time to time.<sup>337</sup>

**authorised activity**—

- 1 An *authorised activity*, for a mining tenement, is an activity that its holder is, under this Act or the tenement, entitled to carry out in relation to the tenement.
- 2 An *authorised activity*, for a petroleum tenure, is an activity that its holder is, under the *Petroleum Act 1923*, the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act or the tenure, entitled to carry out in relation to the tenure.

**authority to prospect** see section 318AI(2).

**block** means a block as described in section 126.

**building** means a fixed, roofed structure that is completely or partly enclosed by walls.

**cadastral surveyor** means a person registered as a cadastral surveyor under the *Surveyors Act 2003*.

**certificate of public notice** for—

- (a) an application for a mining claim, means the certificate of public notice for the application given under section 64A; or
- (b) an application for a mining lease, means—

---

<sup>337</sup> A copy of the agreement is available from the department’s offices at 61 Mary Street, Brisbane.

## Schedule (continued)

- (i) the certificate of public notice for the application given under section 252A; or
- (ii) if the certificate of public notice has been reissued under section 253—the reissued certificate.

**chief executive (planning)** means the chief executive of the department in which the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* is administered.

**closing day (native title issues)**, for part 17, division 4, see section 653(3).

**coal exploration tenement** see section 318AE(1).

**coal mining lease** see section 318AE(2).

**coal or oil shale mining lease** means a coal mining lease or oil shale mining lease.

**coal or oil shale mining tenement** see section 318AG.

**coal seam gas** see section 318AC(1).

**combined hearing**, for part 17, division 4, see section 671.

**Commonwealth Native Title Act** means the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cwlth).

**company** means the following entities within the meaning of the Corporations Act—

- (a) a company;
- (b) a registered foreign company.

**compensation agreement**, for part 7A, see section 318ET(1).

**compensation application**, for part 7A, means an application made under section 318EU(1).

**compensation decision**, for part 18, see section 706.

**compensation trust decision**, for part 18, see section 706.

**condition** includes term.

**consultation and negotiation parties**, for part 17, division 4, see section 658(1).

## Schedule (continued)

**consultation period** for—

- (a) part 13—see section 435(1); or
- (b) part 15, division 2—see section 490(1); or
- (c) part 16, division 2—see section 546(1).

**consultation period advice day**, for—

- (a) part 13—see section 435(2); or
- (b) part 15, division 2—see section 490(2); or
- (c) part 16, division 2—see section 546(2).

**consultation start day** for—

- (a) part 16, division 2—see section 546(1)(a); or
- (b) part 16, division 2—see section 562(1)(a); or

**contract conditions**, for part 17, division 4, see section 675(1).

**coordination arrangement** see section 318AJ.

**credit provider** see *Consumer Credit (Queensland) Act 1994*.

**CSG assessment criteria** see section 318AP(1)(c).

**CSG statement** see section 318AP(1)(a).

**decision**, for the native title provisions, see section 422.

**deputy mining registrar** means a person employed as a deputy mining registrar under section 336(1).

**designated CSG product** means coal seam gas mined from pre-drainage, ventilation or from drainage of a goaf.

**development** means development as defined under the Planning Act.

**development plan**, for a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease, see section 318AH.

**district prospecting permit** see section 14.

**educational institution** means a school, college, university or university college.

**eligible person** means—

## Schedule (continued)

- (a) an adult; or
- (b) a company; or
- (c) a local government that acquires a mining claim or mining lease under the *Local Government Act 1993*, chapter 14, part 7; or
- (d) an educational institution the Minister treats as an eligible person under section 7.

**enter** land includes remain on the land.

**environment** has the meaning given by the Environmental Protection Act.

**environmental authority (exploration)** means an environmental authority (exploration) under the Environmental Protection Act.

**environmental authority (mineral development)** means an environmental authority (mineral development) under the Environmental Protection Act.

**environmental authority (mining claim)** means an environmental authority (mining claim) under the Environmental Protection Act.

**environmental authority (mining lease)** means an environmental authority (mining lease) under the Environmental Protection Act.

**Environmental Protection Act** means the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

**EPA administering authority**, for a mining tenement or an application, means the administering authority under the Environmental Protection Act for an environmental authority (mining activities) or an application for an environmental authority (mining activities) relating to the mining tenement or the application.

**expiry day**, for a mining tenement, means the day the tenement expires under its terms.

**exploration permit** means an exploration permit under part 5.

## Schedule (continued)

**explore** means take action to determine the existence, quality and quantity of minerals on, in or under land or in the waters or sea above land by—

- (a) prospecting;
- (b) using instruments, equipment and techniques appropriate to determine the existence of any mineral;
- (c) extracting and removing from land for sampling and testing an amount of material, mineral or other substance in each case reasonably necessary to determine its mineral bearing capacity or its properties as an indication of mineralisation;
- (d) doing anything else prescribed under a regulation.

**fee** includes tax.

**fossicking area** has the meaning given by the *Fossicking Act 1994*.

**geothermal exploration permit** means a geothermal exploration permit under the *Geothermal Exploration Act 2004*.

**hand mining** means mining using hand operated tools, including, for example, picks, shovels, hammers, gads, sieves and windlasses, but does not include mining using explosives.

**hearing** includes a presentation before the tribunal of an interim nature, including, for example, a directions hearing.

**Heritage Act** means the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*.

**high impact exploration permit**, for part 15, see section 483.

**high impact mineral development licence**, for part 16, see section 539.

**holder**, for a prospecting permit, exploration permit, mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease, means the person in whose name the permit, claim, licence or lease is recorded, and, for part 3, division 1, includes a person mentioned in section 13, definition *holder*.

**IDAS**, see the Planning Act, section 3.1.1.

## Schedule (continued)

**improvement restoration**, for a mining tenement, see section 6C.

**incidental coal seam gas** see section 318AC(2).

**information-giver**, for part 7AA, division 10, see section 318EJ(1).

**initial development plan requirements** see section 318DS.

**land** includes—

- (a) land within the beds and banks of all streams, watercourses and inundated land; and
- (b) land beneath the internal waters of Queensland; and
- (c) the sea bed and subsoil to which this Act applies; and
- (d) waters in, upon and above land; and
- (e) subterranean land;

but, except in sections 8, 9 and 11, does not include a protected area.

**last objection day** for—

- (a) an application for a mining claim—see section 64A(2)(a); or
- (b) an application for a mining lease—see section 252A(2)(a).

**later development plan requirements** see section 318EB(2)(b).

**low impact activity** for—

- (a) part 15—see section 482; or
- (b) part 16—see section 538.

**low impact exploration permit**, for part 15, see section 481.

**low impact mineral development licence**, for part 16, see section 537.

**low impact prospecting permit**, for part 13, see section 430.

**mine** see section 6A.

## Schedule (continued)

**mineral** see section 6.

**mineral development licence** means a mineral development licence under part 6.

**mining claim** means a mining claim under part 4.

**mining lease** means a mining lease under part 7.

**mining lease holder** for part 7AA, division 8, subdivisions 1 and 2, see section 318CL.

**mining registrar** means—

- (a) for a mining district—a person employed as a mining registrar under section 336(1) and assigned to the district; or
- (b) for land or a mining tenement over land—the mining registrar for the mining district in which the land is situated.

**mining tenement** see section 422.

**Minister's decision**, for part 17, division 4, see section 684(2).

**mortgage** includes a charge on any mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease for securing money or money's worth.

**native title issues decision**, for part 17, division 4, see section 669(1).

**native title notification party**, for the native title provisions, see section 422.

**native title provisions** means the following provisions—

- part 12
- part 13
- part 14
- part 15
- part 16
- part 17
- part 18



## Schedule (continued)

- part 19, divisions 2 and 5.

**natural underground reservoir** means a part of a geological formation or structure (including a coal seam) in which coal seam gas or petroleum has accumulated.

**negotiated agreement**, for part 17, division 4, see section 659(1).

**non-exclusive land**, for the native title provisions, see section 422.

**notifiable road use**, for part 7A, see section 318EO.

**notification day (native title issues)**, for part 17, division 4, see section 653(2).

**occupied land** means land (other than land occupied under a permit under the *Land Act 1994*) of which there is an owner, and includes a reserve.

**occupier** of land means a person (other than the owner) lawfully occupying the land.

**officer**, of a company, has the same meaning as officer of a corporation under the Corporations Act.

**oil shale** see section 318AD.

**oil shale exploration tenement** see section 318AF(1).

**oil shale mining lease** see section 318AF(2).

**other mining legislation** means the following—

- Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*;
- Explosives Act 1999*;
- Fossicking Act 1994*;
- Mining and Quarrying Safety and Health Act 1999*;
- Petroleum Act 1923*;
- Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*.

**owner**, of land, means—

## Schedule (continued)

- (a) for a reserve (other than land that is a reserve merely because it is in the Wet Tropics Area and land that is rail corridor land)—
- (i) if the reserve is a road—the entity having control of the road;<sup>338</sup> or
  - (ii) if the reserve is a resources reserve under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* for which there are trustees—the trustees for the reserve; or
  - (iii) if the reserve is DOGIT land under the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991* or the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991*—the trustees for the land; or
  - (iv) if the reserve is land held under a lease under the *Local Government (Aboriginal Lands) Act 1978*, section 6—the relevant local government; or
  - (v) if Aboriginal land under the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991* is taken to be a reserve because of section 87(2) or 87(4)(b) of that Act—the grantees of the land; or
  - (vi) if Torres Strait Islander land under the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991* is taken to be a reserve because of section 84(2) or 84(4)(b) of that Act—the grantees of the land; or
  - (vii) if subparagraphs (i) to (vi) do not apply—the Minister responsible for administering the Act under which it is a reserve; or
- (b) for freehold land—the registered owner of the land; or
- (c) if a person is, or will on performing conditions, be entitled to a deed of grant in fee simple for the land—the person; or
- (d) if an estate in fee simple of the land is being purchased from the State—the purchaser; or

---

<sup>338</sup> Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, a local government has control of all roads in its area. A State-controlled road under the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* is excluded from the definition of road in the *Local Government Act 1993*.

## Schedule (continued)

- (e) for a State forest or timber reserve under the *Forestry Act 1959*—the chief executive of the department responsible for the administration of the *Forestry Act 1959*; or
- (f) for a person who holds land under a lease from the State under the *Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders (Land Holding) Act 1985* for land excised from land granted in trust for Aboriginal or *Torres Strait Islander purposes under the Land Act 1994*—the trustees of the land; or
- (g) for a person who holds land from the State under an Act (other than an Act about mining or petroleum) under another kind of lease or occupancy (other than occupation rights under a permit under the *Land Act 1994*) of the land—the person;

and includes, in addition to an owner mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (g)—

- (h) for a forest entitlement area under the *Forestry Act 1959*—the chief executive of the department responsible for the administration of the *Forestry Act 1959*; and
- (i) for land in the Wet Tropics Area—the Wet Tropics Management Authority;
- (j) for rail corridor land—the Minister administering chapter 7 of the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*.

***parcel prospecting permit*** see section 14.

***permanent building*** means a building other than a building of a temporary nature.

***Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act*** means the *Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004*.

***petroleum development preference*** see section 318AX(3)(b).

***petroleum lease*** see section 318AI(1).

***petroleum lease application period*** see section 318BG(2).

***petroleum tenure*** see section 318AI(3).

## Schedule (continued)

***Planning Act*** means the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*.

***planning scheme*** has the meaning given by the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*.

***plan period***, for a development plan, see section 318AH(3).

***pre-existing improvements***, for a mining tenement, means all improvements on, or attached to, the land the subject of the tenement immediately before the application for the tenement was lodged.

*Examples of an improvement—*

- 1 a bridge, building, fence, stock yard or other structure
- 2 equipment, machinery or plant

***preference decision*** see section 318BB(2).

***prospect*** see section 6B.

***prospecting permit*** means a prospecting permit granted under part 3.

***protected area*** means an area dedicated under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* as—

- (a) a national park (scientific); or
- (b) a national park; or
- (c) a national park (Aboriginal land); or
- (d) a national park (Torres Strait Islander land); or
- (e) a national park (recovery); or
- (f) a conservation park.

***rail corridor land*** means existing rail corridor land or new rail corridor land under the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*.

***recipient***, for part 7AA, division 10, see section 318EJ(1).

***refuse*** includes reject.

***register*** means a register maintained under section 387.

***registered indigenous land use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act*** means an indigenous land

## Schedule (continued)

use agreement registered on the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements under the Commonwealth Native Title Act.

**registered native title party** for—

- (a) part 13—see section 429; or
- (b) part 15, division 2—see section 485; or
- (c) part 16, division 2—see section 541; or
- (d) part 17, division 4—see section 655.

**registered native title rights and interests**, for the native title provisions, see section 422.

**relevant act**, for part 18, see section 706.

**relevant environmental condition**, for a mining tenement, means a condition of an environmental authority (mining activities) under the Environmental Protection Act relating to the tenement.

**relevant local government**, for land, means the local government for the local government area in which the land is situated.

**relevant mining district**, for land, means the mining district in which the land is situated.

**relevant special interest publication**, for the native title provisions, see section 422.

**relinquishment condition**, for a coal mining lease or an oil shale mining lease, see section 318BM(2).<sup>339</sup>

**repealed Acts** means the Acts repealed by this Act.

**reserve** means—

- (a) land that is—
  - (i) a road; or
  - (ii) a State forest or timber reserve under the *Forestry Act 1959*; or

---

339 Section 318BM (Power to determine relinquishment condition)

## Schedule (continued)

- (iii) a resources reserve under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*; or
- (iv) Aboriginal land under the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991* taken to be a reserve because of section 87(2) or 87(4)(b) of that Act; or
- (v) Torres Strait Islander land under the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991* taken to be a reserve because of section 84(2) or 84(4)(b) of that Act; or
- (vi) rail corridor land; or
- (vii) vested in—
  - (A) the Minister administering the *Education (General Provisions) Act 1989*; or
  - (B) Queensland Rail; or
  - (C) the Queensland Housing Commission; or
  - (D) the Minister responsible for the construction of public buildings or the chief executive of that Minister's department; or
- (viii) held under the *Transport Planning and Coordination Act 1994*; or
- (ix) granted in trust or reserved for a community purpose under the *Land Act 1994* or another Act; or
- (b) land held under a lease under the *Local Government (Aboriginal Lands) Act 1978*, section 3; or
- (c) land within the Wet Tropics Area;

but does not include land (other than a road) reserved as a town or suburb under the *Land Act 1994*.

**restricted land** means restricted land (category A) or (category B).

**restricted land (category A)** means land within 100 m laterally of a permanent building used—

- (a) mainly as accommodation or for business purposes; or

## Schedule (continued)

- (b) for community, sporting or recreational purposes or as a place of worship.

***restricted land (category B)*** means land within 50 m laterally of any of the following features—

- (a) a principal stockyard;  
 (b) a bore or artesian well;  
 (c) a dam;  
 (d) another artificial water storage connected to a water supply;  
 (e) a cemetery or burial place.

***right to negotiate provisions***, for the native title provisions, see section 422.

***road*** has the meaning given by the *Land Act 1994*.

***road authority*** for part 7A, see section 318EN.

***road use direction*** see section 318EQ(1).

***section 65 conference*** see section 66.

***section 169 conference*** see section 170.

***section 217 conference*** see section 218.

***section 254 conference*** see section 255.

***specific purpose mining lease*** means a mining lease that, under section 234(1)(b), is granted for a purpose other than mining.

***State-controlled road*** see the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*, schedule 6.

***sub-block*** means a sub-block as described in section 126.

***submission period***, for part 7AA, division 2, see section 318AX(2).

***submissions*** means written submissions.

***termination*** includes expiry.

***the public interest***, for part 7AA, see section 318AK.

## Schedule (continued)

***tribunal*** means the Land and Resources Tribunal.

***urgency notice***, for part 17, division 4, see section 683.

***Wet Tropics Area*** means the Wet Tropics Area within the meaning of the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993*.



## Endnotes

### 1 Index to endnotes

	Page
2 Date to which amendments incorporated . . . . .	591
3 Key . . . . .	592
4 Table of reprints . . . . .	592
5 Tables in earlier reprints . . . . .	592
6 List of legislation . . . . .	592
7 List of annotations . . . . .	598
8 List of forms notified or published in the gazette . . . . .	662
9 Table of renumbered provisions . . . . .	667
10 Information about retrospectivity . . . . .	688

### 2 Date to which amendments incorporated

This is the reprint date mentioned in the Reprints Act 1992, section 5(c). Accordingly, this reprint includes all amendments that commenced operation on or before 25 March 2005. Future amendments of the Mineral Resources Act 1989 may be made in accordance with this reprint under the Reprints Act 1992, section 49.

### 3 Key

#### Key to abbreviations in list of legislation and annotations

Key	Explanation	Key	Explanation
AIA	= Acts Interpretation Act 1954	(prev)	= previously
amd	= amended	proc	= proclamation
amdt	= amendment	prov	= provision
ch	= chapter	pt	= part
def	= definition	pubd	= published
div	= division	R[X]	= Reprint No.[X]
exp	= expires/expired	RA	= Reprints Act 1992
gaz	= gazette	reloc	= relocated
hdg	= heading	renum	= renumbered
ins	= inserted	rep	= repealed
lap	= lapsed	(retro)	= retrospectively
notfd	= notified	rv	= revised edition
o in c	= order in council	s	= section
om	= omitted	sch	= schedule
orig	= original	sdiv	= subdivision
p	= page	SIA	= Statutory Instruments Act 1992
para	= paragraph	SIR	= Statutory Instruments Regulation 2002
prec	= preceding	SL	= subordinate legislation
pres	= present	sub	= substituted
prev	= previous	unnum	= unnumbered

### 4 Table of reprints

Reprints are issued for both future and past effective dates. For the most up-to-date table of reprints, see the reprint with the latest effective date.

### 5 Tables in earlier reprints

Name of table	Reprint No.
Changed citations and remade laws	2
Changed names and titles	2, 3, 4
Corrected minor errors	1, 2, 3
Obsolete and redundant provisions	2, 3
Renumbered provisions	1, 3

### 6 List of legislation

#### Mineral Resources Act 1989 No. 110

date of assent 25 October 1989

ss 1–1.2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 1 September 1990 (proc pubd gaz 14 July 1990 p 1647)

amending legislation—

**Mineral Resources Act Amendment Act 1990 No. 30**

date of assent 15 June 1990  
commenced on date of assent

**Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991 No. 68 ss 1–2, 111 sch 2**

date of assent 24 October 1991  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 14 December 1991 (1991 SL No. 173)

**Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1991 No. 97 ss 1–3 sch 2**

date of assent 17 December 1991  
commenced on date of assent

**Primary Industries Corporation Act 1992 No. 15 ss 1–2, 13 sch**

date of assent 13 May 1992  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 30 September 1992 (1992 SL No. 271)

**Nature Conservation Act 1992 No. 20 ss 1–2, 159 sch 2**

date of assent 22 May 1992  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 19 December 1994 (1994 SL No. 472)

**Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (No. 2) 1992 No. 68 ss 1–3 sch 1**

date of assent 7 December 1992  
commenced on date of assent

**Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993 No. 50 ss 1–2, 86 sch 3**

date of assent 30 September 1993  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 1 November 1993 (1993 SL No. 396)

**Local Government Act 1993 No. 70 ss 1–2, 804 sch**

date of assent 7 December 1993  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 26 March 1994 (see s 2(5))

**Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1994 No. 18**

date of assent 10 May 1994  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
ss 4, 6 and 7 commenced 1 September 1990 (see s 2)  
remaining provisions commenced on date of assent

**Environmental Protection Act 1994 No. 62 ss 1–2, 616(2) (this Act is amended, see amending legislation below)**

date of assent 1 December 1994  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provision commenced 1 January 2001

amending legislation—

**Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2000  
No. 64 s 52 (amends 1994 No. 62 above)**

date of assent 24 November 2000  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provision commenced 1 January 2001

**Fossicking Act 1994 No. 63 ss 1–2, 110(2) sch**

date of assent 1 December 1994  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 1 February 1995 (1994 SL No. 465)

**Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1995 No. 21**

date of assent 11 April 1995  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
s 106(1), (3), (4) commenced 1 September 1990 (see s 2(2))  
remaining provisions commenced 1 May 1995 (1995 SL No. 117)

**Statute Law (Minor Amendments) Act 1995 No. 50 ss 1, 3 sch**

date of assent 22 November 1995  
commenced on date of assent

**Statute Law Revision Act 1995 No. 57 ss 1–2, 4 sch 2**

date of assent 28 November 1995  
commenced on date of assent

**Statute Law Revision Act (No. 2) 1995 No. 58 ss 1–2, 4 sch 1**

date of assent 28 November 1995  
commenced on date of assent

**Public Service Act 1996 No. 37 ss 1–2, 147 sch 2**

date of assent 22 October 1996  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 1 December 1996 (1996 SL No. 361)

**Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1997 No. 14**

date of assent 15 May 1997  
commenced on date of assent

**Miscellaneous Acts (Non-bank Financial Institutions) Amendment Act 1997 No. 17  
ss 1–2, 74 sch**

date of assent 15 May 1997  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 1 July 1997 (1997 SL No. 163)

**Environmental and Other Legislation Amendment Act 1997 No. 80 pts 1, 3**

date of assent 5 December 1997  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 6 July 1998 (1998 SL No. 52)

**Offshore Minerals Act 1998 No. 10 ss 1–2, 446 sch 4**

date of assent 12 March 1998  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 14 April 1998 (1998 SL No. 80)

**Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1998 No. 27**

date of assent 18 May 1998  
commenced on date of assent

**Native Title (Queensland) State Provisions Amendment Act (No. 2) 1998 No. 38 pts 1, 3 (this Act is amended, see amending legislation below)**

date of assent 27 November 1998  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 18 September 2000 (2000 SL No. 246)  
amending legislation—

**Native Title (Queensland) State Provisions Amendment Act 1999 No. 35 pts 1, 6 (amends 1998 No. 38 above)**

date of assent 29 July 1999  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
pt 6 hdg, ss 52–53 commenced 12 November 1999 (1999 SL No. 274)  
remaining provisions commenced 30 July 2000 (automatic commencement under AIA s 15DA(2))

**Land and Resources Tribunal Act 1999 No. 7 ss 1–2, 87 sch 3**

date of assent 18 March 1999  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 18 September 2000 (2000 SL No. 244)  
(proposed commencement 19 March 2001 (automatic commencement under AIA s 15DA(2) (2000 SL No. 34 s 2))

**Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1999 No. 19 ss 1–3 sch**

date of assent 30 April 1999  
commenced on date of assent

**Native Title (Queensland) State Provisions Amendment Act 1999 No. 35 pts 1, 4**

date of assent 29 July 1999  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 30 July 2000 (automatic commencement under AIA s 15DA(2))

**Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 No. 5 ss 1–2(1)–(2), 373 sch 2**

date of assent 23 March 2000  
commenced on date of assent (see s 2(1)–(2))

**GST and Related Matters Act 2000 No. 20 ss 1, 2(4), 29 sch 3**

date of assent 23 June 2000  
ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
remaining provisions commenced 1 July 2000 (see s 2(4))

**Primary Industries and Natural Resources Legislation Amendment Act 2000 No. 26 ss 1, 12 sch 1**

date of assent 27 June 2000  
commenced on date of assent

**Native Title Resolution Act 2000 No. 36 pts 1, 3, s 18 sch 1, s 19 sch 2**

date of assent 13 September 2000

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
 remaining provisions commenced 18 September 2000 (2000 SL No. 245)

**Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2000 No. 44 ss 1, 42 sch**  
 date of assent 25 October 2000  
 commenced on date of assent

**Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2000 No. 64 ss 1, 2(2), pt 4, ss 60(2), 174 sch**  
 date of assent 24 November 2000  
 ss 1–2, 146, 167 (to the extent it ins the Mineral Resources Act 1989 pt 19, div 3, hdg, s 736) commenced on date of assent  
 remaining provisions commenced 1 January 2001 (2000 SL No. 350)

**Corporations (Ancillary Provisions) Act 2001 No. 45 ss 1–2, 29 sch 3**  
 date of assent 28 June 2001  
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
 sch 3 commenced 15 July 2001 (see s 2(2) of Act 2001 No. 45 (Qld) and Corporations Act 2001 No. 50 (Cwlth) and proc pubd Cwlth of Australia gaz 13 July 2001, No. S285)  
 remaining provision commenced immediately before 15 July 2001 (see s 2(1) of Act 2001 No. 45 (Qld) and Corporations Act 2001 No. 50 (Cwlth) and proc pubd Cwlth of Australia gaz 13 July 2001, No. S285)

**State Development and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2001 No. 46 ss 1, 2(2)–(4), pt 6**  
 date of assent 28 June 2001  
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
 remaining provisions commenced 28 June 2001 (2001 SL No. 101)

**Natural Resources and Mines Legislation Amendment Act 2002 No. 25 pts 1, 4**  
 date of assent 20 June 2002  
 commenced on date of assent

**Mineral Resources Amendment Act 2002 No. 62**  
 date of assent 14 November 2002  
 commenced on date of assent

**Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2002 No. 63 pts 1–2**  
 date of assent 14 November 2002  
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
 remaining provisions commenced 15 November 2003 (automatic commencement under AIA s 15DA(2))

**Natural Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2003 No. 10 pts 1, 6, s 76 sch**  
 date of assent 28 March 2003  
 commenced on date of assent

**Statue Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2003 No. 19 ss 1, 3 sch**  
 date of assent 9 May 2003  
 commenced on date of assent

**Land Legislation Amendment Act 2003 No. 20 s 1, pt 4**

date of assent 9 May 2003  
 commenced on date of assent

**Queensland Heritage and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2003 No. 32 pts 1, 6**

date of assent 23 May 2003  
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
 remaining provisions commenced 28 November 2003 (2003 SL No. 267)

**Transport Infrastructure Act 1994 No. 8 s 491(3) sch 5 (this Act is amended, see amending legislation below)**

amending legislation—

**Transport Infrastructure and Another Act Amendment Act 2003 No. 54 ss 1–2, 34, 39 (amends 1994 No. 8 above)**

date of assent 18 September 2003  
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
 remaining provisions commenced 1 December 2003 (2003 SL No. 294)

**Mineral Resources and Another Act Amendment Act 2003 No. 56 pts 1–2**

date of assent 18 September 2003  
 commenced on date of assent

**Survey and Mapping Infrastructure Act 2003 No. 71 ss 1–2, pt 9 div 2**

date of assent 22 October 2003  
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
 remaining provisions commenced 1 August 2004 (2004 SL No. 129)

**Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2003 No. 77 ss 1, 2(2), pt 20**

date of assent 6 November 2003  
 commenced on date of assent (see s 2(2))

**Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2004 No. 1 ss 1–2, 44(1) sch 1**

date of assent 29 April 2004  
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
 remaining provisions commenced 21 May 2004 (2004 SL No. 62)

**Natural Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2004 No. 4 s 1, pt 6A, s 57 sch**

date of assent 6 May 2004  
 commenced on date of assent

**Aurukun Associates Agreement Repeal Act 2004 No. 5 ss 1, 8 sch**

date of assent 13 May 2004  
 commenced on date of assent

**Geothermal Exploration Act 2004 No. 12 ss 1–2, ch 8 pt 5**

date of assent 31 May 2004  
 ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent  
 remaining provisions commenced 25 March 2005 (2005 SL No. 43)

**Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 No. 25 ss 1–2, 1009–1029 (prev ss 949–969) (this Act is amended, see amending legislation below)**

date of assent 12 October 2004

ss 1–2, 1028 (to the extent it ins pt 19 div 6 sdivs 1–2) commenced on date of assent (see s 2(1))

remaining provisions commenced 31 December 2004 (2004 SL No. 308 (see s 2(2)))

amending legislation—

**Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2004 No. 26 ss 1–2(1), 259–263, 69(2) sch (amends 2004 No. 25 above)**

date of assent 12 October 2004

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 12 October 2004 (see s 2(1))

**Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2004 No. 48 pts 1, 8**

date of assent 18 November 2004

ss 1–2 commenced on date of assent

remaining provisions commenced 1 January 2005 (2004 SL No. 315)

**Petroleum and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005 No. 3 pts 1–2, s 105 sch**

date of assent 3 March 2005

s 7 commenced 12 October 2004 (see s 2)

remaining provisions commenced on date of assent

**Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005 No. 8 pts 1–2, s 2 sch**

date of assent 18 March 2005

commenced on date of assent

## 7 List of annotations

**This Act has been renumbered—see table of renumbered provisions in endnote 9.****Commencement**

s 1.2 om R3 (see RA s 37)

**Objectives of Act**

s 2 amd 1990 No. 30 s 2

**Application of Act to Commonwealth land and coastal waters of the State**

prov hdg amd 1995 No. 21 s 4(1)

s 3 amd 1992 No. 20 s 159 sch 2; 1995 No. 21 s 4(2); 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Relationship with petroleum legislation**

s 3A ins 2004 No. 25 s 1010 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 259)

**Repeals**

s 1.5 om R1 (see RA s 40)

**Amendment of Oaths Act 1867**

s 1.6 om R1 (see RA s 40)



**Effect of change of baseline**

- s 4**           amd 1997 No. 14 s 3  
                   sub 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4  
                   amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2004 No. 1 s 44(1) sch 1

**Definitions**

- prov hdg**   sub 1997 No. 14 s 4(1)  
**s 5**           amd 1991 No. 97 s 3 sch 2; 2000 No. 64 s 61(1)  
                   Note—s 5 contained definitions for this Act. Definitions are now located in the  
                   schedule—Dictionary.

**Meaning of “mineral”**

- s 6**           prev s 6 ins 1995 No. 21 s 6  
                   amd 1997 No. 80 s 42  
                   om 2000 No. 64 s 62  
                   pres s 6 ins 2004 No. 25 s 1011

**Meaning of “mine”**

- s 6A**          ins 1997 No. 14 s 5

**Meaning of “prospect”**

- s 6B**          ins 1999 No. 35 s 14

**What is carrying out “improvement restoration”**

- s 6C**          ins 2000 No. 64 s 63

**Notes in text**

- s 6D**          ins 2004 No. 25 s 1012

**When educational institution is an eligible person**

- s 7**           ins 1995 No. 21 s 6

**Crown’s property in minerals**

- s 8**           amd 1995 No. 21 s 7; 1995 No. 57 s 4 sch 2

**Exclusive right of Crown to grant mining leases etc. irrespective of ownership of mineral**

- s 9**           amd 1995 No. 21 s 8; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Act does not create estates in land**

- s 10**          amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Extension of certain entitlements to registered native title bodies corporate and registered native title claimants**

- s 10A**       ins 1999 No. 35 s 15; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Mining districts**

- s 11**          amd 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1

**PART 3—PROSPECTING PERMITS****Division 1—Prospecting permit categories and entitlements**

- div hdg**     ins 1995 No. 21 s 9

**Definitions**

- s 13**          sub 1995 No. 21 s 9

**Categories of prospecting permit**

s 14 sub 1995 No. 21 s 9

**Area of land covered by parcel prospecting permit**s 15 amd 1994 No. 63 s 110(2) sch  
sub 1995 No. 21 s 9  
amd 1995 No. 50 s 3 sch**Land excluded from prospecting permit**

s 16 sub 1995 No. 21 s 9

**Prospecting permit to be granted to a Single person**

s 17 sub 1995 No. 21 s 9

**Entitlements under prospecting permit**

s 18 ins 1995 No. 21 s 9

**Consent required to enter certain land**s 19 ins 1995 No. 21 s 9  
amd 1995 No. 58 s 4 sch 1**Provisions about consents to enter land**

s 20 ins 1995 No. 21 s 9

**Division 2—Other provisions about prospecting permits**

div hdg ins 1995 No. 21 s 9

**Application for prospecting permit**s 21 ins 1995 No. 21 s 9  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 64**Reason for rejection of application to be given**

s 22 amd 2000 No. 64 s 65

**Grant of prospecting permit**

s 24 amd 1994 No. 63 s 110(2) sch; 1995 No. 21 ss 10, 3 sch; 1999 No. 35 s 16

**Conditions of prospecting permit**

s 25 amd 1998 No. 38 s 8; 1999 No. 35 s 17; 2000 No. 64 ss 66, 174 sch

**Additional conditions of prospecting permit relating to native title**

s 25AA ins 2003 No. 10 s 32

**Indigenous land use agreement conditions**s 25A ins 1999 No. 35 s 18  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Provision of security**s 26 amd 1995 No. 21 s 11; 1997 No. 17 s 74 sch; 2000 No. 64 s 67; 2005 No. 8  
s 2 sch**Compensation**

s 28 amd 1990 No. 30 s 4; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Term of prospecting permit**s 29 sub 1995 No. 21 s 12  
amd 1997 No. 17 s 74 sch

**Mining registrar to notify owners of occupied land of grant of parcel prospecting permit**

**prov hdg** amd 1995 No. 21 s 13(1)  
**s 31** amd 1995 No. 21 s 13(2); 2000 No. 64 s 68

**Notice of entry under parcel prospecting permit**

**s 32** sub 1990 No. 30 s 5; 1995 No. 21 s 14  
 amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Cancellation of prospecting permit**

**s 36** amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch

**Surrender of prospecting permit**

**s 37** amd 2000 No. 64 s 69

**Appeals about prospecting permits**

**s 38** sub 1995 No. 21 s 15  
 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**How to start an appeal**

**s 39** ins 1995 No. 21 s 15  
 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Stay of operation of decisions**

**s 40** ins 1995 No. 21 s 15  
 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Hearing procedures**

**s 41** ins 1995 No. 21 s 15  
 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Powers of tribunal on appeal**

**prov hdg** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
**s 42** ins 1995 No. 21 s 15  
 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Holder of prospecting permit to rehabilitate land**

**s 45** om 2000 No. 64 s 70

**Staying on occupied land**

**s 47** sub 1995 No. 21 s 16  
 amd 2000 No. 64 s 71

**Entitlements under mining claim**

**s 50** amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 s 72

**Land for which mining claim not to be granted**

**s 51** amd 1994 No. 63 s 110(2) sch  
 sub 1995 No. 21 s 17  
 amd 1995 No. 58 s 4 sch 1; 2004 No. 12 s 151

**Area and shape of mining claim land**

**s 53** amd 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1; 1995 No. 21 s 18; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Manner of marking out land proposed to be subject of mining claim**

s 57 amd 1990 No. 30 s 6; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2003 No. 71 s 76

**Time for application for grant of mining claim**

s 59 amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**If application for mining claim not made, is rejected or abandoned, posts etc. to be removed**

s 60 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Application for grant of mining claim**

s 61 amd 1995 No. 21 ss 19, 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 ss 73, 174 sch

**Certificate of application etc.**

s 64 amd 1990 No. 30 s 7; 1995 No. 21 ss 20, 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 74; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Issue of certificate of public notice**

s 64A ins 2000 No. 64 s 75  
amd 1994 No. 62 s 616(2) (amd 2000 No. 64 s 52); 2004 No. 48 s 155; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Applicant's obligations for certificate of public notice**

s 64B ins 2000 No. 64 s 75  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Declaration of compliance with obligations**

s 64C ins 2000 No. 64 s 75  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Continuing obligation to notify**

s 64D ins 2000 No. 64 s 75

**Mining registrar may call conference in some cases**

s 65 sub 1995 No. 21 s 21  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Who may attend conference**

s 66 ins 1995 No. 21 s 21

**What happens if someone does not attend**

s 67 ins 1995 No. 21 s 21

**Mining registrar's function at section 65 conference**

s 68 ins 1995 No. 21 s 21

**Agreements and statements at section 65 conference**

s 69 ins 1995 No. 21 s 21

**Tribunal may award costs**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

s 70 ins 1995 No. 21 s 21  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Objection to application for grant of mining claim**

s 71 amd 1993 No. 50 s 86 sch 3; 1995 No. 21 s 22; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Referral to tribunal of application and objections**

**s 72** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 76  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 3

**Rejection of application for grant of mining claim for noncompliance**

**s 73** amd 2000 No. 64 s 77

**Grant of mining claim to which no objection is lodged**

**s 74** sub 1995 No. 21 s 23  
amd 1999 No. 35 s 19; 2000 No. 64 ss 78, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Referral to tribunal of application to which no objection lodged**

**prov hdg** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
**s 75** amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 79  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 4

**Referral to tribunal of issue of reserve owner's consent**

**prov hdg** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
**s 76** sub 1995 No. 21 s 24  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 80  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 4

**Tribunal hearing**

**prov hdg** sub 1995 No. 21 s 25(1)  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
**s 77** amd 1995 No. 21 s 25(2); 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Tribunal's determination on hearing**

**prov hdg** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
**s 78** amd 1990 No. 30 s 8; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Consent to grant of mining claim over reserve by Governor in Council**

**s 79** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Grant of mining claim at instruction of tribunal or with consent of Governor in Council**

**prov hdg** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
**s 80** amd 1995 No. 21 s 26; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 ss 81, 174 sch;  
2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Conditions of mining claim**

**s 81** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 ss 82, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 5

**Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions**

**s 81A** ins 1999 No. 35 s 20  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Other agreement conditions**

**s 81B** ins 1999 No. 35 s 20  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Variation of conditions of mining claim**

**s 82** amd 1999 No. 35 s 21; 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2000 No. 64 s 83

**Provision of security**

s 83           amd 1995 No. 21 s 27; 1997 No. 17 s 74 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 84; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Compensation to be settled before grant or renewal of mining claim**

prov hdg   amd 2005 No. 8 s 6(1)

s 85           amd 1995 No. 21 s 28; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 6(2)–(4)

**Referral to tribunal of issue of compensation if not settled within 3 months after term of claim ends**

s 85A        ins 2005 No. 8 s 7

**Appeal against tribunal's determination upon compensation**

prov hdg   amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

s 86           amd 1995 No. 21 s 29; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Public trustee may act in certain circumstances**

s 87           amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Issue of certificate of grant of mining claim**

s 88           amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch

**Reasons for rejection of application for grant of mining claim**

s 89           amd 2000 No. 64 s 85

**Duty of holder of mining claim to mark boundary posts**

s 90           amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Initial term of mining claim**

s 91           amd 1999 No. 35 s 22

**Renewal of mining claim**

s 93           amd 1995 No. 21 ss 30, 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 1999 No. 35 s 23; 2000 No. 64 ss 86, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 8

**Continuation of claim while application being dealt with**

s 93A        ins 2005 No. 8 s 9

**When term of renewed claim starts**

s 93B        ins 2005 No. 8 s 9

**When new conditions of renewed claim start**

s 93C        ins 2005 No. 8 s 9

**Renewal of claim must be in name of last recorded assignee**

s 93D        ins 2005 No. 8 s 9

**Reasons for rejection of application for renewal of mining claim**

s 94           amd 2000 No. 64 s 87

**Rental payable on mining claim**

prov hdg   sub 2000 No. 64 s 88

s 95           amd 1995 No. 21 s 31; 2002 No. 62 s 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Assignment or mortgage of mining claim**

s 96           amd 2000 No. 64 ss 88, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Lodgment of caveat**

s 97            amd 1990 No. 30 s 9; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch

**Effect of caveat**

s 99            amd 1990 No. 30 s 10; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Second caveat not available to same person**

s 100          amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Removal or withdrawal of caveat**

s 101          amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Correction of certificate of grant of mining claim**

s 103          amd 1995 No. 21 s 32

**Mining other minerals**

s 105          amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 89

**Contravention by holder of mining claim**

s 106          amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 s 90

**Surrender of mining claim**

s 107          amd 1995 No. 21 ss 33, 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 ss 91, 174 sch

**Abandonment of application for mining claim**

s 108          amd 2000 No. 64 ss 92, 174 sch

**Improvement restoration for mining claim**

prov hdg      sub 2000 No. 64 s 93

s 109          ins 1995 No. 21 s 34  
amd 2000 No. 64 ss 93, 174 sch

**Use of machinery on mining claim land**

s 110          amd 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1

**Declaration of prohibited machinery on mining claim land**

s 111          amd 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1

**Mining registrar may authorise use of prohibited machinery for purposes other than mining etc.**

s 112          sub 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1

**Prohibited machinery etc. not to be used on mining claim land**

s 113          amd 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1

**Appeals about mining claims**

s 116          sub 1995 No. 21 s 35  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 94

**How to start an appeal**

s 117          ins 1995 No. 21 s 35  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Stay of operation of decisions**

s 118          ins 1995 No. 21 s 35  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Hearing procedures**

s 119 ins 1995 No. 21 s 35  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Powers of tribunal on appeal**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
s 120 ins 1995 No. 21 s 35  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Effect of termination of mining claim**

s 121 sub 1995 No. 21 s 36

**Application may be made for approval to remove mineral and property**

s 122 ins 1995 No. 21 s 36  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Property remaining on former mining claim may be sold etc.**

s 123 ins 1995 No. 21 s 36  
amd 2000 No. 64 ss 95, 174 sch; 1994 No. 62 s 616(2) (amd 2000 No. 64 s 52)

**Variation of access to mining claim land**

s 125 ins 1990 No. 30 s 11  
amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 10

**Entitlements under exploration permit**

s 129 amd 1990 No. 30 s 12; 1995 No. 21 ss 37, 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 s 96

**Restriction on grant of exploration permits over same sub-block**

s 131 amd 1997 No. 14 s 6

**Exclusion of land from exploration permit if subject to other authority under Act**

s 132 amd 1999 No. 35 s 24

**Application for exploration permit**

s 133 amd 1995 No. 21 ss 38, 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 s 97; 2005 No. 8 s 11

**Priority of applications for grant of exploration permit**

s 134A ins 1997 No. 14 s 7  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**No application for exploration permit within 2 months of land ceasing to be subject to exploration permit**

s 135 amd 2002 No. 62 s 4

**Grant of exploration permit**

s 137 amd 1994 No. 63 s 110(2) sch; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 35 s 25; 2000 No. 64 s 98; 2005 No. 8 s 12

**Rental payable on exploration permit**

s 138 sub 2005 No. 8 s 13

**Periodic reduction in land covered by exploration permit**

prov hdg sub 1995 No. 21 s 39(1)  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 14(1)  
s 139 amd 1995 No. 21 s 39(2)–(3); 2000 No. 64 s 99; 2005 No. 8 s 14(2)–(3)



**Voluntary reduction in land covered by exploration permit**

**s 140** ins 1995 No. 21 s 40  
 amd 2000 No. 64 s 100  
 sub 2005 No. 8 s 15

**Conditions of exploration permit**

**s 141** amd 1990 No. 30 s 13; 1995 No. 21 s 41; 2000 No. 64 ss 101, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 16

**Additional conditions of exploration permit relating to native title**

**s 141AA** ins 2003 No. 10 s 33

**Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions**

**s 141A** ins 1999 No. 35 s 26  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Other agreement conditions**

**s 141B** ins 1999 No. 35 s 26  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Application to vary conditions of existing permit**

**s 141C** ins 1999 No. 35 s 26  
 amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Draft guidelines for environmental impact statements**

**s 142** ins 1995 No. 21 s 42  
 om 2000 No. 64 s 102

**Guidelines for environmental impact statements**

**s 143** ins 1995 No. 21 s 42  
 om 2000 No. 64 s 102

**Provision of security**

**s 144** amd 1995 No. 21 s 43; 1997 No. 17 s 74 sch; 1999 No. 35 s 27; 2000 No. 64 ss 103, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 17

**Compensation**

**s 145** amd 1990 No. 30 s 14; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Application for renewal of exploration permit**

**s 147** amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 35 s 28; 2000 No. 64 ss 104, 174 sch  
 sub 2005 No. 8 s 18

**Decision on application**

**s 147A** ins 2005 No. 8 s 18

**Chief executive must give copy of application to EPA administering authority**

**s 147B** ins 2005 No. 8 s 18

**Continuation of permit while application being dealt with**

**s 147C** ins 2005 No. 8 s 18

**When term of renewed permit starts**

**s 147D** ins 2005 No. 8 s 18

**When new conditions of renewed permit start**

**s 147E** ins 2005 No. 8 s 18

**Renewal of permit must be in name of last recorded assignee**

s 147F ins 2005 No. 8 s 18

**Correction of instrument of exploration permit**

s 149 amd 1995 No. 21 s 44

**Assignment of exploration permit**

s 151 amd 1995 No. 21 s 45; 2000 No. 64 ss 105, 174 sch

**Lodgment of caveat**

s 152 amd 1990 No. 30 s 15; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch

**Effect of caveat**

s 154 amd 1990 No. 30 s 16; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Second caveat not available to same person**

s 155 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Removal or withdrawal of caveat**

s 156 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Recording of agreements, arrangements, dealings or interests**

s 158 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2001 No. 45 s 29 sch 3

**Abandonment of application for exploration permit**

s 159 amd 2000 No. 64 s 106; 2005 No. 8 s 19

**Contravention by holder of exploration permit**

s 160 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 ss 107, 174 sch

**Surrender of exploration permit**

s 161 amd 1995 No. 21 s 46; 2000 No. 64 s 108

**Adjustment of rental etc. upon surrender etc. of exploration permit**

s 162 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Notice of entry to be given**

s 163 amd 1990 No. 30 s 17

sub 1995 No. 21 s 47

amd 1997 No. 14 s 8; 2005 No. 8 s 20

**Term and renewal of notice**

s 164 ins 1995 No. 21 s 47

amd 1997 No. 14 s 9; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Holder of exploration permit to rehabilitate land**

s 165 om 2000 No. 64 s 109

**Improvement restoration for exploration permit**

prov hdg sub 2000 No. 64 s 110

s 166 ins 1995 No. 21 s 48

amd 2000 No. 64 ss 110, 174 sch

**Mining registrar may call conference in some cases**

s 169 sub 1990 No. 30 s 18; 1995 No. 21 s 49

**Who may attend conference**

s 170 ins 1995 No. 21 s 49

**What happens if someone does not attend**

s 171 ins 1995 No. 21 s 49

**Mining registrar's function at section 169 conference**

s 172 ins 1995 No. 21 s 49

**Agreements and statements at section 169 conference**

s 173 ins 1995 No. 21 s 49

**Tribunal may award costs**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

s 174 ins 1995 No. 21 s 49  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3**Mining registrar may recommend action to ease concerns or other action**

prov hdg amd 2003 No. 77 s 99(1)

s 175 ins 1995 No. 21 s 49  
amd 2003 No. 77 s 99(2)–(4)**Application to add excluded land to existing permit**s 176A ins 1999 No. 35 s 299  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch**Obligations and entitlement under mineral development licence**

s 181 amd 1990 No. 30 s 19; 1995 No. 21 ss 50, 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 s 111

**Land is excluded from mineral development licence if covered by other authority under Act**s 182 ins 1995 No. 21 s 51  
amd 1999 No. 35 s 30**Application for mineral development licence**

s 183 amd 1995 No. 21 ss 52, 3 sch; 1999 No. 35 s 31; 2000 No. 64 ss 112, 174 sch

**Description of mineral development licence**

s 184 amd 1995 No. 58 s 4 sch 1; 1999 No. 35 s 32

**Minister may grant or reject application for mineral development licence**s 186 amd 1994 No. 63 s 110(2) sch; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1995 No. 58 s 4 sch 1;  
2000 No. 64 s 113; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Holder to notify owners of land of grant or renewal**

prov hdg amd 2005 No. 8 s 21(1)

s 187 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 21

**Abandonment of application for mineral development licence**

s 189 amd 1999 No. 35 s 33; 2000 No. 64 ss 114, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 22

**Provision of security**s 190 amd 1995 No. 21 s 53; 1997 No. 17 s 74 sch; 1999 No. 35 s 34; 2000 No. 64  
s 115; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Compensation**

s 191 amd 1990 No. 30 s 20; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Initial term of mineral development licence**

s 192 amd 1999 No. 35 s 36

**Rental payable on mineral development licence**

s 193 amd 1995 No. 21 s 54; 2002 No. 62 s 5; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Conditions of mineral development licence**

s 194 amd 1990 No. 30 s 21; 1995 No. 21 s 55; 1998 No. 27 s 4; 2000 No. 64 ss 116, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 23

**Additional conditions of mineral development licence relating to native title**

s 194AAA ins 2003 No. 10 s 34

**Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions**

s 194AA ins 1999 No. 35 s 36  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Other agreement conditions**

s 194AB ins 1999 No. 35 s 36  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Application to vary conditions of existing licence**

s 194AC ins 1999 No. 35 s 36  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Tribunal's jurisdiction for At Risk agreement**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
s 194A ins 1998 No. 27 s 5  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Draft guidelines for environmental impact statements**

s 195 ins 1995 No. 21 s 56  
om 2000 No. 64 s 117

**Guidelines for environmental impact statements**

s 196 ins 1995 No. 21 s 56  
om 2000 No. 64 s 117

**Application for renewal of mineral development licence**

s 197 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 35 s 37; 2000 No. 64 ss 118, 174 sch  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 24

**Decision on application**

s 197A ins 2005 No. 8 s 24

**Chief executive must give copy of application to EPA administering authority**

s 197B ins 2005 No. 8 s 24

**Continuation of licence while application being dealt with**

s 197C ins 2005 No. 8 s 24

**When term of renewed licence starts**

s 197D ins 2005 No. 8 s 24

**When new conditions of renewed licence start**

s 197E ins 2005 No. 8 s 24

**Renewal of licence must be in name of last recorded assignee**

s 197F ins 2005 No. 8 s 24

**Assignment or mortgage of mineral development licence****prov hdg** sub 2000 No. 64 s 119**s 198** amd 1995 No. 21 s 57; 2000 No. 64 ss 119, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Lodgment of caveat****s 199** amd 1990 No. 30 s 22; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch**Effect of caveat****s 201** amd 1990 No. 30 s 23; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3**Second caveat not available to same person****s 202** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3**Removal or withdrawal of caveat****s 203** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3**Recording of agreements, arrangements, dealings or interests****s 205** amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2001 No. 45 s 29 sch 3**Correction of instrument of mineral development licence****s 206** amd 1995 No. 21 s 58**Adding other minerals to licence****s 208** ins 1995 No. 21 s 59

amd 1999 No. 35 s 38; 2000 No. 64 s 120

**Contravention by holder of mineral development licence****s 209** amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 ss 121, 174 sch**Surrender of mineral development licence****s 210** amd 1995 No. 21 ss 60, 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 ss 122, 174 sch**Notice of entry to be given****s 211** amd 1990 No. 30 s 24

sub 1995 No. 21 s 61

amd 1997 No. 14 s 10; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Term and renewal of notice****s 212** ins 1995 No. 21 s 61

amd 1997 No. 14 s 11; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Holder of mineral development licence to rehabilitate land****s 213** om 2000 No. 64 s 123**Improvement restoration for mineral development licence****prov hdg** sub 2000 No. 64 s 124**s 214** ins 1995 No. 21 s 62

amd 2000 No. 64 ss 124, 174 sch

**Mining registrar may call conference in some cases****s 217** sub 1990 No. 30 s 25; 1995 No. 21 s 63**Who may attend conference****s 218** ins 1995 No. 21 s 63

**What happens if someone does not attend**

s 219 ins 1995 No. 21 s 63

**Mining registrar's function at section 217 conference**

s 220 ins 1995 No. 21 s 63

**Agreements and statements at section 217 conference**

s 221 ins 1995 No. 21 s 63

**Tribunal may award costs**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

s 222 ins 1995 No. 21 s 63  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3**Mining registrar may recommend action to ease concerns or other action**

prov hdg amd 2003 No. 77 s 100(1)

s 223 ins 1995 No. 21 s 63  
amd 2003 No. 77 s 100(2)–(4)**Direction to apply for mining lease**

s 225 amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Minister may determine availability of certain land**

s 226 amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Application to add excluded land to existing licence**s 226AA ins 1999 No. 35 s 39  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch**Reduction of land under mineral development licence on grant of mining lease**

s 226A ins 1997 No. 14 s 12

**Effect of termination of mineral development licence**

s 228 sub 1995 No. 21 s 64

**Application may be made for approval to remove plant**

s 229 ins 1995 No. 21 s 64; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Plant remaining on former mineral development licence may be sold etc.**s 230 ins 1995 No. 21 s 64  
amd 1997 No. 14 s 13; 1999 No. 35 s 40; 2000 No. 64 ss 125, 174 sch; 1994  
No. 62 s 616(2) (amd 2000 No. 64 s 52)**Variation of access to mineral development licence land**s 231 ins 1990 No. 30 s 26  
amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Governor in Council may grant mining lease**

s 234 amd 1994 No. 63 s 110(2) sch; 2000 No. 64 s 126; 2004 No. 25 s 1013

**General entitlements of holder of mining lease**prov hdg amd 2004 No. 25 s 1014(1)  
s 235 amd 2000 No. 64 ss 127, 174 sch; 2004 No. 25 s 1014(2)**Entitlement to use sand, gravel and rock**

s 236 amd 2000 No. 64 s 128

**Drilling and other activities on land not included in surface area**

s 237 ins 1995 No. 21 s 65  
amd 2000 No. 64 ss 129, 174 sch

**Mining lease over surface of reserve or land near a dwelling house**

s 238 sub 1995 No. 21 s 66

**Restriction on mining leases where land freed from exploration permit**

s 239 amd 2002 No. 62 s 6

**Marking out land before application for grant of mining lease**

s 240 amd 1990 No. 30 s 27

**Manner of marking out land proposed to be subject of mining lease**

s 241 amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2003 No. 71 s 77

**Time for application for grant of mining lease**

s 243 amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**If application for mining lease not made, is rejected or abandoned, posts etc. to be removed**

s 244 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Application for grant of mining lease**

s 245 amd 1995 No. 21 ss 67, 3 sch; 1997 No. 14 s 14; 2000 No. 64 s 130; 2004 No. 25 s 1015; 2005 No. 8 s 25

**Applicant must obtain consent or views of existing authority holders**

s 248 ins 1995 No. 21 s 68  
amd 1997 No. 14 s 15  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 26  
amd 2004 No. 12 s 152 (amdt could not be given effect)

**Later applicant must obtain consent or views of earlier applicant if same land affected**

s 249 ins 1995 No. 21 s 68  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 26

**Rejection of application by mining registrar**

s 250 amd 1995 No. 21 s 69; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 131; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Certificate of application etc.**

s 252 amd 1995 No. 21 ss 70, 3 sch; 1997 No. 14 s 16; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 132; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Issue of certificate of public notice**

s 252A ins 2000 No. 64 s 133  
amd 1994 No. 62 s 616(2) (amd 2000 No. 64 s 52); 2004 No. 48 s 156; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Applicant's obligations for certificate of public notice**

s 252B ins 2000 No. 64 s 13  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Declaration of compliance with obligations**

s 252C ins 2000 No. 64 s 133  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Continuing obligation to notify**

s 252D ins 2000 No. 64 s 133

**Reissue of certificate of public notice**

prov hdg amd 2000 No. 64 s 134(1)  
s 253 ins 1995 No. 21 s 71  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 134(2)

**Mining registrar may call conference in some cases**

s 254 sub 1995 No. 21 s 72  
amd 1997 No. 14 s 17; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Who may attend conference**

s 255 ins 1995 No. 21 s 72

**What happens if someone does not attend**

s 256 ins 1995 No. 21 s 72

**Mining registrar's function at section 254 conference**

s 257 ins 1995 No. 21 s 72

**Agreements and statements at section 254 conference**

s 258 ins 1995 No. 21 s 72

**Tribunal may award costs**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
s 259 ins 1995 No. 21 s 72  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Objection to application for grant of mining lease**

s 260 amd 1990 No. 30 s 28; 1993 No. 50 s 86 sch 3; 1995 No. 21 ss 73, 3 sch; 2000  
No. 64 s 135; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Minister may require environmental impact statement in some cases**

s 261 sub 1990 No. 30 s 29; 1995 No. 21 s 74  
om 2000 No. 64 s 136

**Draft guidelines for environmental impact statements**

s 262 ins 1995 No. 21 s 74  
om 2000 No. 64 s 136

**Guidelines for environmental impact statements**

s 263 ins 1995 No. 21 s 74  
om 2000 No. 64 s 136

**What happens after environmental impact statement is prepared?**

s 264 ins 1995 No. 21 s 74  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
om 2000 No. 64 s 136



**Referral of application and objections to tribunal**

**s 265** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 137  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 27

**Mining registrar may recommend rejection of application for noncompliance**

**s 266** amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Minister may reject application at any time**

**s 267** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 138

**Hearing of application for grant of mining lease**

**s 268** amd 1990 No. 30 s 30; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 ss 139, 174 sch

**Tribunal's recommendation on hearing**

**prov hdg** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**s 269** amd 1990 No. 30 s 31; 1995 No. 21 s 75; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2004 No. 25 s 1016; 2005 No. 8 s 28

**Procedure where no objections lodged**

**s 270** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Minister to approve environmental management overview strategy**

**s 270A** ins 1997 No. 14 s 18  
om 2000 No. 64 s 140

**Minister to consider recommendation made in respect of application for grant of mining lease**

**s 271** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55); 1999 No. 35 s 41; 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2000 No. 64 s 141; 2004 No. 25 s 1017

**Minister may remit to tribunal for additional evidence**

**prov hdg** amd 1999 No. 6 s 87 sch 3; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**s 272** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 142  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 29

**Holder of a mining lease to mark boundary posts**

**s 274** amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Application for inclusion of surface of land in mining lease**

**s 275** amd 2000 No. 64 s 143

**General conditions of mining lease**

**prov hdg** amd 2004 No. 25 s 1018

**s 276** amd 1990 No. 30 s 32; 1995 No. 21 s 76; 1998 No. 27 s 6; 2000 No. 64 ss 144, 174 sch; 2001 No. 46 s 29; 2005 No. 8 s 30

**Consultation and negotiated agreement conditions**

**s 276A** ins 1999 No. 35 s 42  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Other agreement conditions**

**s 276B** ins 1999 No. 35 s 42  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Provision of security**

s 277 amd 1995 No. 21 s 77; 1997 No. 17 s 74 sch; 2000 No. 64 ss 145, 174 sch

**Tribunal's jurisdiction for At Risk agreement**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

s 278A ins 1998 No. 27 s 7  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Compensation to be settled before grant or renewal of mining lease**

prov hdg amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

s 279 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Referral to tribunal of issue of compensation if not settled within 3 months after term of lease ends**

s 279A ins 2005 No. 8 s 31

**Determination of compensation by tribunal**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

s 281 amd 1995 No. 21 s 78; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Appeal against tribunal's determination upon compensation**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

s 282 amd 1995 No. 21 s 79; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Public trustee may act in certain circumstances**

s 283 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Agreement to amend compensation**

s 283A ins 2000 No. 64 s 146

**Review of compensation by tribunal**

s 283B ins 2000 No. 64 s 146

**Application for renewal of mining lease**

s 286 amd 1994 No. 18 s 4 (retro); 1995 No. 21 ss 80, 3 sch; 1999 No. 35 s 43; 2000 No. 64 ss 147, 174 sch  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 32

**Decision on application**

s 286A ins 2005 No. 8 s 32

**Chief executive must give copy of application to EPA administering authority**

s 286B ins 2005 No. 8 s 32

**Continuation of lease while application being dealt with**

s 286C ins 2005 No. 8 s 32

**When term of renewed lease starts**

s 286D ins 2005 No. 8 s 32

**When new conditions of renewed lease start**

s 286E ins 2005 No. 8 s 32

**Renewal of lease must be in name of last recorded assignee**

s 286F ins 2005 No. 8 s 32

**Notice of rejection of renewal application**

s 287 sub 2000 No. 64 s 148

**Application of s 7.43(5)–(9)**

s 7.43A ins 1994 No. 18 s 5  
exp 11 May 1994 (see s 7.43A(3))

**Holder to notify owner of grant or renewal of mining lease**

s 288 ins 1995 No. 21 s 81  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 33

**Survey**

s 7.45 amd 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1  
om 1995 No. 21 s 82

**Mining lease where area not surveyed**

s 289 amd 1995 No. 21 s 83

**Rental payable on mining lease**

s 290 amd 1994 No. 18 s 6 (retro); 1995 No. 21 s 84; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2002 No. 62 s 7; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Application of GST to rents for certain mining leases**

s 290A ins 2000 No. 20 s 29 sch 3

**Plan of operations and environmental audit statement**

s 291 sub 1995 No. 21 s 85  
amd 1995 No. 58 s 4 sch 1  
om 2000 No. 64 s 149

**Amendment of plan of operations**

s 292 ins 1995 No. 21 s 85  
om 2000 No. 64 s 149

**Duration of plan of operations**

s 293 ins 1995 No. 21 s 85  
om 2000 No. 64 s 149

**Variation of conditions of mining lease**

s 294 amd 1999 No. 35 s 44; 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2000 No. 64 ss 150, 174 sch

**Variation of mining lease for accuracy etc.**

s 295 amd 1995 No. 21 s 86; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Mining other minerals or use for other purposes**

s 298 amd 2000 No. 64 s 151; 2004 No. 25 s 1019

**Consolidation of mining leases**

s 299 amd 1995 No. 21 s 87; 1995 No. 57 s 4 sch 2; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 ss 152, 174 sch

**Assignment, mortgage or sublease of mining lease**

prov hdg sub 2000 No. 64 s 153  
s 300 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1995 No. 58 s 4 sch 1; 2000 No. 64 ss 153, 174 sch;  
2003 No. 71 s 78; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Lodgment of caveat**

s 301 amd 1990 No. 30 s 33; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch

**Effect of caveat**

s 303 amd 1990 No. 30 s 34; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Second caveat not available to same person**

s 304 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Removal or withdrawal of caveat**

s 305 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Abandonment of application for the grant of a mining lease**

s 307 amd 2000 No. 64 s 154

**Contravention by holder of mining lease**

s 308 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 s 155

**Surrender of mining lease**

s 309 amd 1990 No. 30 s 35; 1995 No. 21 ss 88, 3 sch; 1995 No. 58 s 4 sch 1; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 ss 156, 174 sch

**Effect of termination of mining lease**

s 312 sub 1995 No. 21 s 89  
amd 1995 No. 50 s 3 sch

**Application for approval to remove mineral and property**

s 313 ins 1995 No. 21 s 89  
amd 1995 No. 58 s 4 sch 1; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Property remaining on former mining lease may be sold**

s 314 ins 1995 No. 21 s 89  
amd 2000 No. 64 ss 157, 174 sch; 1994 No. 62 s 616(2) (amd 2000 No. 64 s 52)

**Approval of additional activities upon mining lease application**

s 315 amd 1995 No. 21 s 90; 1999 No. 35 s 45; 2000 No. 64 ss 158, 174 sch  
om 2005 No. 8 s 34

**Mining lease for transportation through land**

s 316 amd 1990 No. 30 s 36  
sub 1995 No. 21 s 91  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 35

**Variation of access to mining lease land**

s 317 ins 1990 No. 30 s 37  
amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 36

**Improvement restoration for mining lease**

prov hdg sub 2000 No. 64 s 159  
s 318 ins 1995 No. 21 s 92  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 159

**PART 7AA—PROVISIONS FOR COAL AND SEAM GAS**

pt hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Division 1—Preliminary****div hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Subdivision 1—Introduction****sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Main purposes of pt 7AA****s 318A** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch)**How main purposes are to be achieved****s 318AA** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Relationship with pts 5–7****s 318AB** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch)**Subdivision 2—Definitions for part 7AA****sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**What is “coal seam gas” and “incidental coal seam gas”****s 318AC** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**What is “oil shale”****s 318AD** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**What is a “coal exploration tenement”, a “coal mining lease” and a “special coal mining lease”****s 318AE** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**What is an “oil shale exploration tenement” and an “oil shale mining lease”****s 318AF** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**What is a “coal or oil shale mining tenement”****s 318AG** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**What is a “development plan” and its “plan period”****s 318AH** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Petroleum tenures****s 318AI** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**What is a “coordination arrangement”****s 318AJ** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**What is “the public interest”****s 318AK** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Subdivision 3—Relationship with particular special agreement Acts****sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Application of pt 7AA to grant of special coal mining lease under Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968****s 318AL** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Part prevails over special agreement Acts****s 318AM** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**No compensation****s 318AN** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Division 2—Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (other than by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder)**

**div hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

**Subdivision 1—Preliminary**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Application of div 2**

**s 318AO** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 2—Provisions for making coal or oil shale mining lease application**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

**Additional requirements for making application**

**s 318AP** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(2)–(3))

**Subdivision 3—Provisions for splitting application in particular circumstances**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Requirement to split application if it relates to petroleum lease and authority to prospect not held by same person**

**s 318AQ** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Power to split application if it includes other land**

**s 318AR** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Power to split application at applicant's request**

**s 318AS** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 4—Obligations of applicant and authority to prospect holder**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Applicant's obligations**

**s 318AT** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch)

**Minister may require further negotiation**

**s 318AU** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Consequence of applicant not complying with obligations or requirement**

**s 318AV** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Authority to prospect holder's obligations**

**s 318AW** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(4))

**Submissions by authority to prospect holder**

**s 318AX** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 5—Priority for earlier petroleum lease application or proposed application**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Earlier petroleum lease application**

**s 318AY** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Proposed petroleum lease for which EIS approval given**

s 318AZ ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Proposed petroleum lease declared a significant project**

s 318B ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 6—Ministerial decision about whether to give any preference to petroleum development**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**When preference decision is required**

s 318BA ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(5))

**Decision about whether to give any preference to petroleum development**

s 318BB ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Reference to tribunal before making preference decision**

s 318BC ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Restrictions on giving preference**

s 318BD ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd No. 26 s 260(6))

**Subdivision 7—Process if preference decision is to give any preference to petroleum development**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Application of sdiv 7**

s 318BF ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Notice to applicant and authority to prospect holder**

318BG ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Petroleum lease application for all of the land**

s 318BH ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Petroleum lease application for part of the land**

s 318BI ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**No petroleum lease application**

s 318BJ ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 8—Deciding mining lease**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Application of sdiv 8**

s 318BK ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Additional criteria for recommending conditions or term**

s 318BL ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(8)–(9))

**Power to determine relinquishment condition**

s 318BM ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Publication of outcome of application**

s 318BN ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Division 3—Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of authority to prospect (by or jointly with, or with the consent of, authority to prospect holder)**

**div hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

**Application of div 3**

**s 318BO** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Additional requirements for making application**

**s 318BP** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Requirement to split application if it relates to petroleum lease and authority to prospect not held by same person**

**s 318BQ** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Power to split application if it includes other land**

**s 318BR** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Power to split application at applicant's request**

**s 318BS** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Priority for earlier petroleum lease application or proposed application**

**s 318BT** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Additional criteria for recommending conditions or term**

**s 318BU** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Division 4—Coal mining lease and oil shale mining lease applications in response to Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act preference decision**

**div hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Additional ground for refusing application**

**s 318BV** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

**Division 5—Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (other than by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)**

**div hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

**Application of div 5**

**s 318BW** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Additional requirements for making application**

**s 318BX** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Power to split application if it includes other land**

**s 318BY** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Power to split application at applicant's request**

**s 318 BZ** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Notice to petroleum lease holder**

**s 318C** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020



**Petroleum lease holder's obligation to negotiate**

s 318CA ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Restriction on issuing certificate of public notice and additional requirements for grant**

s 318CB ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Division 6—Obtaining coal or oil shale mining lease over land in area of petroleum lease (by or jointly with petroleum lease holder)**div hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch**Application of div 6**

s 318CC ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Additional requirements for making application**

s 318CD ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Power to split application if it includes other land**

s 318CE ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Power to split application at applicant's request**

s 318CF ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Additional criteria for recommending conditions**

s 318CG ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Division 7—Additional provisions for coal and oil shale exploration tenements**

div hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 1—Grant of coal or oil shale exploration tenement in area of authority to prospect**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Provisions for coal or oil shale exploration tenement**

s 318CH ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 2—Restriction on authorised activities on petroleum lease land**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Restriction**

s 318CI ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 3—Conditions**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Notice of grant to authority to prospect holder or applicant**

s 318CJ ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Compliance with obligations under Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act**

s 318CK ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Division 8—Additional provisions for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases**

div hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 1—Entitlement to coal seam gas**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Application of div 8**

s 318CL ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Limited entitlement to mine coal seam gas**

s 318CM ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Use that may be made under mining lease of incidental coal seam gas**

s 318CN ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 4

**Restriction on flaring or venting of incidental coal seam gas**

s 318CO ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(10))

**Subdivision 2—Provisions for mining coal seam gas from coextensive natural underground reservoirs**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Application of sdiv 2**

s 318CP ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(11))

**Coordination arrangement may be made about mining or production from reservoir**

s 318CQ ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Restriction on carrying out particular authorised activities**

s 318CR ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(12)–(14))

**Dispute resolution by tribunal**

s 318CS ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(15)–(17))

**Subdivision 3—Conditions**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Continuing requirement for coordination arrangement for particular coal or oil shale mining leases**

s 318CT ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Obligation to measure and record coal seam gas mined**

s 318CU ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

**Obligation to lodge annual reports**

s 318CV ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(18)–(22))  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

**Compliance with obligation to negotiate with petroleum lease applicant**

s 318CW ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Relinquishment report**

s 318CX ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(23))

**Surrender report**

s 318CY ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(24))

**Cessation of relinquishment condition for area not overlapping with authority to prospect**

s 318CZ ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 4—Amendment of relinquishment condition by application**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Application of sdiv 4**

**s 318D** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Conditions for applying to amend relinquishment condition**

**s 318DA** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch)

**Authority to prospect holder's obligation to negotiate**

**s 318DB** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Requirements for making application**

**s 318DC** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Notice of application**

**s 318DD** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Submissions by authority to prospect holder**

**s 318DE** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Minister may require further negotiation**

**s 318DF** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Deciding amendment application**

**s 318DG** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(25))

**Subdivision 5—Restriction on recommendation to amend other conditions**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Interests of relevant petroleum tenure holder to be considered**

**s 318DH** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 6—Renewals**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**General additional provisions for renewal application**

**s 318DI** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(26))

**Applied provisions for renewal application**

**s 318DJ** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Mining lease taken to have development plan until renewal application decided**

**s 318DK** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 7—Consolidations**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Restriction on consolidation applications**

**s 318DL** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Additional requirements for making consolidation application**

**s 318DM** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(27))

**Deciding whether to approve proposed development plan**

**s 318DN** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 8—Restriction on assignment or subletting****sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Requirement for coordination arrangement to assign or sublet mining lease in area of petroleum lease****s 318DO** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Division 9—Development plans for coal mining leases and oil shale mining leases****div hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Subdivision 1—General provisions about development plans****sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Function and purpose****s 318DP** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch**Requirement to have development plan****s 318DQ** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch**Obligation to comply with development plan****s 318DR** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch**Subdivision 2—Requirements for proposed initial development plans****sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Operation of sdiv 2****s 318DS** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch**General requirements****s 318DT** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Plan period****s 318DU** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Statement about interests of relevant petroleum tenure holder****s 318DV** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Requirement to optimise use of incidental coal seam gas****s 318DW** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Consistency with petroleum lease development plan and relevant coordination arrangement****s 318DX** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Subdivision 3—Approval of proposed initial development plans****sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Application of sdiv 3****s 318DY** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020**Ministerial approval of proposed plan****s 318DZ** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Amendment of proposed plan before approval**

s 318E ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Deciding whether to approve proposed plan**

s 318EA ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch)

**Subdivision 4—Approval of proposed later development plans**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Obligation to lodge proposed later development plan**

s 318EB ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(28)–(29))  
amd 2005 No. 3 ss 5, 105 sch

**Consequence of failure to comply with notice to lodge proposed later development plan**

s 318EC ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

**Later development plan requirements**

s 318ED ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Mining lease taken to have development plan until decision on whether to approve proposed later development plan**

s 318EE ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Criteria for deciding whether to approve proposed plan**

s 318EF ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Power to require partial surrender application**

s 318EG ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Steps after, and taking effect, of decision**

s 318EH ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Subdivision 5—Appeals**

sdiv hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Right of appeal against cancellation, deferral or refusal**

s 318EI ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch)

**Division 10—Confidentiality of information**

div hdg ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Application of div 10**

s 318EJ ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020

**Confidentiality obligations**

s 318EK ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(30)–(31))

**Civil remedies**

s 318EL ins 2004 No. 25 s 1020 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 260(32), 69(2) sch)

**PART 7A—ROADS**

pt hdg ins 2002 No. 63 s 4

**Significant projects excluded from pt 7A**

s 318EM (prev s 318A) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021

**What is the “road authority” for a road**

s 318EN (prev s 318B) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021

**What is a “notifiable road use”**

s 318EO (prev s 318C) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021  
amd 2004 No. 25 s 1022

**Notice of notifiable road use**

s 318EP (prev s 318D) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 26 s 1021

**Directions about notifiable road use**

s 318EQ (prev s 318E) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021

**Obligation to comply with road use directions**

s 318ER (prev s 318F) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021

**Liability to compensate road authority**

s 318ES (prev s 318G) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021  
amd 2004 No. 25 s 1023

**Compensation agreement**

s 318ET (prev s 318H) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021

**Deciding compensation through tribunal**

s 318EU (prev s 318I) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021

**Criteria for decision**

s 318EV (prev s 318J) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021

**Tribunal review of compensation**

s 318EW (prev s 318K) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021  
amd 2004 No. 25 s 1024

**Compensation to be addressed before carrying out notifiable road use**

s 318EX (prev s 318L) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021

**Compensation not affected by change in administration or holder**

s 318EY (prev s 318M) ins 2002 No. 63 s 4  
renum 2004 No. 25 s 1021  
amd 2004 No. 25 s 1025

**PART 8—RELATIONSHIP WITH INTEGRATED PLANNING ACT 1997**

pt hdg amd 1993 No. 70 s 804 sch  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 37

**Effect on development****prov hdg** amd 1993 No. 70 s 804 sch**s 319** amd 1993 No. 70 s 804 sch; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2000 No. 64 s 160; 2003 No. 32 s 33  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 37**Effect on planning schemes****s 319A** ins 2005 No. 8 s 37**Royalty return and payment****s 320** amd 1995 No. 50 s 3 sch**Prescription of royalty****s 321** amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch**Minister may request audit****s 322** amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 38**Offence not to comply with s 327****s 328** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3**Recovery of unpaid royalties****s 333** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3**PART 10—ADMINISTRATION AND JUDICIAL FUNCTIONS****Division 1—Mining registrars and other officers****Appointment of mining registrars and other officers****s 336** amd 1996 No. 37 s 147 sch 2; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Acting mining registrar****s 337** sub 1995 No. 21 s 93**Disability of mining registrars, deputy mining registrars and field officers****prov hdg** amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**s 338** amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Scope of authority of mining registrars and deputy mining registrars****prov hdg** amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**s 339** amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Powers of mining registrars and others****s 342** amd 1995 No. 21 ss 94, 3 sch; 2000 No. 5 s 373 sch 2; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch;  
2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Seizure of minerals produced by or vehicles, machinery etc. used in unauthorised mining****s 343** amd 2000 No. 5 s 373 sch 2; 2000 No. 64 ss 161, 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Division 2—The tribunal****div hdg** sub 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3**Qualifications for appointment of wardens****s 344** amd 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1

sub 1995 No. 21 s 95

om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Appointment of wardens**

- s 345 ins 1995 No. 21 s 95  
amd 1996 No. 37 s 147 sch 2  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Terms and conditions of employment**

- s 346 ins 1995 No. 21 s 95  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Preservation of rights**

- s 347 ins 1995 No. 21 s 95  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Appointment of acting wardens**

- s 348 ins 1995 No. 21 s 95  
amd 1996 No. 37 s 147 sch 2  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Jurisdiction and powers of wardens**

- s 349 ins 1995 No. 21 s 95  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Oath to be taken by warden**

- s 350 ins 1995 No. 21 s 95  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Tenure of office**

- s 351 ins 1995 No. 21 s 95  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Continuation of jurisdiction on retirement**

- s 352 ins 1995 No. 21 s 95  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Disability of warden**

- s 353 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Scope of wardens authority**

- s 354 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Establishment of offices of wardens**

- s 355 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Existing wardens continue in office**

- s 10.9I ins 1995 No. 21 s 95  
exp 2 May 1995 (see s 10.9I(3))

**Acting wardens**

- s 10.13 om 1995 No. 21 s 96

**Power to enter land**

- s 356 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Constitution of Wardens Courts**

- s 357 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3



**Mining registrar may constitute Wardens Court in some cases**

s 358 ins 1995 No. 21 s 97  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Wardens Court a court of record**

s 359 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Form of decisions of Wardens Court**

s 360 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Right of audience in Wardens Court**

s 361 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Rules of evidence**

s 362 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Substantive jurisdiction**

s 363 amd 1990 No. 30 s 38; 1995 No. 21 s 98; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64  
ss 162, 174 sch; 2003 No. 77 s 101

**Application for interim orders by remote means**

s 364 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Removal of proceedings from Supreme Court or District Court to Wardens Court**

s 365 amd 1999 No. 19 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Removal of proceedings from Wardens Court to Supreme Court or District Court**

s 366 amd 1999 No. 19 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Practice and procedure of Wardens Court**

s 367 amd 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Costs**

s 368 amd 1997 No. 14 s 19; 1999 No. 19 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Adjournment by registrar of Wardens Court**

s 369 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Jurisdiction of Supreme Court**

s 370 amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Wardens Court proceedings**

s 371 amd 1990 No. 30 s 39; 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Attendance of witnesses**

s 372 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Reservation of point of law**

s 373 amd 1991 No. 68 s 111 sch 2  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Contempt of court**

s 374 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Interpleader proceedings**

s 375 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Powers of Wardens Court**

s 376 amd 1995 No. 21 s 99  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Enforcement of decisions etc. of Wardens Court**

s 377 amd 1999 No. 19 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Power to order deposit of mineral etc.**

s 378 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Inspection of land etc.**

s 379 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Tribunal may order survey**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
s 380 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Power of tribunal to order surrender of minerals**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
s 381 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Copies of orders, judgments etc.**

s 382 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Division 3—Appeals from Wardens Court**

div hdg om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Appeals from Wardens Court**

s 383 amd 1990 No. 30 s 40; 1999 No. 19 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Hearing of appeal from Wardens Court**

s 384 amd 1999 No. 19 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Appeal not to arrest determination**

s 385 om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Special case**

s 386 amd 1999 No. 19 s 3 sch  
om 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Notice of change of address for service**

s 388 amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 39

**Duplicate permits, leases etc.**

s 389 amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Restriction on grants etc.**

- s 391      amd 1990 No. 30 s 41  
             sub 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1  
             amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 40

**Restriction on decisions or recommendations about mining tenements**

- s 391A     ins 2000 No. 64 s 163

**Right of access for authorised activities includes access for rehabilitation and environmental management**

- s 391B     ins 2005 No. 8 s 41

**Substantial compliance with Act may be accepted as compliance**

- s 392      amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3

**Applicant or holder excused for neglect or default of mining registrar etc.**

- s 393      amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Minister's views before creation of National Park, Environmental Park etc.**

- s 11.9     om 1992 No. 20 s 159 sch 2

**Act's application to holder of fossickers licence**

- s 395      sub 1994 No. 63 s 110(2) sch

**Application of other Acts**

- s 396      amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Transfer of coal exploration or production well to petroleum tenure holder**

- s 396A     ins 2004 No. 25 s 1025A (amd 2004 No. 26 s 261)

**Liability of owner restricted**

- s 397      sub 1990 No. 30 s 42

**Delegation by Minister**

- s 398      sub 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch

**Mode of service of documents**

- s 399      amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 ss 42, 2 sch

**Acting in aid of mining registrar etc.**

- s 400      amd 2000 No. 5 s 373 sch 2; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Protection against liability**

- s 401      amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 5 s 373 sch 2; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Protection against liability as condition of approval**

- s 401A     ins 1998 No. 27 s 8  
             amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Offences with respect to unauthorised mining etc.**

- s 402      amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch; 2000 No. 5 s 373 sch 2; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Offences regarding land subject to mining claim or mining lease**

- s 403      amd 2004 No. 12 s 153

**Offence to resist bailiff etc.**

- prov hdg   amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3  
 s 404      amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 5 s 373 sch 2; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Distance of excavation from railway works**

s 404A ins 2005 No. 8 s 43

**Interference with particular things**

s 404B ins 2005 No. 8 s 43

**Information requirements for holders of mining tenements**

s 404C ins 2005 No. 8 s 43

**False of misleading document**

s 404D ins 2005 No. 8 s 43

**Directions to be complied with**s 405 sub 1995 No. 21 s 100  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Tribunal may review direction or requirement**

prov hdg amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2002 No. 63 s 5(1)

s 406 ins 1995 No. 21 s 100  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2002 No. 63 s 5(2); 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Minister may require survey**

s 407 amd 1995 No. 21 s 101; 2003 No. 71 s 79

**Surveyor not to have interest**

s 408 amd 2003 No. 71 s 80

**Removal orders**

s 409 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Indemnity against liability**

s 411 amd 1996 No. 37 s 147 sch 2; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Offences and recovery of penalties etc.**

s 412 amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 1999 No. 35 s 46; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Evidentiary provision**s 413 sub 1995 No. 21 s 102  
amd 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Rights independent of this Act preserved**

s 416 amd 1990 No. 30 s 43; 2002 No 25 s 20

**Approval of forms**s 416A ins 1999 No. 35 s 47  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 164**Regulation-making power**prov hdg sub 2000 No. 64 s 165(1)  
s 417 amd 1990 No. 30 s 44; 1995 No. 21 s 103; 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3; 2000 No. 64  
ss 165(2), 174 sch; 2004 No. 25 s 1027 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 262)**Existing orders in council and rules of court**s 11.32 sub 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1  
om 1995 No. 21 s 104  
AIA s 20A applies (see s 11.33(1))

**Application of Acts Interpretation Act, s 20A**

s 11.33 ins 1995 No. 21 s 105  
exp 1 May 1995 (see s 11.33(2))

**References to repealed Acts**

s 418 ins 1995 No. 21 s 105

**Validation of granting of mining lease 1978**

s 418A ins 2002 No. 25 s 21

**Provisions about compensation for owners of lots 65 and 66 on RP 909055**

s 418B ins 2002 No. 25 s 21

**Cancellation of Shelburne Bay mining leases**

s 418C ins 2003 No. 20 s 8

**Particular mineral development licences and mining leases**

s 418D ins 2004 No. 4 s 53B

**Numbering and renumbering of Act**

s 11.35 ins 1995 No. 21 s 105  
om R3 (see RA s 37)

**PART 12—INTRODUCTION TO NATIVE TITLE PROVISIONS**

pt hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of native title provisions**

s 419 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Exclusion of certain agreed acts from pts 13 to 17**

s 420 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Effect of failure to comply with native title provisions**

s 421 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Definitions for native title provisions**

s 422 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
def “**alternative provision area**” om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1  
def “**registered indigenous land use agreement**” ins 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1  
om 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Other provisions for interpretation of native title provisions**

s 423 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2003 No. 10 s 76 sch

**Application of Judicial Review Act**

s 424 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**PART 13—NATIVE TITLE PROVISIONS FOR PROSPECTING PERMITS**

pt hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 1—Preliminary**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Purpose of pt 13**

s 425 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of pt 13**

s 426 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 35

**Exclusion of certain prospecting permits from pt 13**

s 427 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Limited application of pt 13 to prospecting permit in approved opal or gem mining area**

s 428 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Definitions for pt 13**

s 429 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
def “access agreement” ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
def “consultation period” sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
def “consultation period advice day” ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
def “registered native title party” ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Meaning of “low impact prospecting permit” for pt 13**

s 430 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Delayed start for prospecting permit if access agreement required**

s 430A ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Division 2—Notification requirements**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Requirement to notify**

s 431 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Failure to notify correctly**

s 432 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Division 3—Consultation and access agreement requirements before entry**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Requirement for consultation and access agreement**

prov hdg sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
s 433 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Prospecting activities to be carried out in accordance with access agreement**

s 433A ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Consultation matters**

s 434 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Access agreements**

s 434A ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Consultation period and consultation period advice day**

**s 435** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Parties may seek mediation**

**prov hdg** sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
**s 436** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Decision by tribunal**

**s 436A** ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Notice of access agreement**

**s 437** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Mining registrar may take action**

**s 438** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**PART 14—NATIVE TITLE PROVISIONS FOR MINING CLAIMS**

**pt hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 1—Preliminary**

**div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Purpose of pt 14**

**s 439** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Limited application of pt 14 to mining claim in approved opal or gem mining area**

**s 440** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Meaning of “surface alluvium (gold or tin) mining claim”**

**s 441** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Division 2—Surface alluvium (gold or tin) mining claims**

**div 2 (ss 442–458)** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Division 3—Other mining claims on alternative provision areas**

**div 3 (ss 459–461)** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Division 4—Mining claims**

**div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
sub 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Application of div 4**

**s 462** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 36

**Requirement for grant**

**s 463** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Applying pt 17, div 4 for grant**

s 464 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 5—Renewals of mining claims**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of div 5**

s 465 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 37

**Requirements for renewal—applying div 2**

s 466 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Applying div 2 for renewal**

s 467 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Requirements for renewal—applying div 3**

s 468 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Applying div 3 for renewal**

s 469 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Requirements for renewal—applying div 4**

s 470 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Applying div 4 for renewal**

s 471 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Division 6—Requirements for subsidiary approvals**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of div 6**

s 472 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 38

**Requirements for addition—applying div 2**

s 473 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Applying div 2 for addition**

s 474 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Requirements for addition—applying div 3**

s 475 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Applying div 3 for addition**

s 476 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1



**Requirements for addition—applying div 4**

s 477 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Applying div 4 for addition**

s 478 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**PART 15—NATIVE TITLE PROVISIONS FOR EXPLORATION PERMITS**

pt hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 1—Preliminary**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Purpose of pt 15**

s 479 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Limited application of pt 15 to exploration permit in approved opal or gem mining area**

s 480 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Meaning of “low impact exploration permit”**

s 481 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Meaning of “low impact activity”**

s 482 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Meaning of “high impact exploration permit”**

s 483 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 2—Low impact exploration permits**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Subdivision 1—Preliminary**

sdiv hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of div 2**

s 484 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 39

**Definitions for div 2**

s 485 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
def “access agreement” ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
def “consultation period advice day” ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
def “registered native title party” ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Subdivision 2—Notification requirements**

sdiv hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Requirement to notify**

s 486 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2; 2003 No. 10 s 40; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Notification of mining registrar**

s 487 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2003 No. 10 s 41; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Subdivision 3—Consultation and access agreement requirements before entry**

sdiv hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Requirement for consultation and access agreement**

prov hdg sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
s 488 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Exploration activities to be carried out in accordance with access agreement**

s 488A ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Consultation matters**

s 489 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Access agreements**

s 489A ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Consultation period and consultation period advice day**

s 490 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Parties may seek mediation**

prov hdg sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
s 491 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Decision by tribunal**

s 491A ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Notice of access agreement**

s 492 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Mining registrar may recommend action**

s 493 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Division 3—High impact exploration permits on alternative provision areas**

div 3 (ss 494–521) ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Division 4—High impact exploration permits**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Application of div 4**

s 522 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 42

**Requirements for grant**

s 523 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Applying pt 17, div 4 for grant**

s 524 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2003 No. 10 s 43; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Division 5—Renewals of exploration permits**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of div 5**

s 525 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 44

**Requirements for renewal—applying div 2**

s 526 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Requirements for renewal—applying div 3**

s 527 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Applying div 3 for renewal**

s 528 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Requirements for renewal—applying div 4**

s 529 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Applying div 4 for renewal**

s 530 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 6—Requirements for subsidiary approvals**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of div 6**

s 531 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 45

**Requirements for variation—low impact exploration permit**

s 532 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Requirements for variation—high impact exploration permit**

s 533 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Requirements for variation or addition—other exploration permits**

s 534 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**PART 16—NATIVE TITLE PROVISIONS FOR MINERAL DEVELOPMENT LICENCES**

pt hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 1—Preliminary****div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Purpose of pt 16****s 535** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Limited application of pt 16 to mineral development licence in approved opal or gem mining area****s 536** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Meaning of “low impact mineral development licence”****s 537** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Meaning of “low impact activity”****s 538** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2**Meaning of “high impact mineral development licence”****s 539** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Division 2—Low impact mineral development licences****div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Subdivision 1—Preliminary****sdiv hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Application of div 2****s 540** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 46**Definitions for div 2****s 541** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
def “**access agreement**” ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
def “**consultation period**” sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
def “**consultation period advice day**” ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
def “**consultation start day**” om 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
def “**registered native title party**” ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2**Subdivision 2—Notification requirements****sdiv hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Requirement to notify****s 542** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2; 2003 No. 10 s 47; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Notification of mining registrar****s 543** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2; 2003 No. 10 s 48; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Subdivision 3—Consultation and access agreement requirements before entry****sdiv hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Requirement for consultation and access agreement**

**prov hdg** sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
**s 544** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Mineral development activities to be carried out in accordance with access agreement**

**s 544A** ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Consultation matters**

**s 545** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Access agreements**

**s 545A** ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Consultation period and consultation period advice day**

**s 546** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Parties may seek mediation**

**prov hdg** sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2  
**s 547** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Decision by tribunal**

**s 547A** ins 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Notice of access agreement**

**s 548** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 sub 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Mining registrar may recommend action**

**s 549** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 19 sch 2

**Division 3—High impact mineral development licences on alternative provision areas**

**div 3 (ss 550–578)** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Division 4—High impact mineral development licences**

**div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Application of div 4**

**s 579** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 49

**Requirements for grant**

**s 580** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Applying pt 17, div 4 for grant**

**s 581** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2003 No. 10 s 50; 2005  
 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Division 5—Renewals of mineral development licences****div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Application of div 5****s 582** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 51**Requirements for renewal—applying div 2****s 583** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Requirements for renewal—applying div 3****s 584** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Applying div 3 for renewal****s 585** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for renewal—applying div 4****s 586** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Applying div 4 for renewal****s 587** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Division 6—Requirements for subsidiary approvals****div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Application of div 6****s 588** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 52**Requirements for variation—low impact mineral development licence****s 589** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for variation—high impact mineral development licences****s 590** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for variation or addition—other mineral development licences****s 591** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for approval—adding minerals to mineral development licence****s 592** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**PART 17—NATIVE TITLE PROVISIONS FOR MINING LEASES****pt hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Division 1—Preliminary****div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Purpose of pt 17****s 593** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Limited application of pt 17 to mining lease in approved opal or gem mining area**  
**s 594** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Meaning of “surface alluvium (gold or tin) mining lease”**  
**s 595** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**No re-opening of issues previously decided**  
**s 596** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 2—Surface alluvium (gold or tin) mining leases**  
**div 2 (ss 597–613)** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Division 3—Other mining leases on alternative provision areas**  
**div 3 (ss 614–649)** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Division 4—Mining leases**  
**div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 sub 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Subdivision 1—Preliminary**  
**sdiv hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of div 4**  
**s 650** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 53

**Definitions for div 4**  
**s 651** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Subdivision 2—Notification and registration requirements**  
**sdiv hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Requirement to notify**  
**s 652** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Content of written notice**  
**s 653** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Notification of mining registrar**  
**s 654** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Registered native title parties**  
**s 655** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Advice to mining registrar**  
**s 656** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Ending of additional requirements**  
**s 657** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
 amd 2000 No. 36 s 9; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Subdivision 3—Consultation and negotiation****sdiv hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Parties to consultation and negotiation****s 658** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Requirement for consultation and negotiation in good faith****s 659** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Content of negotiation in good faith****s 660** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Failure to negotiate****s 661** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Request for mediation****s 662** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Process for consultation and negotiation—applicant consultation****s 663** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Process for consultation and negotiation—registered native title parties consultation****s 664** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Process for consultation and negotiation—taking account of existing rights, interests and use****s 665** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Process for consultation and negotiation—negotiated agreement with or without conditions attached****s 666** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 10; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Process for consultation and negotiation—negotiated agreement with conditions attached****s 667** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Objections****s 668** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Referral of proposed mining lease to tribunal****s 669** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 166**Continuing negotiation****s 670** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Combined hearing****s 671** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Fixing of date for combined hearing****s 672** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Subdivision 5—Requirements for combined hearing****sdiv 5 (ss 673–680)** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Subdivision 6—Overruling of native title issues decision****sdiv 6 (ss 681–682)** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)



**Subdivision 7—Special provisions about completion of combined hearing and making of native title issues decision****sdiv hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Giving of urgency notice****s 683** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Minister's decision if tribunal recommendation delayed****s 684** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Consultation before Minister's decision****s 685** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Minister's decisions generally****s 686** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Subdivision 8—Miscellaneous matters about grant****sdiv hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Contract conditions****s 687** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Notice of grant to registered native title parties****s 688** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**Division 5—Renewals of mining leases****div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Application of div 5****s 689** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 54**Requirements for renewal—applying div 2****s 690** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Applying div 2 for renewal****s 691** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for renewal—applying div 3****s 692** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Applying div 3 for renewal****s 693** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for renewal—applying div 4****s 694** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Applying div 4 for renewal****s 695** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Division 6—Requirements for subsidiary approvals****div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Meaning of “approval” in div 6****s 696** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Application of div 6****s 697** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2003 No. 10 s 55**Requirements for approval (additional area)—applying div 3****s 698** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for approval (additional area)—applying div 4****s 699** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for approval (other changes)—applying div 2****s 700** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Applying div 2 for approval****s 701** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for approval (other changes)—applying div 3****s 702** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Applying div 3 for approval****s 703** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
om 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Requirements for approval (other changes)—applying div 4****s 704** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Applying div 4 for approval****s 705** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch**PART 18—COMPENSATION PROVISIONS****pt hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Division 1—Preliminary****div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)**Definitions for pt 18****s 706** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
def “**relevant act**” amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1**Division 2—General principles****div hdg** ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Native title compensation**

s 707 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 11

**Agreement for compensation**

s 708 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application for compensation**

s 709 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Compensation provided in non-monetary form**

s 710 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Conditions of agreement or compensation decision**

s 711 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Compensation trust decisions**

s 712 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**State's right to be heard**

s 713 ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 3—Payment of compensation in particular circumstances**

div 3 (ss 714–719) ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 4—Amounts held in trust**

div 4 (ss 720–722) ins 1998 No. 38 s 9 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**PART 18A—INTERIM RESTRICTION FOR OVERLAPPING MINING LEASE APPLICATIONS**

pt hdg ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Division 1—Interpretation**

div hdg ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Definitions for pt 18A**

s 722A ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
def “**prescribed day**” amd 2004 No. 4 s 53C  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Meaning of “overlapping mining lease application”**

s 722B ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Division 2—Demonstrated petroleum deposits**

div hdg ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Meaning of “demonstrated petroleum deposit”**

s 722C ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Requirement for petroleum lease applicant or authority to prospect holder to supply information**

s 722D ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Division 3—Interim restriction**

div hdg ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Interim restriction**

s 722E ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**No compensation**

s 722F ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Division 4—Expiry**

div hdg ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004 (see s 722G)

**Expiry of pt 18A**

s 722G ins 2003 No. 56 s 3  
exp beginning of 31 December 2004

**PART 19—TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

pt hdg sub 1998 No. 38 s 10 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 1—Transitional provisions for Act No. 27 of 1998**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 10 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**At Risk agreement conditions**

s 723 ins 1998 No. 27 s 9  
(prev s 419) renum 1998 No. 38 s 11 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of Mineral Resources Amendment Act 1998**

s 724 ins 1998 No. 27 s 9  
(prev s 420) renum 1998 No. 38 s 11 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Division 2—Transitional provisions for Act No. 38 of 1998**

div hdg ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Application of div 2**

s 725 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 12

**Definitions for div 2**

s 726 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
def “native title provisions start day” ins 2000 No. 36 s 13

**Giving advice of notification commencement day**

s 727 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)

**Existing prospecting permit applications**

s 728 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 14

**Existing mining claim applications**

s 729 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Existing exploration permit applications**

s 730 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Existing mineral development licence applications**

s 731 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2000 No. 64 s 174 sch

**Existing mining lease applications**

s 732 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Existing applications for certain approvals**

s 733 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1

**Separate hearings**

s 734 ins 1998 No. 38 s 12 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 55)  
amd 2000 No. 36 s 18 sch 1; 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Division 3—Transitional provisions for Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2000**

div hdg ins 2000 No. 64 s 167

**Existing Act continues to apply for special agreement Acts**

s 735 ins 2000 No. 64 s 167  
amd 2004 No. 5 s 8 sch

**Division 4—Transitional provision for Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2002**

div hdg ins 2002 No. 63 s 6

**Exclusion of pt 7A for continuance of existing notifiable road uses**

s 736 prev s 736 ins 2000 No. 64 s 167  
exp 25 November 2000  
pres s 736 ins 2002 No. 63 s 6  
amd 2004 No. 25 s 1026

**Division 5—Transitional provisions for Natural Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2003**

div hdg ins 2003 No. 10 s 56

**No notification commencement day advised before 31 March 2003**

s 737 ins 2003 No. 10 s 56

**Effect of extension of time for giving notice or information**

s 738 ins 2003 No. 10 s 56  
amd 2005 No. 8 s 2 sch

**Division 6—Transitional provisions for Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005**

div 6 (s 739) ins 2004 No. 8 s 44

**Division 6—Transitional provisions for Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004**

**div hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Subdivision 1—Preliminary**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Definitions for div 6**

**s 739** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

def **“mineral hydrocarbon mining lease”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 263(2))  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 6 (amdt could not be given effect)

**Subdivision 2—Provisions for special agreement Acts**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Application of div 6 to special coal mining lease under special agreement Act**

**s 740** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Unfinished special coal mining lease applications**

**s 741** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 263(3)–(4) (amdt could not be given effect))  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 7 (retro)

**Division 6 prevails over special agreement Acts**

**s 742** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch)  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch

**No compensation**

**s 743** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Subdivision 3—Provision for section 3A**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Application of s 3A to existing mining tenements**

**s 744** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Subdivision 4—Unfinished coal or oil shale mining lease applications for land in area of petroleum tenure**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Application of pt 7AA**

**s 745** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Subdivision 5—Provisions for existing coal mining leases**

**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Clarification provision for coal seam gas**

**s 746** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Continuation of particular rights relating to coal seam gas under mineral hydrocarbon mining leases**

**s 747** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 263(5))  
amd 2005 No. 3 s 8

**Restriction on flaring or venting coal seam gas**

**s 748** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Deferral of ss 318CN(2) and 318CO for particular existing coal mining lease holders**  
**s 749** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Deferral of s 318CR(1) for existing coal mining lease holders**  
**s 750** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Subdivision 6—Modified application of section 318CI for particular existing exploration tenements overlapping with petroleum lease**  
**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Application of sdiv 6**  
**s 751** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Modified application of s 318CI until 3 months after commencement**  
**s 752** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Power to relinquish if activity restricted**  
**s 753** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 263(6)–(7))

**Subdivision 7—Particular provision for existing mineral development licences that overlap with a Petroleum Act lease**  
**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Application of sdiv 7**  
**s 754** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Substituted restriction on authorised activities**  
**s 755** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch)

**Subdivision 8—Development plans**  
**sdiv hdg** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Application of sdiv 8**  
**s 756** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028  
 amd 2005 No. 3 s 8A

**Deferral of obligation to comply with development plan**  
**s 757** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 263(8))

**Obligation to lodge proposed development plan**  
**s 758** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Application of pt 7AA, div 9, sdiv 3 for approval of proposed plan**  
**s 759** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Additional requirement for proposed development plan for mineral hydrocarbon mining lease**  
**s 760** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Additional condition for proposed development plan for mineral hydrocarbon mining lease**  
**s 761** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028 (amd 2004 No. 26 s 69(2) sch)

**Omission of particular conditions to be superseded by development plan**  
**s 762** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**Development plan requirements for renewal applications if no current development plan**

s 763 ins 2004 No. 25 s 1028

**SCHEDULE 1**

amd 1990 No. 30 s 45

om R1 (see RA s 40)

**SCHEDULE—DICTIONARY**

- sch hdg** Note—definitions for this Act were originally located in s 5  
prev sch (prev sch 2) amd R4 (RA s 7(1)(k))  
om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4  
pres sch ins 2000 No. 64 s 168
- def **“access agreement”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“Act relating to mining”** om from prev s 5 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)
- def **“adjacent lease”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“adjoining lots”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“aggrieved person”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“applicant”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“application notice”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“approval”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“approved form”** ins 1999 No. 35 s 13(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“approved opal or gem mining area”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“area”** om from prev s 5 1993 No. 70 s 804 sch  
ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“At Risk agreement”** ins 1998 No. 27 s 3  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“authorised activity”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“authority to prospect”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“block”** reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“building”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“cadastral surveyor”** ins 2003 No. 71 s 81
- def **“certificate of public notice”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“chief executive (planning)”** ins 1993 No. 70 s 804 sch  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
amd 2004 No. 4 s 57 sch
- def **“closing day (native title issues)”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“coal exploration tenement”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“coal mining lease”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“coal or oil shale mining lease”** ins 2005 No. 3 s 105 sch



- def “**coal or oil shale mining tenement**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**coal seam gas**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**combined hearing**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**Commonwealth Native Title Act**” ins 1998 No. 38 s 7  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**company**” sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
amd 2001 No. 45 s 29 sch 3
- def “**compensation agreement**” ins 2002 No. 63 s 7  
amd 2004 No. 25 s 1029(3)
- def “**compensation application**” ins 2002 No. 63 s 7  
amd 2004 No. 25 s 1029(4)
- def “**compensation decision**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**compensation trust decision**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**condition**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**consultation and negotiation parties**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**consultation period**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**consultation period advice day**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**consultation start day**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**contaminated land**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
om from prev s 5 2000 No. 64 s 61(2)
- def “**contract conditions**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**coordination arrangement**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**credit provider**” ins 1997 No. 17 s 74 sch  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**CSG assessment criteria**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**CSG statement**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**decision**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**deputy mining registrar**” ins 2005 No. 8 s 45(1)
- def “**designated CSG product**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**development**” ins 2005 No. 8 s 45(1)
- def “**development plan**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**Director-General**” sub 1991 No. 97 s 3 sch 2  
om from prev s 5 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)
- def “**district prospecting permit**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**educational institution**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)

- def **“eligible person”** sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
 amd 2003 No. 19 s 3 sch
- def **“enter”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“environment”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 amd 2000 No. 64 s 61(4)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“environmental authority (exploration)”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“environmental authority (mineral development)”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“environmental authority (mining claim)”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“environmental authority (mining lease)”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“environmental impact”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 om from prev s 5 2000 No. 64 s 61(2)
- def **“environmental impact statement”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 om from prev s 5 2000 No. 64 s 61(2)
- def **“Environmental Protection Act”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“EPA administering authority”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“expiry day”** ins 2005 No. 8 s 45(1)
- def **“exploration permit”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“explore”** amd 1995 No. 21 s 5(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“fee”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“fossicking area”** ins 1994 No. 63 s 110(2) sch  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“geothermal exploration permit”** ins 2004 No. 12 s 154
- def **“hand mining”** sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“hazardous contaminant”** ins 1997 No. 80 s 41  
 om from prev s 5 2000 No. 64 s 61(2)
- def **“hazardous substance”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 om from prev s 5 1997 No. 80 s 41
- def **“hearing”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“Heritage Act”** ins 2005 No. 8 s 45(1)
- def **“high impact exploration permit”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“high impact mineral development licence”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“holder”** sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
 amd 1997 No. 14 s 4(4)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)

- def “**IDAS**” ins 2005 No. 8 s 45(1)
- def “**improvement restoration**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**incidental coal seam gas**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**information-giver**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**initial development plan requirements**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**land**” amd 1992 No. 20 s 159 sch 2; 2000 No. 64 s 64(5)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
om 2003 No. 10 s 76 sch
- def “**land**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
amd 2003 No. 10 s 76 sch; 2004 No. 25 s 1029(5)
- def “**last objection day**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
sub 2000 No. 64 s 61(2)–(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**later development plan requirements**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**local authority**” om from prev s 5 1993 No. 70 s 804 sch
- def “**low impact activity**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**low impact exploration permit**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**low impact mineral development licence**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**low impact prospecting permit**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**member of the family**” om from prev s 5 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)
- def “**mine**” sub 1997 No. 14 s 4(2)–(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**mineral**” amd 1995 No. 21 s 5(4)–(5)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
sub 2004 No. 25 s 1029(1)–(2)
- def “**mineral development licence**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**mining claim**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**mining lease**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**mining lease holder**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**mining project**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
om from prev s 5 2000 No. 64 s 61(2)
- def “**mining registrar**” sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
sub 2005 No. 8 s 45(2)
- def “**mining tenement**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**Minister**” om from prev s 5 1991 No. 97 s 3 sch 2
- def “**Minister’s decision**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**native title issues decision**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)

- def **“native title notification party”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“native title provisions”** ins 1998 No. 38 s 7 (amd 1999 No. 35 s 54)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
 amd 2003 No. 77 s 102
- def **“natural underground reservoir”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“negotiated agreement”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“non-exclusive land”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“notifiable road use”** ins 2002 No. 63 s 7  
 amd 2004 No. 25 s 1029(6)
- def **“notification day (native title issues)”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“occupied land”** sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“occupier”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“officer”** sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
 amd 2001 No. 45 s 29 sch 3
- def **“oil shale”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“oil shale exploration tenement”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“oil shale mining lease”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“other mining legislation”** ins 2005 No. 8 s 45(1)
- def **“owner”** amd 1990 No. 30 s 3(a); 1992 No. 15 s 13 sch; 1993 No. 50 s 86  
 sch 3  
 sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
 amd 1997 No. 14 s 4(5)–(6); 2000 No. 26 s 12 sch 1; 1994 No. 8 s 491(3)  
 sch 5 (amd 2003 No. 54 ss 34, 39)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“parcel prospecting permit”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“permanent building”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act”** ins 2004 No. 25  
 s 1029
- def **“petroleum development preference”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“petroleum lease”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“petroleum lease application period”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“petroleum tenure”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“Planning Act”** ins 2005 No. 8 s 45(1)
- def **“planning scheme”** ins 1993 No. 70 s 804 sch  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
 amd 2004 No. 4 s 57 sch
- def **“plan period”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“pre-existing improvements”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“preference decision”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)

- def **“prospect”** sub 1999 No. 35 s 13(1)–(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“prospecting permit”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“protected area”** ins 1992 No. 20 s 159 sch 2  
amd 2000 No. 44 s 42 sch  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“rail corridor land”** ins 1997 No. 14 s 4(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“recipient”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“refuse”** ins 2005 No. 8 s 45(1)
- def **“register”** ins 2005 No. 8 s 45(1)
- def **“registered indigenous land use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“registered native title party”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“registered native title party rights and interests”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“rehabilitation”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
om from prev s 5 2000 No. 64 s 61(2)
- def **“relevant act”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“relevant environmental condition”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“relevant local government”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“relevant mining district”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“relevant special interest publication”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“relinquishment condition”** ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def **“reserve”** amd 1990 No. 30 s 3(b); 1992 No. 20 s 159 sch 2; 1993 No. 50 s 86 sch 3  
sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
amd 1997 No. 14 s 4(7)–(8)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)  
amd 2004 No. 4 s 57 sch
- def **“restricted land”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“restricted land (category A)”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“restricted land (category B)”** ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“right to negotiate provisions”** ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def **“road”** sub 1995 No. 21 s 5(1)–(2)  
reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)

- def “**road authority**” ins 2002 No. 63 s 7  
 amd 2004 No. 25 s 1029(7)
- def “**road use direction**” ins 2002 No. 63 s 7  
 amd 2004 No. 25 s 1029(8)
- def “**section 65 conference**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**section 169 conference**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**section 217 conference**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**section 254 conference**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**specific purpose mining lease**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**State-controlled road**” ins 2002 No. 63 s 7  
 amd 1994 No. 8 s 491(3) sch 5 (amd 2003 No. 54 ss 34, 39)
- def “**submission period**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**submissions**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**termination**” ins 1995 No. 21 s 5(2)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**the public interest**” ins 2004 No. 25 s 1029(2)
- def “**town planning scheme**” om from prev s 5 1993 No. 70 s 804 sch
- def “**tribunal**” ins 1998 No. 38 s 7  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**urgency notice**” ins 2000 No. 64 s 61(3)  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)
- def “**warden**” om from prev s 5 1999 No. 7 s 87 sch 3
- def “**Wet Tropics Area**” ins 1993 No. 50 s 86 sch 3  
 reloc 2000 No. 64 s 61(6)

**Interpretation**

- s 1** sub 1990 No. 30 s 46  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Mining claims**

- s 2** amd 1990 No. 30 s 46; 1995 No. 21 ss 106(1) (retro), 3 sch; 1995 No. 57 s 4  
 sch 2  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Mining leases**

- s 3** amd 1990 No. 30 s 46; 1994 No. 18 s 7 (retro); 1995 No. 21 ss 106(2)–(4)  
 (retro), 3 sch 1995 No. 58 s 4 sch 1  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Authorities to prospect**

- s 4** amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Residence areas, business areas and market garden areas**

- s 5** om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Licence to carry any thing across alien land**

- s 6** orig s 6 om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 new s 6 (prev s 11) amd 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Compensation**

- s 7** orig s 7 om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 new s 7 (prev s 14) om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Caveats**

- s 8** orig s 8 om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 new s 8 (prev s 16) om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Entitlements other than previously provided for**

- s 9** orig s 9 om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 new s 9 (prev s 17) amd 1990 No. 30 s 46  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Prior acts etc. to continue under this Act**

- s 10** orig s 10 om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 new s 10 (prev s 18) om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Royalties**

- s 11** new s 11 (prev s 20) om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Royalties on rock in block or slab for etc.**

- s 12** orig s 12 amd 1990 No. 30 s 46  
 om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 new s 12 (prev s 21) om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Consents and agreements**

- s 13** orig s 13 om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 new s 13 ins 1997 No. 14 s 20  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Grant of mining lease**

- s 14** ins 1997 No. 14 s 20  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Application for mining lease over restricted land**

- s 15** orig s 15 om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch  
 new s 15 ins 1997 No. 14 s 20  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Grant of mining lease over restricted land**

- s 16** ins 1997 No. 14 s 20  
 om 1998 No. 10 s 446 sch 4

**Unforeseen circumstances**

- s 19** om 1992 No. 68 s 3 sch 1

**Transfer of registers, records, security deposits etc.**

- s 21** om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch

**Existing registers to form part of registers under this Act**

- s 22** om 1995 No. 21 s 3 sch

## **8 List of forms notified or published in the gazette**

(The following information about forms is taken from the gazette. Because failure to notify or publish a form in the gazette does not invalidate the form, it may be necessary to check with the relevant government department for the latest information about forms (see SIA s 58(8)).)

**Form 3.1—Application for parcel prospecting permit**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 46–7

**Form 3.2—Application for district prospecting permit**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 4.1—Application for mining claim**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 4.2—Certificate of Application for mining claim**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 4.2A—Certificate of Public Notice for mining claim**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 4.4—Application for renewal of mining claim**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 5.1—Application for exploration permit**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 5.3—Application for renewal of exploration permit**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 6.1—Application for mineral development licence**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 6.4—Application for renewal of mineral development licence**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 7.1—Application for mining lease**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 7.1A—Application for additional surface area**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 7.2A—Certificate of Application for mining lease**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 7.2B—Certificate of Public Notice for mining lease**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 7.6—Application for renewal of mining lease**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form 11.1—Request for entry of transmission by death without probate or letters of administration**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51



- Form 11.2—Request for entry of transmission by death by virtue of grant of probate or letters of administration**  
pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51
- Form 11.3—Request for transmission in bankruptcy**  
pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51
- Form 11.4—Request to record death of joint holder**  
pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51
- Form 13.1 Version 1—Notice of intention to lodge or lodgement of application for a low impact prospecting permit**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 13.2 Version 1—Notice of consultation start day low impact prospecting permit**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.1 Version 1—Notice about proposed mining claim (application notice)**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.2 Version 1—Notice of compliance mining claim**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.3 Version 1—Advice to mining registrar**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.4 Version 1—Advice to mining registrar**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.5 Version 1—Negotiated agreement reached**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.6 Version 1—Form of objection Registered native title rights and interests**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.7 Version 1—Referral to Tribunal**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.8 Version 1—Notice of grant**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.9 Version 1—Role of State of Queensland**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 14.10 Version 1—Notice of non-objection Registered native title rights and interests**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.1 Version 1—Notice of intention to lodge or lodgement of application for a low impact exploration permit (application notice)**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.2 Version 1—Notice of compliance low impact exploration permit**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.3 Version 1—Notice of consultation period low impact exploration permit**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

- Form 15.4 Version 1—Notice about proposed high impact exploration permit (application notice)**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.5 Version 1—Notice of compliance high impact exploration permit**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.6 Version 1—Advice to mining registrar**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.7 Version 1—Advice to mining registrar**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.8 Version 1—Role of State of Queensland**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.9 Version 1—Negotiated agreement reached**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.10 Version 1—Form of objection Registered native title rights and interests**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 15.11 Version 1—Referral to Tribunal**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.1 Version 1—Notice of intention to lodge or lodgement of application for a low impact mineral development licence (application notice)**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.2 Version 1—Notice of compliance low impact mineral development licence**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.3 Version 1—Notice of consultation start day low impact mineral development licence**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.4 Version 1—Notice about proposed high impact mineral development licence (application notice)**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.5 Version 1—Notice of compliance high impact mineral development notice**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.6 Version 1—Advice to mining registrar**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.7 Version 1—Advice to mining registrar**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.8 Version 1—Role of State of Queensland**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.9 Version 1—Negotiated agreement reached**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8
- Form 16.10 Version 1—Form of objection Registered native title rights and interests high impact mineral development licence**  
pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 16.11 Version 1—Referral to Tribunal**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 16.12 Version 1—Notice of grant high impact mineral development licence**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.1 Version 1—Notice about proposed mining lease (application notice)**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.2 Version 1—Notice of compliance**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.3 Version 1—Advice to mining registrar**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.4 Version 1—Advice to mining registrar**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.5 Version 1—Notice of non-objection Registered native title rights and interests**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.6 Version 1—Role of the State of Queensland**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.7 Version 1—Negotiated agreement reached**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.8 Version 1—Form of objection Registered native title rights and interests**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.9 Version 1—Referral to Tribunal**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form 17.10 Version 1—Notice of grant**

pubd gaz 22 September 2000 pp 306–8

**Form M1 Version 2—Form of Objection**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M2—Surrender of mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form M3 Version 2—Caveat**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M4 Version 2—Consent of Caveator to the Approval of a Dealing**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M5—Assignment of mining claim or mining lease**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form M6—Assignment of exploration permit or mineral development licence**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Form M7 Version 2—Mortgage**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M8A Version 2—Notice to Show Cause**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M8B Version 2—Notice to Show Cause—Mining Claim**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M9 Version 3—Notice of Intention of Initial Entry on Occupied Land**

pubd gaz 14 June 1996 pp 986

**Form M10 Version 3—Notice of Renewing Entry on Occupied Land**

pubd gaz 14 June 1996 pp 986

**Form M11 Version 2—Application to Record Agreements, Arrangements, Dealings or Interests**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M12 Version 2—Application for Variation of Access**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M13 Version 2—Request for Registration of Execution**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M14A Version 2—Notice to Show Cause on Application for Renewal**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M14B Version 2—Notice to Show Cause on Application for Renewal—Mining Claim**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Form M15 Version 1—Notice of Availability of Draft Guidelines for the Preparation of Environment Impact Statement for Exploration Permits or Mineral Development Licences**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Part 3—Form 3 Version 1—Parcel Prospecting Permit**

pubd gaz 13 April 1995 p 1624

**Part 3—Form 4 Version 1—District Prospecting Permit**

pubd gaz 13 April 1995 p 1624

**Part 3—Form 5 Version 2—Notice of Cancellation of Prospecting Permit**

pubd gaz 13 April 1995 p 1624

**Part 4—Form 3—Version 2—Certificate of Grant of Mining Claim**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Parts 4 & 7—Common application details—mining tenement and environmental authority**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Parts 4 & 7—Form of objection**

pubd gaz 5 January 2001 pp 49–51

**Part 5—Form 2 Version 2—Instrument of Exploration Permit**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

**Part 6—Form 2 Version 2—Instrument of Mineral Development Licence**

pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

- Part 6—Form 3 Version 2—Notice to Owner of Land of Grant of Mineral Development Licence**  
pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50
- Part 6—Form 5 Version 2—Notice to Owner of Land of Variation of Access of Mineral Development Licence**  
pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50
- Part 7—Form 2 Version 2—Certificate of Application for Mining Lease**  
pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50
- Part 7—Form 3 Version 2—Notice of Study into Environmental Impact for Mining Lease**  
pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50
- Part 7—Form 3A Version 1—Notice of Availability of Draft Guidelines for the Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement for Mining Lease**  
pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50
- Part 7—Form 4 Version 2—Notice of Receipt of Environmental Impact Statement for Mining Lease**  
pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50
- Part 7 Form 5 Version 3—Mining Lease**  
pubd gaz 31 January 1997 p 375
- Part 8—Form 1 Version 2—Notification of Mining Land on Town Planning Scheme Maps**  
pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50
- Part 9—Form 1 Version 3—Royalty Return**  
pubd gaz 11 July 1997 p 1224
- Part 11—Form 5 Version 2—Request to Record Change or Correction of Name**  
pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50
- Part 11—Form 6 Version 2—Notification of Change of Address and/or Change of Person Nominated for Service of Correspondence**  
pubd gaz 27 October 1995 pp 849–50

## 9 Table of renumbered provisions

under the Reprints Act 1992 s 43 as required by the Mineral Resources Act 1989 s 11.35  
[Reprint No. 2]

Previous	Renumbered as
1.1 . . . . .	1
1.3 . . . . .	2
1.4 . . . . .	3
1.7 . . . . .	4
1.8 . . . . .	5
1.8, def “protected area”, (i) . . . . .	5, def “protected area”, (a)

Previous	Renumbered as
1.8, def “protected area”, (ii) . . . . .	5, def “protected area”, (b)
1.8, def “protected area”, (iii) . . . . .	5, def “protected area”, (c)
1.8, def “protected area”, (iv) . . . . .	5, def “protected area”, (d)
1.8, def “protected area”, (v) . . . . .	5, def “protected area”, (e)
1.8A . . . . .	6
1.8B . . . . .	7
1.9 . . . . .	8
1.10 . . . . .	9
1.10(1A) . . . . .	9(2)
1.10(2) . . . . .	9(3)
1.10(3) . . . . .	9(4)
1.11 . . . . .	10
2.1 . . . . .	11
2.2 . . . . .	12
3.1 . . . . .	13
3.2 . . . . .	14
3.3 . . . . .	15
3.4 . . . . .	16
3.5 . . . . .	17
3.5A . . . . .	18
3.5B . . . . .	19
3.5C . . . . .	20
3.5D . . . . .	21
3.6 . . . . .	22
3.7 . . . . .	23
3.8 . . . . .	24
3.9 . . . . .	25
3.10 . . . . .	26
3.10(1A) . . . . .	26(2)
3.10(2) . . . . .	26(3)
3.10(3) . . . . .	26(4)
3.10(4) . . . . .	26(5)
3.10(5) . . . . .	26(6)
3.10(6) . . . . .	26(7)
3.10(7) . . . . .	26(8)
3.10(8) . . . . .	26(9)
3.10(9) . . . . .	26(10)
3.10(10) . . . . .	26(11)
3.10(11) . . . . .	26(12)
3.10(12) . . . . .	26(13)
3.10(13) . . . . .	26(14)
3.10(14) . . . . .	26(15)
3.11 . . . . .	27
3.12 . . . . .	28
3.13 . . . . .	29
3.14 . . . . .	30
3.15 . . . . .	31
3.16 . . . . .	32

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
3.17	33
3.18	34
3.19	35
3.20	36
3.21	37
3.22	38
3.22A	39
3.22B	40
3.22C	41
3.22D	42
3.23	43
3.24	44
3.25	45
3.26	46
3.27	47
4.1	48
4.2	49
4.3	50
4.4	51
4.5	52
4.6	53
4.6(1A)	53(2)
4.6(2)	53(3)
4.6(3)	53(4)
4.6(4)	53(5)
4.6(5)	53(6)
4.7	54
4.8	55
4.8(2A)	55(3)
4.8(3)	55(4)
4.9	56
4.10	57
4.10(1A)	57(2)
4.10(1B)	57(3)
4.10(1C)	57(4)
4.10(2)	57(5)
4.10(2A)	57(6)
4.10(2B)	57(7)
4.10(2C)	57(8)
4.10(2D)	57(9)
4.10(3)	57(10)
4.11	58
4.12	59
4.13	60
4.14	61
4.14(1A)	61(2)
4.14(2)	61(3)
4.14(3)	61(4)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
4.14(4)	.61(5)
4.14(5)	.61(6)
4.15	.62
4.16	.63
4.17	.64
4.17(1A)	.64(2)
4.17(1AA)	.64(3)
4.17(1B)	.64(4)
4.17(2)	.64(5)
4.17(3)	.64(6)
4.17(4)	.64(7)
4.17(5)	.64(8)
4.18	.65
4.18A	.66
4.18B	.67
4.18C	.68
4.18D	.69
4.18E	.70
4.19	.71
4.20	.72
4.21	.73
4.22	.74
4.23	.75
4.24	.76
4.25	.77
4.25(1A)	.77(2)
4.25(2)	.77(3)
4.25(2A)	.77(4)
4.25(3)	.77(5)
4.25(4)	.77(6)
4.25(5)	.77(7)
4.25(6)	.77(8)
4.26	.78
4.27	.79
4.28	.80
4.29	.81
4.30	.82
4.31	.83
4.31(2A)	.83(3)
4.31(2B)	.83(4)
4.31(2C)	.83(5)
4.31(3)	.83(6)
4.31(4)	.83(7)
4.31(6)	.83(8)
4.31(6A)	.83(9)
4.31(7)	.83(10)
4.31(8)	.83(11)
4.31(9)	.83(12)



*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
4.31(9A) .....	83(13)
4.31(9B) .....	83(14)
4.31(9C) .....	83(15)
4.31(10).....	83(16)
4.32 .....	84
4.33 .....	85
4.33(1A) .....	85(2)
4.33(2).....	85(3)
4.33(2A) .....	85(4)
4.33(3).....	85(5)
4.33(4).....	85(6)
4.33(5).....	85(7)
4.33(6).....	85(8)
4.33(7).....	85(9)
4.33(8).....	85(10)
4.33(9).....	85(11)
4.33(10).....	85(12)
4.33(11).....	85(13)
4.34 .....	86
4.34(5A) .....	86(6)
4.34(6).....	86(7)
4.34(7).....	86(8)
4.35 .....	87
4.35(1A) .....	87(2)
4.35(2).....	87(3)
4.36 .....	88
4.37 .....	89
4.38 .....	90
4.39 .....	91
4.40 .....	92
4.41 .....	93
4.42 .....	94
4.43 .....	95
4.43(1A) .....	95(2)
4.43(2).....	95(3)
4.43(3).....	95(4)
4.43(4).....	95(5)
4.43(5).....	95(6)
4.43(6).....	95(7)
4.43(7).....	95(8)
4.44 .....	96
4.44(2A) .....	96(3)
4.44(3).....	96(4)
4.44(4).....	96(5)
4.44(4A) .....	96(6)
4.44(5).....	96(7)
4.44(6).....	96(8)
4.44(7).....	96(9)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
4.44(8)	96(10)
4.45	97
4.45(1A)	97(2)
4.45(2)	97(3)
4.46	98
4.47	99
4.48	100
4.49	101
4.50	102
4.51	103
4.52	104
4.53	105
4.53(1A)	105(2)
4.53(2)	105(3)
4.53(3)	105(4)
4.53(4)	105(5)
4.54	106
4.54(6)	106(5)
4.55	107
4.55(2A)	107(3)
4.55(3)	107(4)
4.55(3A)	107(5)
4.55(4)	107(6)
4.55(5)	107(7)
4.55(6)	107(8)
4.55(7)	107(9)
4.55(8)	107(10)
4.55(9)	107(11)
4.56	108
4.56A	109
4.57	110
4.58	111
4.59	112
4.60	113
4.61	114
4.62	115
4.63	116
4.63A	117
4.63B	118
4.63C	119
4.63D	120
4.64	121
4.64A	122
4.64B	123
4.65	124
4.66	125
4.66(3A)	125(4)
4.66(3B)	125(5)

Previous	Renumbered as
4.66(3C) .....	125(6)
4.66(3D) .....	125(7)
4.66(3E) .....	125(8)
4.66(4) .....	125(9)
4.66(5) .....	125(10)
4.66(5A) .....	125(11)
4.66(6) .....	125(12)
5.1 .....	126
5.2 .....	127
5.3 .....	128
5.4 .....	129
5.4(1A) .....	129(2)
5.4(2) .....	129(3)
5.4(2A) .....	129(4)
5.4(3) .....	129(5)
5.4(4) .....	129(6)
5.4(5) .....	129(7)
5.4(6) .....	129(8)
5.4(7) .....	129(9)
5.4(8) .....	129(10)
5.4(9) .....	129(11)
5.4(10) .....	129(12)
5.4(11) .....	129(13)
5.4(12) .....	129(14)
5.4(13) .....	129(15)
5.4(14) .....	129(16)
5.5 .....	130
5.6 .....	131
5.7 .....	132
5.8 .....	133
5.9 .....	134
5.10 .....	135
5.11 .....	136
5.12 .....	137
5.12(1A) .....	137(2)
5.12(2) .....	137(3)
5.12(3) .....	137(4)
5.12(4) .....	137(5)
5.13 .....	138
5.14 .....	139
5.14(1A) .....	139(2)
5.14(2) .....	139(3)
5.14(3) .....	139(4)
5.14(4) .....	139(5)
5.14(5) .....	139(6)
5.14(6) .....	139(7)
5.14(7) .....	139(8)
5.14A .....	140

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
5.15	141
5.15A	142
5.15B	143
5.16	144
5.16(1A)	144(2)
5.16(1B)	144(3)
5.16(2)	144(4)
5.16(3)	144(5)
5.16(4)	144(6)
5.16(4A)	144(7)
5.16(5)	144(8)
5.16(6)	144(9)
5.16(7)	144(10)
5.16(8)	144(11)
5.16(8A)	144(12)
5.16(9)	144(13)
5.16(10)	144(14)
5.16(11)	144(15)
5.16(12)	144(16)
5.17	145
5.18	146
5.19	147
5.20	148
5.21	149
5.22	150
5.23	151
5.23(1A)	151(2)
5.23(4A)	151(5)
5.23(5)	151(6)
5.23(6)	151(7)
5.24	152
5.24(1A)	152(2)
5.24(2)	152(3)
5.25	153
5.26	154
5.27	155
5.28	156
5.29	157
5.30	158
5.31	159
5.32	160
5.33	161
5.33(1A)	161(2)
5.33(2)	161(3)
5.33(3)	161(4)
5.33(4)	161(5)
5.33(5)	161(6)
5.33(6)	161(7)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
5.34	162
5.35	163
5.35A	164
5.36	165
5.36A	166
5.37	167
5.38	168
5.39	169
5.39A	170
5.39B	171
5.39C	172
5.39D	173
5.39E	174
5.39F	175
5.40	176
5.41	177
5.42	178
6.1	179
6.2	180
6.3	181
6.3(1A)	181(2)
6.3(2)	181(3)
6.3(3)	181(4)
6.3(3A)	181(5)
6.3(3B)	181(6)
6.3(3C)	181(7)
6.3(4)	181(8)
6.3(4A)	181(9)
6.3(4B)	181(10)
6.3(5)	181(11)
6.3(6)	181(12)
6.3(7)	181(13)
6.3(8)	181(14)
6.3(9)	181(15)
6.3(10)	181(16)
6.3(11)	181(17)
6.3(12)	181(18)
6.3(12A)	181(19)
6.3(13)	181(20)
6.3(14)	181(21)
6.3A	182
6.4	183
6.5	184
6.6	185
6.7	186
6.7(1A)	186(2)
6.7(2)	186(3)
6.7(3)	186(4)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
6.7(4)	186(5)
6.7(5)	186(6)
6.8	187
6.9	188
6.10	189
6.11	190
6.11(5)	190(4)
6.11(6)	190(5)
6.11(7)	190(6)
6.11(8)	190(7)
6.11(9)	190(8)
6.11(10)	190(9)
6.12	191
6.13	192
6.14	193
6.14(1A)	193(2)
6.14(2)	193(3)
6.14(3)	193(4)
6.14(4)	193(5)
6.14(5)	193(6)
6.14(6)	193(7)
6.14(7)	193(8)
6.15	194
6.15A	195
6.15B	196
6.16	197
6.17	198
6.17(1A)	198(2)
6.17(2)	198(3)
6.17(3)	198(4)
6.17(4)	198(5)
6.17(4A)	198(6)
6.17(5)	198(7)
6.17(6)	198(8)
6.17(7)	198(9)
6.18	199
6.18(1A)	199(2)
6.18(2)	199(3)
6.19	200
6.20	201
6.21	202
6.22	203
6.23	204
6.24	205
6.25	206
6.26	207
6.26A	208
6.27	209

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
6.28	210
6.28(3A)	210(4)
6.28(3B)	210(5)
6.28(3C)	210(6)
6.28(4)	210(7)
6.28(5)	210(8)
6.28(5A)	210(9)
6.28(5B)	210(10)
6.28(6)	210(11)
6.28(7)	210(12)
6.29	211
6.29A	212
6.30	213
6.30A	214
6.31	215
6.32	216
6.33	217
6.33A	218
6.33B	219
6.33C	220
6.33D	221
6.33E	222
6.33F	223
6.34	224
6.35	225
6.36	226
6.36(2A)	226(3)
6.36(3)	226(4)
6.37	227
6.38	228
6.38A	229
6.38B	230
6.39	231
6.39(3A)	231(4)
6.39(4)	231(5)
6.39(5)	231(6)
7.1	232
7.2	233
7.3	234
7.4	235
7.5	236
7.5A	237
7.6	238
7.7	239
7.8	240
7.9	241
7.9(1A)	241(2)
7.9(1B)	241(3)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
7.9(1C) .....	241(4)
7.9(2) .....	241(5)
7.9(2A) .....	241(6)
7.9(2B) .....	241(7)
7.9(2C) .....	241(8)
7.9(2D) .....	241(9)
7.9(3) .....	241(10)
7.10 .....	242
7.11 .....	243
7.12 .....	244
7.13 .....	245
7.13(1A) .....	245(2)
7.13(2) .....	245(3)
7.13(3) .....	245(4)
7.14 .....	246
7.15 .....	247
7.15A .....	248
7.15B .....	249
7.16 .....	250
7.17 .....	251
7.18 .....	252
7.18(1A) .....	252(2)
7.18(1AA) .....	252(3)
7.18(1B) .....	252(4)
7.18(2) .....	252(5)
7.18(2A) .....	252(6)
7.18(3) .....	252(7)
7.18(4) .....	252(8)
7.18(5) .....	252(9)
7.18(6) .....	252(10)
7.18(7) .....	252(11)
7.18A .....	253
7.19 .....	254
7.19A .....	255
7.19B .....	256
7.19C .....	257
7.19D .....	258
7.19E .....	259
7.20 .....	260
7.21 .....	261
7.21A .....	262
7.21B .....	263
7.21C .....	264
7.22 .....	265
7.23 .....	266
7.24 .....	267
7.25 .....	268
7.25(1A) .....	268(2)



*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
7.25(2)	268(3)
7.25(2A)	268(4)
7.25(3)	268(5)
7.25(4)	268(6)
7.25(5)	268(7)
7.25(6)	268(8)
7.25(7)	268(9)
7.25(8)	268(10)
7.25(9)	268(11)
7.26	269
7.26(2A)	269(3)
7.26(3)	269(4)
7.26(3)(ga)	269(4)(h)
7.26(3)(h)	269(4)(i)
7.26(3)(i)	269(4)(j)
7.26(3)(j)	269(4)(k)
7.26(3)(k)	269(4)(l)
7.26(3)(l)	269(4)(m)
7.26(4)	269(5)
7.27	270
7.28	271
7.29	272
7.30	273
7.31	274
7.32	275
7.33	276
7.33(1)(ha)	276(1)(i)
7.33(1)(i)	276(1)(j)
7.33(1)(j)	276(1)(k)
7.33(1)(k)	276(1)(l)
7.33(1)(l)	276(1)(m)
7.33(1)(m)	276(1)(n)
7.33(1)(n)	276(1)(o)
7.33(1)(o)	276(1)(p)
7.33(4)	276(3)
7.33(5)	276(4)
7.34	277
7.34(2A)	277(3)
7.34(2B)	277(4)
7.34(2C)	277(5)
7.34(3)	277(6)
7.34(5)	277(7)
7.34(5A)	277(8)
7.34(5B)	277(9)
7.34(6)	277(10)
7.34(7)	277(11)
7.34(8)	277(12)
7.34(8A)	277(13)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
7.34(9).....	277(14)
7.35 .....	278
7.36 .....	279
7.36(1A) .....	279(2)
7.36(2).....	279(3)
7.36(2A) .....	279(4)
7.36(3).....	279(5)
7.37 .....	280
7.38 .....	281
7.39 .....	282
7.39(4A) .....	282(5)
7.39(5).....	282(6)
7.39(6).....	282(7)
7.39(7).....	282(8)
7.40 .....	283
7.40(1A) .....	283(2)
7.40(2).....	283(3)
7.41 .....	284
7.42 .....	285
7.43 .....	286
7.43(3A) .....	286(4)
7.43(4).....	286(5)
7.43(5).....	286(6)
7.43(6).....	286(7)
7.43(7).....	286(8)
7.43(8).....	286(9)
7.43(9).....	286(10)
7.44 .....	287
7.44A.....	288
7.46 .....	289
7.47 .....	290
7.47(1A) .....	290(2)
7.47(2).....	290(3)
7.47(3).....	290(4)
7.47(4).....	290(5)
7.47(5).....	290(6)
7.47(6).....	290(7)
7.47(6A) .....	290(8)
7.47(7).....	290(9)
7.48 .....	291
7.48A.....	292
7.48B.....	293
7.49 .....	294
7.49 .....	294
7.50 .....	295
7.50(3A) .....	295(4)
7.50(3B) .....	295(5)
7.50(3C) .....	295(6)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
7.50(4)	295(7)
7.50(4A)	295(8)
7.50(4B)	295(9)
7.50(5)	295(10)
7.50(6)	295(11)
7.50(6A)	295(12)
7.50(6B)	295(13)
7.50(6C)	295(14)
7.50(6D)	295(15)
7.50(7)	295(16)
7.50(8)	295(17)
7.51	296
7.52	297
7.53	298
7.53(1A)	298(2)
7.53(2)	298(3)
7.53(3)	298(4)
7.53(3A)	298(5)
7.53(4)	298(6)
7.53(4A)	298(7)
7.53(5)	298(8)
7.53(6)	298(9)
7.53(7)	298(10)
7.53(8)	298(11)
7.54	299
7.54(1A)	299(2)
7.54(1B)	299(3)
7.54(2)	299(4)
7.54(2A)	299(5)
7.54(2B)	299(6)
7.54(2C)	299(7)
7.54(3)	299(8)
7.54(4)	299(9)
7.54(5)	299(10)
7.54(6)	299(11)
7.55	300
7.55(2A)	300(3)
7.55(3)	300(4)
7.55(3A)	300(5)
7.55(4)	300(6)
7.55(4A)	300(7)
7.55(5)	300(8)
7.55(6)	300(9)
7.55(7)	300(10)
7.55(8)	300(11)
7.56	301
7.56(1A)	301(2)
7.56(2)	301(3)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
7.57	302
7.58	303
7.59	304
7.60	305
7.61	306
7.62	307
7.62(1A)	307(2)
7.62(2)	307(3)
7.62(3)	307(4)
7.63	308
7.63(6)	308(5)
7.64	309
7.64(2A)	309(3)
7.64(3)	309(4)
7.64(3A)	309(5)
7.64(4)	309(6)
7.64(5)	309(7)
7.64(5A)	309(8)
7.64(6)	309(9)
7.64(6A)	309(10)
7.64(7)	309(11)
7.64(8)	309(12)
7.64(9)	309(13)
7.65	310
7.66	311
7.67	312
7.67A	313
7.67B	314
7.68	315
7.68(1AA)	315(2)
7.68(1AB)	315(3)
7.68(1A)	315(4)
7.68(1B)	315(5)
7.68(2)	315(6)
7.68(3)	315(7)
7.68(3A)	315(8)
7.68(4)	315(9)
7.68(5)	315(10)
7.69	316
7.70	317
7.70(3A)	317(4)
7.70(3B)	317(5)
7.70(3C)	317(6)
7.70(3D)	317(7)
7.70(3E)	317(8)
7.70(4)	317(9)
7.70(5)	317(10)
7.70(5A)	317(11)

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
7.70(6)	317(12)
7.71	318
8.1	319
9.1	320
9.1(4A)	320(5)
9.1(5)	320(6)
9.1(6)	320(7)
9.1(7)	320(8)
9.2	321
9.3	322
9.4	323
9.5	324
9.6	325
9.7	326
9.8	327
9.8(3A)	327(4)
9.8(3B)	327(5)
9.8(3C)	327(6)
9.8(3D)	327(7)
9.8(3E)	327(8)
9.8(3F)	327(9)
9.8(4)	327(10)
9.8(5)	327(11)
9.8(6)	327(12)
9.8(7)	327(13)
9.8(8)	327(14)
9.9	328
9.10	329
9.11	330
9.12	331
9.13	332
9.14	333
9.15	334
9.16	335
10.1	336
10.2	337
10.3	338
10.4	339
10.5	340
10.6	341
10.7	342
10.7(1)(ba)	342(1)(c)
10.7(1)(c)	342(1)(d)
10.7(1)(d)	342(1)(e)
10.7(1)(e)	342(1)(f)
10.7(1)(f)	342(1)(g)
10.7(1)(g)	342(1)(h)
10.7(1)(h)	342(1)(i)

Previous	Renumbered as
10.7(1)(i)	342(1)(j)
10.7(1)(j)	342(1)(k)
10.7(1)(k)	342(1)(l)
10.7(1)(l)	342(1)(m)
10.7(1)(m)	342(1)(n)
10.7(1A)	342(2)
10.7(2)	342(3)
10.7(2A)	342(4)
10.7(2B)	342(5)
10.7(2C)	342(6)
10.7(2D)	342(7)
10.7(2E)	342(8)
10.7(2F)	342(9)
10.7(3)	342(10)
10.7(4)	342(11)
10.8	343
10.8(4A)	343(5)
10.8(5)	343(6)
10.8(6)	343(7)
10.8(6A)	343(8)
10.8(6B)	343(9)
10.8(7)	343(10)
10.8(7A)	343(11)
10.8(8)	343(12)
10.8(9)	343(13)
10.8(10)	343(14)
10.9	344
10.9A	345
10.9B	346
10.9C	347
10.9D	348
10.9E	349
10.9F	350
10.9G	351
10.9H	352
10.10	353
10.11	354
10.12	355
10.14	356
10.15	357
10.15A	358
10.16	359
10.17	360
10.18	361
10.19	362
10.20	363
10.21	364
10.22	365

*Mineral Resources Act 1989*

Previous	Renumbered as
10.22(1A)	365(2)
10.22(2)	365(3)
10.22(3)	365(4)
10.22(4)	365(5)
10.22(4A)	365(6)
10.22(5)	365(7)
10.22(6)	365(8)
10.22(7)	365(9)
10.22(8)	365(10)
10.23	366
10.23(1A)	366(2)
10.23(2)	366(3)
10.23(3)	366(4)
10.23(3A)	366(5)
10.23(4)	366(6)
10.23(5)	366(7)
10.23(6)	366(8)
10.23(7)	366(9)
10.24	367
10.25	368
10.26	369
10.27	370
10.28	371
10.28(2A)	371(3)
10.28(2B)	371(4)
10.28(3)	371(5)
10.29	372
10.30	373
10.31	374
10.32	375
10.33	376
10.33(1)(da)	376(1)(e)
10.33(1)(e)	376(1)(f)
10.33(1)(f)	376(1)(g)
10.33(1)(g)	376(1)(h)
10.33(1)(h)	376(1)(i)
10.33(1)(i)	376(1)(j)
10.33(1)(j)	376(1)(k)
10.33(1)(k)	376(1)(l)
10.34	377
10.35	378
10.36	379
10.37	380
10.38	381
10.39	382
10.40	383
10.40(1A)	383(2)
10.40(2)	383(3)

Previous	Renumbered as
10.40(3)	383(4)
10.40(4)	383(5)
10.40(5)	383(6)
10.40(5A)	383(7)
10.40(6)	383(8)
10.40(7)	383(9)
10.41	384
10.41(1A)	384(2)
10.41(2)	384(3)
10.41(3)	384(4)
10.41(4)	384(5)
10.41(5)	384(6)
10.42	385
10.43	386
11.1	387
11.2	388
11.3	389
11.4	390
11.5	391
11.6	392
11.7	393
11.8	394
11.10	395
11.11	396
11.12	397
11.13	398
11.14	399
11.15	400
11.16	401
11.17	402
11.18	403
11.19	404
11.20	405
11.20A	406
11.21	407
11.22	408
11.23	409
11.23(3A)	409(4)
11.23(4)	409(5)
11.23(5)	409(6)
11.23(6)	409(7)
11.24	410
11.25	411
11.26	412
11.27	413
11.28	414
11.29	415
11.30	416



Previous	Renumbered as
11.31 .....	417
11.31(2)(b) .....	417(2)(a)
11.31(2)(c) .....	417(2)(b)
11.31(2)(d) .....	417(2)(c)
11.31(2)(e) .....	417(2)(d)
11.31(2)(f) .....	417(2)(e)
11.31(2)(g) .....	417(2)(f)
11.31(2)(h) .....	417(2)(g)
11.31(2)(i) .....	417(2)(h)
11.31(2)(k) .....	417(2)(i)
11.31(2)(l) .....	417(2)(j)
11.31(2)(m) .....	417(2)(k)
11.31(2)(n) .....	417(2)(l)
11.31(2)(o) .....	417(2)(m)
11.31(2)(p) .....	417(2)(n)
11.31(2)(q) .....	417(2)(o)
11.31(2)(r) .....	417(2)(p)
11.31(4) .....	417(3)
11.34 .....	418
schedule 2	
sch 2 .....	sch
2(12) .....	2(6)
2(12A) .....	2(7)
2(12B) .....	2(8)
3(1AA) .....	3(2)
3(1AB) .....	3(3)
3(1A) .....	3(4)
3(1B) .....	3(5)
3(2) .....	3(6)
3(3) .....	3(7)
3(3A) .....	3(8)
3(3B) .....	3(9)
3(5) .....	3(10)
3(8) .....	3(11)
3(10) .....	3(12)
3(11) .....	3(13)
3(17) .....	3(14)
4(5) .....	4(4)
11 .....	6
11(4A) .....	6(5)
11(4B) .....	6(6)
11(4C) .....	6(7)
11(4D) .....	6(8)
11(5) .....	6(9)
14 .....	7
16 .....	8
17 .....	9

Previous	Renumbered as
18 .....	10
20 .....	11
21 .....	12

## **10 Information about retrospectivity**

Retrospective amendments that have been consolidated are noted in the list of legislation and list of annotations. Any retrospective amendment that has not been consolidated is noted in footnotes to the text.