



Mineral Resources Act 1989

Mineral Resources Regulation 2013

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Reprint note

An amendment to schedule 3, section 5(2) was incorrectly incorporated into an earlier version of this reprint—see 2019 SL No. 112 s 15.

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Queensland

Mineral Resources Regulation 2013

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Mineral Resources Regulation 2013

Chapter 1 Preliminary

1 Short title

This regulation may be cited as the *Mineral Resources Regulation 2013*.

2 Commencement

This regulation commences on 1 September 2013.

3 Definitions

The dictionary in schedule 6 defines particular words used in this regulation.

Chapter 2 Mining tenements

Part 1 Prospecting permits

4 Conditions—Act, s 25

For section 25(2) of the Act the prescribed conditions to which a prospecting permit is subject are stated in—

- (a) schedule 1, items 1 to 3; and
- (b) if the permit applies to occupied land—schedule 1, items 4 to 6.

Note—

See also part 5.

5 Minimum security for district prospecting permit

- (1) This section applies only to a district prospecting permit.
- (2) For section 26(2) of the Act, the amount prescribed for the permit is \$1,000.

Part 2 Mining claims

6 Amendment of application after survey of contiguous land

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) an application for a mining claim applies to land that is contiguous to affected land; and
 - (b) at the time the application was made, the affected land had not been surveyed; and
 - (c) the affected land was later surveyed; and
 - (d) the chief executive has given the applicant a notice (the *notice*) stating—
 - (i) the survey of the affected land has been completed; and
 - (ii) all survey marks defining the boundary of the affected land have been placed.
- (2) The applicant may amend the application in the following ways so that the land to which the application relates is still contiguous to the affected land—
 - (a) amend the description of the land stated in the application;
 - (b) ensure the application defines the boundary of the area of the mining claim.

Note—

For defining the boundary of a proposed mining tenement, see section 386R of the Act.

- (3) However, an amendment of the application mentioned in subsection (2) must—
 - (a) be made within 14 days after the applicant is given the notice or, if the chief executive has approved a longer period, the longer period; and
 - (b) not cause the land to which the application relates to include any land that is not land to which the applicant's prospecting permit applies.
- (4) Also, this section does not authorise or entitle the applicant to have the affected land surveyed.

7 Prescribed areas for particular land—Act, s 53

For section 53(3)(b) of the Act, the area prescribed for particular land in a mining district mentioned in schedule 2 is the area stated, in schedule 2, for the land.

8 Conditions—Act, s 81

- (1) For section 81(1)(p) of the Act, the prescribed conditions to which a mining claim is subject are stated in—
 - (a) subsection (2) and schedule 1, items 1 to 3; and
 - (b) if the claim applies to occupied land—schedule 1, item 4.

Note—

See also part 5.

- (2) A holder of a mining claim must not use prohibited machinery in the area of the claim.
- (3) However, subsection (2) does not apply to—
 - (a) using machinery to—
 - (i) transport mineral bearing ore or wash; or

- (ii) transport equipment, materials, or water, used for mining operations; or
 - (iii) build storage facilities for water used for mining operations; or
 - (iv) rehabilitate the surface area of the land; or
 - (b) using an eductor dredge in the Mareeba mining district, if the eductor dredge—
 - (i) has an inlet nozzle diameter of no more than 200mm; and
 - (ii) is being used while water is flowing in, or in streams leading into, the Palmer River or Mitchell River; or
 - (c) using a vehicle-mounted drill in restricted area 1, 25 or 77 if the drill has a diameter no more than—
 - (i) if the drill is used for exploration drilling—25cm; or
 - (ii) if the drill is used for drilling access shafts—1m.
- (4) Also, subsection (2) does not apply to using prohibited machinery in the area of a prescribed mining claim, other than in any part of the area of a prescribed mining claim that is within the boundaries shown on any of the following plans—
 - (a) MP34341;
 - (b) MP34342;
 - (c) MP34343;
 - (d) MP36464;
 - (e) MP40825;
 - (f) MP30692;
 - (g) MP31027;
 - (h) MP31028;
 - (i) MP30955;
 - (j) MP30971.

(5) In this section—

prescribed mining claim means a mining claim that—

- (a) applies to corundum, gemstones or other precious stones, and the area of which has been decided by the Minister under section 53 of the Act; or
- (b) has been converted from a mining lease under section 816 of the Act.

prohibited machinery means any of the following—

- (a) a backhoe, bobcat, bucket excavator, bulldozer, clamshell, continuous miner, dragline, end-loader, excavator, grader, loader, ripper, rooter, scarifier, scoop, scoopmobile, scraper, tractor or traxcavator;
- (b) a cart, crane, locomotive, monorail, motor vehicle with or without a trailer, or a ropeway;
- (c) a dredge;
- (d) a vehicle-mounted drill.

8A Prescribed documents—Act, s 93

For section 93(3)(a) of the Act, the document called ‘A guide to landholder compensation for mining claims and mining leases’ published on the department’s website or the Queensland Government business and industry portal is prescribed.

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- (b) if the permit applies to occupied land—schedule 1, items 4 and 5.

Note—

See also part 5.

Division 2 Mineral development licences

12 Conditions—Act, s 194

For section 194(1)(k) of the Act, the prescribed conditions to which a mineral development licence is subject are stated in—

- (a) schedule 1, items 1 to 3; and
- (b) if the licence applies to occupied land—schedule 1, items 4 to 6.

Note—

See also part 5.

Division 3 Prescribed information for reports

13 Activity reports—Act, ss 178A and 231AA

- (1) For section 178A(a) and (b)(i) of the Act, a holder of an exploration permit must give the Minister an activity report within 1 month after each anniversary of the day the permit takes effect.
- (2) For section 231AA(a) and (b)(i) of the Act, a holder of a mineral development licence must give the Minister an activity report within 1 month after each anniversary of the day the licence takes effect.
- (3) The activity report must contain the following—
 - (a) a full technical summary of the authorised activities for the permit or licence carried out during the reporting period for the permit or licence, including—
 - (i) assay results; and

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- (ii) geological, geophysical, geochemical, drilling or remote sensing data, including maps showing the geophysical and geochemical anomalies and prospects or mineralisation in the area; and
 - (iii) any three-dimensional models generated as part of exploration in the area;
 - (b) a statement detailing whether the program of activities for the permit or licence was complied with during the reporting period, including details of, and reasons for, any failure to comply with the program;
 - (c) a statement of the authorised activities proposed to be carried out under the permit or licence for the next reporting period for the permit or licence;
 - (d) a statement and a map with cross-sections of any resources and reserves identified;
 - (e) a description of any significant mineralisation identified and related geological or structural features;
 - (f) an expenditure statement complying with section 14.
- (4) The expenditure statement must be—
- (a) in a document that is separate from the remainder of the activity report; and
 - (b) given to the Minister together with the remainder of the activity report.

14 Expenditure statement for activity report

- (1) An expenditure statement for an activity report for an exploration permit or a mineral development licence must itemise the expenditure incurred for each authorised activity carried out under the permit or licence during the reporting period for the permit or licence.
- (2) The expenditure statement must contain a separate itemisation of expenditure for each of the following, where applicable—
 - (a) drilling and completion activities;

- (b) trenching, costeaning or pitting;
 - (c) geophysical and geochemical surveys;
 - (d) technical evaluation and analysis;
 - (e) data management or data interpretation;
 - (f) operational and administrative expenses, limited to 10% of the total expenditure;
 - (g) complying with native title conditions;
 - (h) allowable costs under a native title agreement or native title conditions.
- (3) The expenditure statement for an activity report for a mineral development licence must also contain a separate itemisation of the expenditure for each of the following, where applicable—
- (a) metallurgical testing;
 - (b) mining feasibility, environmental or marketing studies;
 - (c) engineering and design studies.
- (4) However, the expenditure statement for an activity report for an exploration permit or a mineral development licence must not include details of expenditure for any of the following—
- (a) background land tenure searches and assessments;
 - (b) rent, fees and security paid under the Act for the exploration permit or the mineral development licence;
 - (c) obtaining legal advice or legal representation, including disbursements and interest on amounts payable for legal services;
 - (d) compensation to—
 - (i) the State; or
 - (ii) owners or occupiers of private or public land under the Common Provisions Act, section 81;

- (e) consultation and negotiation with native title parties, other than allowable costs under a native title agreement or native title conditions;
 - (f) capital assets.
- (5) In this section—

allowable costs, under a native title agreement or native title conditions, is expenditure relating to—

- (a) giving notice to a native title party under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, section 29; or
- (b) conducting field inspections; or
- (c) monitoring the initial ceremonial breaking or disturbance of soil; or
- (d) making an administrative payment, compensation payment, inspection report payment, exploration liaison committee payment or access fee, stated in the native title agreement or native title conditions; or
- (e) giving training about Aboriginal cultural awareness to the holder of a relevant exploration permit or mineral development licence or the holder's employees.

native title agreement means—

- (a) a registered indigenous land use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act; or
- (b) any of the following under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, part 2, division 3, subdivision P—
 - (i) an agreement mentioned in section 31(1)(b);
 - (ii) a determination of the relevant Minister under section 36A;
 - (iii) a determination of the arbitral body under section 38; or
- (c) an access agreement or negotiated agreement under the native title provisions.

native title conditions are conditions to which an exploration permit or a mineral development licence is subject if—

- (a) a grant of a right to land to which the permit or licence relates is an act that has attracted the expedited procedures under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, section 32; or
- (b) the permit or licence is granted under an indigenous land use agreement under the Commonwealth Native Title Act, and the State is a party to the agreement.

15 First activity report—Act, ss 178A and 231AA

The first activity report given under section 13 for an exploration permit or a mineral development licence must contain, in addition to the information mentioned in sections 13 and 14—

- (a) for the first activity report for an exploration permit—a statement detailing the philosophy and objectives of the exploration to be carried out under the permit; or
- (b) for the first activity report for a mineral development licence—a statement detailing the purpose of the grant of the licence.

16 Partial relinquishment reports and partial surrender reports—Act, ss 178B and 231AB

- (1) For section 178B(a) and (b)(i) of the Act, a holder of an exploration permit must give the Minister a partial relinquishment report about a reduction in the area of the permit within 2 months after the reduction takes effect.
- (2) For section 231AB(a) and (b)(i) of the Act, a holder of a mineral development licence must give the Minister a partial surrender report about a reduction in the area of the licence within 2 months after the reduction takes effect.
- (3) The partial relinquishment report or partial surrender report must contain the following—

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- (a) the tenure information for the report;
 - (b) the general area information for the report;
 - (c) the geological model of—
 - (i) for a partial relinquishment report—the relinquished area of the exploration permit; or
 - (ii) for a partial surrender report—the surrendered area of the mineral development licence;
 - (d) an assessment of the potential for mineral discovery in the relinquished area of the exploration permit or the surrendered area of the mineral development licence;
 - (e) a summary of the results of all authorised activities for the exploration permit or mineral development licence, since the permit or licence took effect and the conclusions drawn by the holder of the permit or licence based on the results;
 - (f) a statement of the reason the holder of the exploration permit or the mineral development licence has relinquished or surrendered the area.
- (4) A map accompanying a partial relinquishment report or a partial surrender report must overlay a standard topographical or cadastral background, showing major topographic and geographic features and be at a standard industry-recognised scale.

Examples of geographic features—

bores, homesteads, mine workings, names of streams, peaks, prospects, roads

Examples of standard industry-recognised scales—

1:100,000, 1:250,000

- (5) In this section—
- general area information*** for a partial relinquishment report or a partial surrender report means—
- (a) a location map showing—

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- (i) for a partial relinquishment report—the previous tenure area and the relinquished area of the exploration permit; or
 - (ii) for a partial surrender report—the previous tenure area and the surrendered area of the mineral development licence; and
- (b) a map or spreadsheet showing the location, identified by a global positioning system unit using the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994, in the relinquished area of the exploration permit or the surrendered area of the mineral development licence, of—
- (i) each hole drilled under the permit or licence, as applicable; and
 - (ii) all sampling undertaken in the previous tenure area of the permit or licence, as applicable, for any purpose and the laboratory identification of the sampling; and
 - (iii) any geochemical and geophysical surveying undertaken and a digital copy of all data in nominated standard formats; and
 - (iv) any three-dimensional models generated as part of exploration in the relinquished area of the permit or the surrendered area of the licence, as applicable; and
 - (v) each seismic line used for a seismic survey carried out under the permit or licence; and
- (c) a structure contour map or three-dimensional model showing the seismic horizons, or seismic reflectors, in the relinquished area of the exploration permit or the surrendered area of the mineral development licence; and
- (d) a map showing the geophysical and geochemical anomalies and prospects or mineralisation in the relinquished area of the exploration permit or the surrendered area of the mineral development licence; and

- (e) a general description of the topographical features of the previous tenure area of the exploration permit or mineral development licence, and the relinquished area of the permit or surrendered area of the licence, including, for example, access to the areas.

previous tenure area—

- (a) of an exploration permit—means the area of the permit immediately before the relinquished area was relinquished; or
- (b) of a mineral development licence—means the area of the licence immediately before the surrendered area was surrendered.

tenure information means—

- (a) for a partial relinquishment report—
 - (i) the day the exploration permit was granted; and
 - (ii) the day the relinquishment takes effect; and
 - (iii) the period of the program of work for the permit; and
 - (iv) the block and sub-block description comprising the relinquished area; or
- (b) for a partial surrender report—
 - (i) the day the mineral development licence was granted; and
 - (ii) the day the surrender takes effect; and
 - (iii) the period of the program of work for the licence.

17 Final reports—Act, ss 178C and 231AC

- (1) For section 178C(a) and (b)(i) of the Act, a holder of an exploration permit must give the Minister a final report within 2 months after the permit ends.

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- (2) For section 231AC(a) and (b)(i) of the Act, a holder of a mineral development licence must give the Minister a final report within 2 months after the licence ends.
 - (3) The final report must contain—
 - (a) the information mentioned in section 16(3)(a) to (f); and
 - (b) a statement of expenditure (the *expenditure statement*) containing an itemisation of expenditure for—
 - (i) if the final report is for an exploration permit—the matters mentioned in section 14(2); or
 - (ii) if the final report is for a mineral development licence—the matters mentioned in section 14(2) and (3).
 - (4) However, the final report does not need to contain the information mentioned in subsection (3)(a) for a relinquished area or surrendered area if the information for the area was contained in a partial relinquishment report or partial surrender report under section 16.
 - (5) The expenditure statement must—
 - (a) be in a document that is separate from the remainder of the final report; and
 - (b) be given to the Minister together with the remainder of the final report.

18 Giving reports—Act, ss 141 and 194

- (1) For sections 141(1)(e) and 194(1)(g) of the Act, the prescribed way for giving a report is electronically, using the system (the *approved system*) for submission of reports approved by the chief executive.
- (2) A report lodged under subsection (1) must be in the digital format (the *approved format*) approved by the chief executive.
- (3) However, the report may be in hard copy form if the chief executive gives the holder of the exploration permit or mineral development licence, approval before the report is given.

- (4) The chief executive must ensure the approved system and a document detailing the approved format are available for inspection on the department's website.

Part 4 Mining leases

Division 1 Mining lease applications

19 Amendment of application after survey of contiguous land

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) an application for a mining lease applies to land that is contiguous to affected land; and
 - (b) at the time the application for the mining lease was made, the affected land had not been surveyed; and
 - (c) the affected land was later surveyed; and
 - (d) the chief executive has given the applicant a notice (the *notice*) stating—
 - (i) the survey of the affected land has been completed; and
 - (ii) all survey marks defining the boundary of the affected land have been placed.
- (2) The applicant may amend the application in the following ways so that the land to which the application relates is still contiguous to the affected land—
 - (a) amend the description of the land stated in the application;
 - (b) ensure the application defines the boundary of the area of the mining lease.

Note—

For defining the boundary of a proposed mining tenement, see section 386R of the Act.

- (3) However, an amendment of the application mentioned in subsection (2) must—
 - (a) be made within 14 days after the applicant is given the notice or, if the Minister has approved a longer period, the longer period; and
 - (b) not cause the land to which the application relates to include any land that is not land to which the applicant's prospecting permit, exploration permit or mineral development licence applies.
- (4) Also, this section does not authorise or entitle the applicant to have the affected land surveyed.

20 Person may obtain copy of mining lease application

- (1) A person may apply, in writing, to the chief executive for a copy of an application for a mining lease.
- (2) The application for the copy must be accompanied by the prescribed fee.
- (3) However, the chief executive must not give the person a copy of a statement that accompanied the application for the mining lease if the statement contains information about the financial or technical resources of the applicant for the mining lease.

20A Prescribed documents—Act, s 286

For section 286(3)(a) of the Act, the document called 'A guide to landholder compensation for mining claims and mining leases' published on the department's website or the Queensland Government business and industry portal is prescribed.

Division 2 Required knowledge

21 Required level of knowledge about resources or reserves of petroleum

- (1) This section prescribes, for section 318BA(1)(c) of the Act, the required level of knowledge about a resource or reserve (the *deposit*) of petroleum in the land.
- (2) The Minister must be reasonably satisfied that—
 - (a) at least 20% of the deposit is a proved or probable reserve under the relevant codes; and
 - (b) the remainder of the deposit, if any, is a low or best estimate contingent resource under the relevant codes.
- (3) Also, for a deposit of coal seam gas, the Minister must be reasonably satisfied that—
 - (a) there is adequate geological continuity for each coal seam (*relevant coal seam*) in relation to which the deposit occurs; and
 - (b) there is adequate data to establish each of the following—
 - (i) the composition of the gas in the natural underground reservoir;
 - (ii) the volume of the gas in the natural underground reservoir in relation to the mass of the coal seam;
 - (iii) flow rates for the natural underground reservoir, based on information obtained from drill stem or other tests; and
 - (c) sufficient production testing for coal seam gas has been undertaken throughout the deposit in the relevant coal seams to provide adequate certainty in relation to the estimations required under subsection (2)(a) and (b); and
 - (d) there are reasonable prospects for the economic production of coal seam gas from the deposit.

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- (4) The Minister may have regard to the document published by the Coalfields Geology Council of New South Wales and the Queensland Mining Council called ‘Australian guidelines for estimating and reporting of inventory coal, coal resources and coal reserves’ (2003) in deciding the amount of data required—
- (a) to make estimates of the resource or reserve for subsection (2)(a) and (b) for a deposit of coal seam gas; or
 - (b) for the Minister to be reasonably satisfied of the matters mentioned in subsection (3)(a) to (c).
- (5) In this section—
relevant codes see section 318BA(4) of the Act.

Division 3 Conditions applying to mining leases generally

22 Conditions—Act, s 276

For section 276(1)(m) of the Act, the conditions to which a mining lease is subject are the conditions stated in—

- (a) schedule 1, items 1 to 3; and
- (b) if the lease applies to occupied land—schedule 1, item 4.

Note—

See also part 5.

Division 4 Joint interaction management plans

23 Application of div 4

- (1) This division applies to a coal mining lease granted before the commencement if—

[s 24]

- (a) coal mining operations are carried out, or are to be carried out, under the lease at a coal mine in any of the following areas (each an ***overlapping area***)—
 - (i) the area of a petroleum lease;
 - (ii) an area adjacent to the area of a petroleum lease; and
 - (b) the operations physically affect, or may physically affect, the safety of persons or plant in an overlapping area.
- (2) In this section—

petroleum lease means a petroleum lease granted before the commencement.

24 Definitions for div 4

In this division—

arbitration, of a dispute, means arbitration of the dispute under the Common Provisions Act, chapter 4, part 6, division 4.

authorised activities operating plant means an operating plant under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 670(6).

coal mine has the meaning given under the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*, schedule 3.

coal mining operations has the meaning given under the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*, schedule 3.

holder means the holder of the coal mining lease.

joint interaction management plan see section 25(1)(a).

operating plant see the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 670.

operator, of an operating plant, see the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 673.

overlapping area see section 23(1)(a).

petroleum lease means—

- (a) a lease under the *Petroleum Act 1923*; or
- (b) a petroleum lease under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.

25 Requirement for joint interaction management plan

- (1) The holder must—
 - (a) before carrying out coal mining operations in the overlapping area, make a plan for the mine that complies with section 26 (a *joint interaction management plan*); and
 - (b) before making the plan—
 - (i) make reasonable attempts to consult with the operator of each authorised activities operating plant in the overlapping area to jointly identify, analyse and assess risks and hazards in the overlapping area; and
 - (ii) have regard to any reasonable provisions for the plan relating to the management of the risks and hazards that are proposed by the operators within 20 days after receiving a copy of the proposed plan; and
 - (iii) either—
 - (A) reach agreement with the operator of each authorised activities operating plant in the overlapping area about the content of the proposed plan; or
 - (B) apply for arbitration of the dispute under subsection (3) or (4); and
 - (c) comply with the plan.

Maximum penalty—500 penalty units.

- (2) For subsection (1)(b)(i), the holder is taken to have made reasonable attempts to consult with the operator of an authorised activities operating plant if—
 - (a) the holder gives the operator a copy of the proposed plan; and
 - (b) the operator has not, within 20 days after being given the copy, made any proposal to the holder about the provisions for the plan.
- (3) If the holder and the operator of an authorised activities operating plant can not agree on the content of a proposed plan within 3 months after the operator receives a copy of the proposed plan, the holder must apply for arbitration of the dispute.
- (4) Despite subsection (3), either party may apply for arbitration of the dispute at any time.

26 Content of joint interaction management plan

- (1) A joint interaction management plan must—
 - (a) be stored or kept together with the other parts of the safety and health management system for the mine; and
 - (b) identify the hazards and assess the risks to be controlled that—
 - (i) are, or may be, created by the mining operations or petroleum activities carried out in the overlapping area; and
 - (ii) affect, or may be likely to affect, the safety and health of persons in the overlapping area; and
 - (c) for each risk—identify the triggers or material changes, or likely triggers or material changes, that—
 - (i) must be monitored to ensure the safety and health of persons in the overlapping area; and
 - (ii) will require the plan to be reviewed; and

-
- (d) for each trigger or material change identified under paragraph (c)—
- (i) state the response procedures and times; and
 - (ii) state the type of action required for the response; and
- Examples of action that may be required—*
- 1 a risk analysis
 - 2 notice to the operator of an operating plant in the overlapping area of—
 - (a) a drop in hydrostatic pressure that may show a potential hazard to persons carrying out authorised activities under the petroleum lease; or
 - (b) a change in water level that may indicate differences in fluid interconnections with an adjacent petroleum lease
- (iii) state the reporting procedures; and
- (e) if there is proposed, or there is likely to be, interaction with other persons in the overlapping area—
- (i) describe the proposed or likely interactions, and how they will be managed; and
 - (ii) identify the specific risks that may arise as a result of the proposed or likely interactions, and how the risks will be controlled; and
 - (iii) identify the safety responsibilities of each person; and
 - (iv) state the name of the operator and any other person responsible under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act for the operating plant; and
- (f) describe the way in which the plan will be reviewed and revised, including ongoing consultation with the persons mentioned in paragraph (e); and
- (g) describe the way in which details of any new site senior executive, or other senior person in the management

structure, will be communicated to all operators of operating plants in the overlapping area; and

- (h) include any other information prescribed by regulation.
- (2) A regulation may prescribe a guide of potential hazards that may be created by coal mining operations in relation to exploring for or producing coal seam gas or petroleum (the *potential hazard guide*).
- (3) The potential hazard guide must be referred to for help in identifying the hazards and assessing the risks mentioned in subsection (1)(b) but is not intended to be exhaustive.
- (4) To remove any doubt, it is declared that a joint interaction management plan may apply to more than 1 overlapping area.

27 Notification of making of joint interaction management plan

As soon as practicable after making a joint interaction management plan, and before carrying out coal mining operations in the overlapping area, the holder must notify the chief inspector that the plan has been made.

Maximum penalty—40 penalty units.

28 Review

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) it is proposed to change a joint interaction management plan; or
 - (b) a change at the coal mine is likely to give rise to an additional risk to safety or health in the overlapping area; or
 - (c) any of the following circumstances exist—
 - (i) an additional risk to safety or health in the overlapping area is identified;
 - (ii) consultation with coal mine workers indicates a review is necessary;

(iii) a risk control measure did not control the risk it was intended to control to an acceptable level.

- (2) For subsection (1)(b), a change at the coal mine includes—
- (a) a change to the mine itself or any aspect of the mine environment; and
 - (b) a change to a system of work, process or procedure at the mine.

- (3) The site senior executive must review and, if necessary, revise the joint interaction management plan.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (4) The review must take place in consultation with the operator of each authorised activities operating plant in the overlapping area and coal mine workers to the extent they are affected by the matters under review.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (5) The review must take place—
- (a) for subsection (1)(a) or (b)—before the change to the joint interaction management plan is made; or
 - (b) for subsection (1)(c)—as soon as possible after the circumstance exists.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (6) A revision of the plan under subsection (3) must be recorded on the plan.

Maximum penalty—200 penalty units.

- (7) If the site senior executive and the operator of an authorised activities operating plant in the overlapping area can not agree on the content of a revision of the plan, either party may apply for arbitration of the dispute.

29 Holder must stop coal mining operations in particular circumstances

- (1) The holder must ensure coal mining operations in the overlapping area stop immediately if—
 - (a) the holder becomes aware, or ought reasonably to be aware, that the operations physically affect the efficiency with which authorised activities under a petroleum lease in the overlapping area can be carried out; and
 - (b) the petroleum lease holder has not consented to the mining operations being carried out.

Maximum penalty—20 penalty units.

- (2) The holder must ensure the coal mining operations do not resume until—
 - (a) they are modified so they do not have the physical effect on the efficiency of the petroleum activities to the extent mentioned in subsection (1); or
 - (b) the petroleum lease holder consents in writing to the mining operations being carried out.

Maximum penalty—20 penalty units.

Division 5 Reports for coal or oil shale mining leases

29A Activity reports for coal or oil shale mining leases—Act, s 315

- (1) For section 315(1)(a) and (b)(i) of the Act, a holder of a coal or oil shale mining lease must give the Minister, within 2 months after each anniversary day for the lease, an activity report for the lease.
- (2) The activity report must—
 - (a) state details of each of the following for the 12 months that ended on the last anniversary day for the lease—

- (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
 - (D) the amount disposed of under each other method;
 - (vi) whether there was any subsidence and, if there was any, its nature; and
- (b) if the report states there was subsidence, include a plan showing its extent; and
 - (c) include a plan of the mine working envelope for the mining lease; and
 - (d) state details of the coal seam gas mined or proposed to be mined within the mine working envelope.
- (3) If the mining lease ends, its former holder must give the Minister a report for the period from the last anniversary day for the lease to when it ended that gives the information mentioned in subsection (2).
- (4) In this section—
- anniversary day***, for a mining lease, means a day that is the anniversary of the day on which the term of the mining lease started.

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.

29B Relinquishment report for coal or oil shale mining leases—Act, s 315A

- (1) This section applies if, under a relinquishment condition, a holder of a coal or oil shale mining lease relinquishes part of the area of the lease.
- (2) The notice making the relinquishment must be accompanied by a relinquishment report that includes details about—
 - (a) the authorised activities carried out on the land to which the notice relates; and
 - (b) the results of the activities.
- (3) The holder must give a copy of the relinquishment report to—
 - (a) the relevant authority to prospect holder; and
 - (b) anyone who has a current application for a petroleum lease for the land to which the notice relates.

29C Surrender report for coal or oil shale mining leases—Act, s 315B

- (1) This section applies if a holder of a coal or oil shale mining lease makes a surrender application mentioned in section 318EG of the Act.
- (2) The application must be accompanied by a surrender report that includes details about—

- (a) the authorised activities carried out on the land to which the notice relates; and
- (b) the results of the activities.

29D Notice of intention to drill a CSG well

- (1) If the holder of a coal or oil shale mining lease intends to drill a CSG well, the holder must lodge a notice about the intended drilling.
- (2) The notice must—
 - (a) be lodged at least 10 business days before the drilling starts; and
 - (b) be in the digital form made or approved by the chief executive; and
 - (c) state a proposed identifying name for the CSG well.
- (3) The proposed identifying name for the CSG well must not be the same, or substantially the same, as an identifying name for another CSG well or petroleum well recorded in the register.

29E Notice about completion, alteration or abandonment of CSG well

- (1) If any of the following events happens, the holder of a coal or oil shale mining lease must lodge a notice about the event—
 - (a) drilling of a CSG well is completed;
 - (b) the completion configuration of a CSG well changes;
 - (c) a CSG well is abandoned.
- (2) For subsection (1)(a), drilling of a CSG well is completed if—
 - (a) the drilling rig last used to drill the well is moved so it is no longer above the well; and
 - (b) the holder of the coal or oil shale mining lease intends no further drilling of the well to occur.

[s 29F]

- (3) For subsection (1)(b), the completion configuration of a CSG well changes if, after drilling of the well is completed—
 - (a) additional casing is installed in the well; or
 - (b) any part of the well is plugged, other than for decommissioning the well; or
 - (c) an interval in the well is altered in any other way.
- (4) The notice must be—
 - (a) lodged within 10 business days after the event happens; and
 - (b) in the digital form made or approved by the chief executive.

29F Daily drilling report

- (1) The holder of a coal or oil shale mining lease must keep a daily drilling report for each day on which drilling of a CSG well is carried out under the lease.
- (2) A copy of each daily drilling report must be lodged with the CSG well completion report lodged for the well.
- (3) Also, a copy of a daily drilling report must be lodged if the chief executive asks for the report to be lodged.
- (4) A daily drilling report for a CSG well must contain the following information about the drilling carried out on the day to which the report relates—
 - (a) the identifying name of the well;
 - (b) the coal or oil shale mining lease holder's name and the mining lease number under which the well was drilled;
 - (c) the type of drilling rig used;
 - (d) a summary of the drilling operations carried out;
 - (e) the depth in metres of the well at the end of the day's drilling;
 - (f) the size and type of drill bit used;

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- (g) the drilling fluids and additives used;
 - (h) the size and depth in metres of any casing inserted in the well;
 - (i) the depth in metres of the top and bottom of each cemented interval in the well;
 - (j) the results of any deviation surveys carried out in the well;
 - (k) a description of any drill stem tests or other tests carried out in the well;
 - (l) the depth in metres of the top and bottom of the hydrocarbon show intervals in the well and the type and description of any surface observations of each interval;
 - (m) the type of any perforations in the well and the depth in metres of the top and bottom of the perforated intervals;
 - (n) details of any stimulation carried out;
 - (o) details of any squeeze cementing or cement plugging carried out;
 - (p) a description of any cores or cutting samples taken.
- (5) In this section—

deviation survey means a survey of the path of a CSG well that measures its direction in 3 dimensions.

stimulation means a technique used to increase the permeability of a natural underground reservoir, including, for example, hydraulic fracturing, cavitations, fracture acidising, and the use of proppant treatments.

29G CSG well completion report

- (1) If the drilling of a CSG well under a coal or oil shale mining lease is completed, the lease holder must lodge a report about the completion of the well (a *CSG well completion report*).
- (2) The report must be lodged within 6 months after the rig release day for the well.

- (3) The report must contain the following information—
- (a) the number of the coal or oil shale mining lease;
 - (b) the name and postal address of the operator of the well;
 - (c) the identifying name of the well;
 - (d) a summary of the information about the well in the report (referred to as a well card);
 - (e) spatial information showing the location of the well;
 - (f) a geological summary of the area of the lease;
 - (g) the height reference in metres for the drilling rig used to drill the well;
 - (h) the total depth in metres of the well;
 - (i) the following days—
 - (i) the day the drilling of the well started;
 - (ii) the day the total depth of the well was reached;
 - (iii) the rig release day for the well;
 - (j) details of the drilling rig, the number and type of drill bits, and the drilling fluids, used in the well;
 - (k) the status of the well on the rig release day;
 - (l) the surveyed path of the well;
 - (m) details of the casing and equipment installed in the well, with a diagram showing their location in the well;
 - (n) the type of any perforations in the well and the depth in metres of the top and bottom of the perforated intervals;
 - (o) details of the cementing in the well, including its location, the type of cement used and the depth in metres of the top and bottom of each cemented interval;
 - (p) a description of all tests or surveys carried out in the well, including the depth in metres of the place or interval at which the testing was carried out;
 - (q) a geological interpretation of the well, including the stratigraphy of the rock units it intersects;

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- (r) an identification of the intervals in the well that have the potential to produce coal seam gas;
 - (s) an assessment of—
 - (i) the relevance of the well to the coal seam gas potential within the vicinity of the well; and
 - (ii) the implications of the well for the future management of the natural underground reservoir to which the well relates;
 - (t) a description of each geological sample taken during the drilling of the well, including the depth in metres at which the sample was taken;
Examples of geological samples—
cuttings, sidewall cores and conventional cores
 - (u) an interpretation of the data obtained from the geophysical (or wireline) logs that have been run in the well;
 - (v) the lease holder's reasons for choosing the location of the well.
- (4) For a directional well, the report must also state the position of each of the following—
- (a) the stratigraphic units intersected by the well;
 - (b) the bottom of the well;
 - (c) any intersection of the well with another CSG well or a petroleum well.
- (5) For subsection (4), the position must be expressed in relation to—
- (a) total vertical depth in metres; and
 - (b) the horizontal plane.
- (6) The report must be accompanied by each of the following—
- (a) a digital image of the cores taken during the drilling of the well;

- (b) the raw data, in digital form, of each geophysical (or wireline) log that has been run in the well;
 - (c) a digital image of the graphic representations of the raw data mentioned in paragraph (b).
- (7) In this section—

directional well means a part of a CSG well that is intentionally not drilled vertically.

geological summary, of an area, means a summary of—

- (a) the major structural and stratigraphic features of the area; and

Examples—

- the history of the accumulation and structuring of stratigraphic units
- the timing of structural and metamorphic events

- (b) the geophysical features of the area.

Examples—

the gravitational and magnetic potential fields

operator, of a CSG well, means an operator of a coal mining-CSG operating plant under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 673(2).

rig release day, for a CSG well, means the day the drilling rig last used to drill the well is moved so it is no longer above the well if the coal or oil shale mining lease holder intends no further drilling of the well to occur.

status, of a CSG well, means any of the following that describes the well—

- (a) for a CSG well that is producing—producing;
- (b) for a CSG well that has temporarily stopped producing CSG—shut in;
- (c) for a CSG well that is capable of producing CSG but the productive interval in the well has not been completed for production—cased and suspended;

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- (d) for a CSG well that has been plugged and abandoned—plugged and abandoned.

Part 5

Additional conditions for mining tenements relating to particular restricted areas

30 Application of pt 5

This part—

- (a) applies to—
- (i) restricted area 1; and
 - (ii) restricted area 25; and
 - (iii) restricted area 77; and
- (b) prescribes additional conditions for all mining tenements relating to the restricted areas mentioned in paragraph (a).

31 Conditions about access shafts

- (1) An access shaft used in the restricted area must—
- (a) not have a diameter of more than 1m; and
 - (b) be backfilled after the mining activity, for which the access shaft was used, ends.
- (2) Also—
- (a) no more than 3 access shafts may be open, at any time, on the land to which the mining tenement applies; and
 - (b) an opened access shaft must be interconnected for ventilation and egress while the mining activity, for which the access shaft is used, is being carried on.

guideline means the guideline entitled ‘Quantifying the volume of associated water taken under a mining lease or mineral development licence’ made by the chief executive and published on the department’s website.

31B Requirements for reporting the taking of associated water—Act, s 334ZP

- (1) This section prescribes, for section 334ZP(5)(b) of the Act, the requirements for the reporting of the volume of associated water taken by the holder of a mineral development licence or a mining lease.
- (2) For each reporting period, the holder must report—
 - (a) if the total volume of associated water taken in the area of the licence or lease during the reporting period is 2ML or more—the total volume of associated water taken in the area; and
 - (b) if dewatering of a surface mine or an underground mine, in the area of the licence or lease, is achieved using bores—
 - (i) the volume of associated water extracted from each active bore field during the reporting period; and
 - (ii) the source geological formation from which the associated water was taken; and
 - (iii) whether the source geological formation is artesian or subartesian; and
 - (c) if, during the reporting period, the holder uses an alternative method under section 31A(3) for the first time—an explanation of the alternative method.
- (3) If the licence or lease expires or is surrendered, the holder must also report, for each surface mine in the area of the licence or lease—
 - (a) the relationship between the horizontal area of any pit associated with the mine and the elevation from the bottom of the pit based on survey data for the pit; and

[s 31BA]

- (b) a prediction of the long term annual, steady state entry of underground water into any area of the mine that is rehabilitated; and
 - (c) an explanation of the method the holder used to make the prediction mentioned in paragraph (b).
- (4) Reporting under this section must be submitted using the Queensland Digital Exploration Reports System—
- (a) if the reporting period ends on 31 October—within 20 business days after the end of the reporting period; or
 - (b) otherwise—on the day the licence or lease expires or is surrendered.

31BA Requests for further information about calculations

- (1) This section applies if, under section 334ZP(5)(b) of the Act, the holder of a mineral development licence or mining lease reports to the chief executive the volume or estimated volume of associated water taken by the holder.
- (2) The chief executive may, by notice given to the holder, ask the holder to give further information within a stated period about the calculation of the volume or estimated volume reported.
- (3) The chief executive may, by notice given to the holder, extend the stated period.
- (4) The holder must comply with a request under subsection (2), unless the holder has a reasonable excuse.

Maximum penalty—20 penalty units.

31C Chief executive may review alternative method

- (1) This section applies if the holder uses an alternative method in accordance with section 31A(3) instead of a method mentioned in section 31A(2) (an *original method*).
- (2) The chief executive may, at any time, review the alternative method to assess the reliability and accuracy of the method.

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- (3) If, as a result of the review, the chief executive no longer considers the alternative method to be reliable or accurate—
- (a) the chief executive must, as soon as practicable, notify the holder of the result of the review; and
 - (b) for the next reporting period, the holder must use—
 - (i) the original method; or
 - (ii) another alternative method that complies with section 31A(3).

Part 7 Water monitoring bores

31D Plugging and abandoning water monitoring bores—Act, s 334ZZS

For section 334ZZS(3)(a) of the Act, for decommissioning a water monitoring bore, the bore must be plugged and abandoned in accordance with the document called ‘Minimum construction requirements for water bores in Australia’, published on the department’s website.

Chapter 3 Royalties

Part 1 Preliminary

32 Definitions for ch 3

In this chapter—

holder, for a mineral, means the holder of a mining authority for mining the mineral.

mining operation means—

- (a) mining minerals under only 1 mining authority; or

- (b) mining minerals under 2 or more mining authorities if—
 - (i) the authorities are held by the same person or by two or more persons who are relevant entities for each other; and
 - (ii) any stage of the mining is carried out by using a common mining facility; or
- (c) if the Minister has made a determination under section 320(8) of the Act—the operation determined by the Minister, under that section, as being 1 mining operation.

relevant entity, for a holder for a mineral, means—

- (a) for a holder that is a corporation—
 - (i) an associated entity of the corporation within the meaning of the Corporations Act, section 50AAA; or
 - (ii) a related entity of the corporation within the meaning of the Corporations Act, section 9, definition *related entity*; or
 - (iii) a related party of the corporation within the meaning of the Corporations Act, section 228; or
- (b) for a holder who is an individual—a related person of the individual within the meaning of the *Duties Act 2001*, section 61, other than section 61(1)(d).

Part 2 Royalty returns

33 Application of pt 2

This part prescribes, for section 320(4) of the Act, the requirements for royalty returns lodged under the Act.

34 Form of royalty returns

A royalty return lodged under the Act must be in the approved form.

35 Period to which a royalty return must relate

- (1) A royalty return required under the Act to be lodged by a person must relate to a period of—
 - (a) if the mining operation to which the return relates is under 1 or more mining authorities, at least 1 of which is a mining lease—a calendar quarter; or
 - (b) otherwise—a financial year.
- (2) However, if the Minister considers it appropriate having regard to the amount of the royalty likely to be payable for a mining operation, the Minister may decide that—
 - (a) for a mining operation to which subsection (1)(a) applies—a royalty return must relate to a financial year; or
 - (b) for a mining operation to which subsection (1)(b) applies—a royalty return must relate to a calendar quarter.
- (3) If the Minister makes a decision mentioned in subsection (2)(a) or (b)—
 - (a) the Minister must give notice (the *notice*) of the decision to the person required to lodge the return; and
 - (b) the notice must state the day on which the decision is to take effect; and
 - (c) for subsection (2)(b)—the day stated in the notice can not be earlier than the day the Minister gives the person the notice.
- (4) The decision takes effect on the day stated in the notice.

36 When royalty return must be lodged

- (1) This section applies subject to section 37.
- (2) A royalty return required under the Act to be lodged that relates to a financial year must be lodged within—
 - (a) 3 months after the day the year ended; or
 - (b) if the mining operation to which the return relates ends within the year—3 months after the day the operation ended.
- (3) A royalty return required under the Act to be lodged that relates to a calendar quarter must be lodged on or before the last business day of the month after the day the quarter ended.
- (4) Subsection (3) applies whether or not the mining operation to which the royalty return relates ends within the calendar quarter.
- (5) Despite subsections (2) and (3), a person required under the Act to lodge a royalty return may lodge the return on a day (the *later day*) that is later than the day mentioned in subsection (2) or (3) if—
 - (a) the person has applied to the Minister in writing for approval to lodge the return on a later day; and
 - (b) the Minister has approved the lodgement of the return on the later day.
- (6) The prescribed fee must accompany a royalty return lodged after the day mentioned in subsections (2), (3) or (5).
- (7) The Minister may remit the whole or part of the prescribed fee.

37 Minister may require royalty return to be lodged on particular day

- (1) This section applies if the Minister considers that, for the protection of the public revenue, a royalty return should be lodged on a day that is earlier than the day mentioned in section 36(2), (3) or (5).

- (2) The Minister may, by notice, require the person required under the Act to lodge the royalty return to lodge it on a stated day that is at least 7 days after the day the Minister gives the person the notice.
- (3) The prescribed fee must accompany a royalty return lodged after the day mentioned in subsection (2).
- (4) The Minister may remit the whole or part of the prescribed fee.

38 No royalty return required in particular circumstances

- (1) No royalty return is required to be lodged for a return period if—
 - (a) the mining operation to which the return relates consists of mining minerals only under 1 or more mining claims; and
 - (b) no royalty is payable for the mining operation for the return period; and
 - (c) the mining operation did not end within the return period.
- (2) However, subsection (1)—
 - (a) does not prevent the Minister requiring, under section 333Z of the Act, the lodgement of a royalty return for the return period; and
 - (b) is taken not to apply for the return period for that purpose.

38A Returns required for coal seam gas

- (1) This section applies if a royalty return required under the Act to be lodged by a person is for royalty payable under the Act for coal seam gas.
- (2) No royalty return is required to be lodged under this part for the coal seam gas.

- (3) However, a royalty return for the royalty payable under the Act for coal seam gas must be lodged under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act as if—
 - (a) the royalty payable under the Act for the coal seam gas were petroleum royalty payable under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act; and
 - (b) the royalty return period under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act were the same as the return period under section 35.
- (4) Also, the royalty payable under the Act for the coal seam gas must be included in the annual royalty return required under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 599 as if the royalty payable under the Act were petroleum royalty payable under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.
- (5) A royalty return lodged under subsection (3) is taken to be a royalty return within the meaning of the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.
- (6) An annual royalty return lodged under subsection (4) is taken to be an annual royalty return under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 599.
- (7) To remove any doubt, it is declared that, for all rights, duties, obligations and liabilities arising in relation to royalty payable under the Act for coal seam gas required under this section to be included in a royalty return or an annual royalty return, the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act applies as if the royalty payable under the Act were petroleum royalty payable under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.

Part 3 Royalty payable for minerals

Division 1 Royalty payable

39 When royalty payable—yearly return period

The royalty payable by a person under the Act for a return period that is a financial year is payable on the day the royalty return must be lodged for the return period.

40 When and how royalty payable—quarterly return period

- (1) Subject to section 41, the royalty payable by a person under the Act for a return period that is a quarterly return period is payable as follows—
 - (a) instalment 1 is payable on the last business day of the second month of the return period;
 - (b) instalment 2 is payable on the last business day of the third month of the return period;
 - (c) instalment 3 is payable on the day a royalty return must be lodged for the return period.
- (2) A person must lodge an approved form for a payment under subsection (1) when the payment is made.
- (3) In this section—

instalment 1, for a quarterly return period, means—

 - (a) the amount payable by the person for the first month of the return period worked out under section 42; or
 - (b) if an election under section 44(3) applies for the first month of the return period—the amount payable by the person for the first month worked out under section 44(5)(a).

instalment 2, for a quarterly return period, means—

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- (a) the amount payable by the person for the second month of the return period worked out under section 42; or
- (b) if an election under section 44(3) applies for the second month of the return period—the amount payable by the person for the second month worked out under section 44(5)(b).

instalment 3, for a quarterly return period, means—

- (a) if the sum of instalment 1 and instalment 2 for the return period is less than the royalty payable by the person under the Act for the return period (the *total royalty*)—the amount of the total royalty less the sum; or
- (b) otherwise—zero.

Note—

Section 332AA of the Act provides for a refund if the amount of royalty liability paid for a return period is more than the amount of royalty liability assessed by the Minister as being payable under section 331A of the Act.

41 Quarterly payment notice

- (1) If the Minister considers it appropriate to do so, the Minister may, by notice (a *quarterly payment notice*), allow a person to pay the royalty payable by the person under the Act for a quarterly return period on the day the royalty return must be lodged for the period.
- (2) A quarterly payment notice given to a person must state the period for which the notice applies.
- (3) If the Minister considers it appropriate to do so, the Minister may, by notice, withdraw a quarterly payment notice.
- (4) A withdrawal under subsection (3) takes effect from the start of the next return period after the end of the return period in which the notice of the withdrawal is given.

42 Working out monthly payments for quarterly return period generally

- (1) This section prescribes, for section 40(1), the amounts payable by a person for the first and second months of a return period (the *current return period*).

Note—

See, however, section 44.

- (2) The amount payable by the person for each of the first and second months of the current return period is a third of the total amount of the royalty payable by the person under the Act for the previous return period—
- (a) taking into account any assessment under section 331A of the Act, and any reassessment under section 331B of the Act, for the royalty payable for the previous return period, made before the earlier of the following happens—
- (i) the amount for the first month of the current return period is paid;
- (ii) the amount for the first month of the current return period becomes payable; and
- (b) disregarding any assessment under section 331A of the Act, and any reassessment under section 331B of the Act, for the royalty payable for the previous return period, made when, or after, the earlier of the events mentioned in paragraph (a)(i) and (ii) happens.

Example—

The royalty paid for the previous return period was \$90,000. A reassessment for the previous return period was made by the Minister under section 331B of the Act to increase the royalty payable for the previous return period to \$120,000. The reassessment was made before the amount payable for the first month of the return period is paid or becomes payable (whichever is the earlier). Accordingly, the amount payable under this section for the first month and second month of the return period is \$40,000 (being a third of \$120,000).

43 Working out monthly payments for quarterly return period in particular circumstances

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) an amount is payable by a person under section 42(2) for the first and second months of a return period (the *current return period*); and
 - (b) either—
 - (i) the person did not lodge a royalty return for the previous return period, as required under the Act; or
 - (ii) the previous return period was not a calendar quarter.
- (2) For working out the amounts payable by the person under section 42(2)—
 - (a) the Minister may—
 - (i) if subsection (1)(b)(i) applies—estimate the total amount of royalty payable by the person under the Act for the previous return period; or
 - (ii) if subsection (1)(b)(ii) applies—adjust the amount of royalty payable by the person under the Act for the previous return period to estimate an amount representative of the royalty that would have been payable if the previous return period were a calendar quarter; and
 - (b) the Minister must give the person a notice stating the amount (the *estimated amount*) estimated by the Minister under paragraph (a)(i) or (ii); and
 - (c) the estimated amount is the total amount of royalty payable by the person under the Act for the previous return period.
- (3) In estimating an amount for subsection (2)(a)(i) or (ii), the Minister may have regard to—
 - (a) any other royalty returns lodged by the person; and

- (b) the size of the mining operation for which the royalty is payable; and
- (c) any other relevant matter.

44 Election to change monthly payments for quarterly return period

- (1) This section applies if, at the relevant time—
 - (a) a person reasonably believes the amount of royalty payable by the person under the Act for a return period that is a quarterly return period (the *current return period*) will be less than the royalty payable by the person under the Act for the previous return period; and
 - (b) the Minister has not given the person a notice under section 45.
- (2) For subsection (1), the royalty payable by the person under the Act for the previous return period is the amount that, under section 42 or 43, is the royalty payable by the person under the Act for the previous return period for section 42(2).
- (3) The person may elect to change the amount payable for the first or second months of the current return period.
- (4) The election must—
 - (a) be in the approved form; and
 - (b) state the amount of royalty the person reasonably believes will be payable by the person under the Act for the current return period; and
 - (c) unless the Minister, by giving notice to the person, approves another day for making the election—be lodged on or before—
 - (i) for an election for the first month of the current return period—the last business day of the second month of the return period; or
 - (ii) for an election for the second month of the current return period—the last business day of the third month of the return period.

- (5) Subject to subsection (6)—
 - (a) if the person makes an election under subsection (3) for the first month of the current return period, the amount payable for that month is a third of the amount mentioned in subsection (4)(b) for the election; or
 - (b) if the person makes an election under subsection (3) for the second month of the current return period, the amount payable for that month is a third of the amount mentioned in subsection (4)(b) for the election.
- (6) The amount payable, as changed under subsection (3) for the first or second months of a royalty return period, may be more than the amount payable under subsection (5)(a) or (5)(b).
- (7) In this section—

relevant time, for an election for the first month or the second month of a return period, means when the amount payable for the month becomes payable under section 40.

45 Minister may give notice requiring royalty payable to be worked out under s 42

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a person has previously made an election under section 44(3); and
 - (b) the Minister considers the person did not have a reasonable basis for forming the belief mentioned in section 44(1)(a) for the election.
- (2) The Minister may give the person a notice stating that the amounts payable by the person for the first and second months of 1 or more return periods must be worked out under section 42.
- (3) The person may not make an election under section 44(3) for a return period to which the notice relates.

46 Royalty payable

Subject to section 47, the royalty payable under the Act for all minerals sold, disposed of or used in a return period is payable at the following rate—

- (a) for a prescribed mineral—the royalty rate stated in schedule 3, part 1, section 2;
- (b) otherwise—the royalty rate stated for the mineral in schedule 3, part 2.

47 Particular royalties payable on adjustment basis

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a prescribed mineral or a relevant mineral is sold; and
 - (b) under the terms of the contract of sale of the mineral, the gross value (the *actual gross value*) of the mineral under part 5 can not be finally worked out before the day the royalty return for the mineral is required to be lodged; and
 - (c) the Minister has not given a notice under subsection (5) to the holder for the mineral.
- (2) The holder for the mineral must, when lodging the return mentioned in subsection (1)(b)—
 - (a) pay the amount of royalty (the *provisional royalty*) for the mineral at the rate prescribed under section 46, worked out on the basis of the assumed gross value for the mineral; and
 - (b) in the return (the *subsequent return*) lodged for the period within which the actual gross value can be finally worked out—state the amount that is the difference between—
 - (i) the amount (the *actual royalty*) of the royalty for the mineral at the rate prescribed under section 46, worked out on the basis of the actual gross value; and
 - (ii) the provisional royalty.

- (3) If the actual royalty is higher than the provisional royalty, the holder must pay the difference between the 2 amounts when the person lodges the subsequent return.

Note—

Under section 332 of the Act, unpaid royalty interest will accrue on the amount payable under subsection (3) if it is not paid by the required time.

- (4) If the actual royalty is less than the provisional royalty, the Minister must refund the amount that is the difference between the actual royalty and the provisional royalty, in the way mentioned in the Act, section 332AA(2).
- (5) If the Minister decides that this section does not apply for a particular holder or a particular sale of a mineral, the Minister must give the holder a notice stating that this section does not apply.
- (6) In this section—

assumed gross value, for a mineral, means the gross value for the mineral worked out under part 5 by reference to the information available for the return period mentioned in subsection (2)(a).

relevant mineral means any of the following—

- (a) iron ore;
- (b) manganese;
- (c) molybdenum;
- (d) tantalum;
- (e) tungsten;
- (f) uranium.

48 Royalty on stocks of mineral for mining operation that has ended

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a mining operation has ended; and

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- (b) there are minerals mined under the operation that have not been sold, disposed of or used; and
 - (c) the Minister reasonably believes the minerals will not be sold, disposed of or used within 1 year after the day the operation ended.
- (2) The return for the royalty period in which the mining operation ended must include royalty for the minerals at the rate prescribed under section 46.
 - (3) If any of the minerals is coal seam gas, the Minister must decide the value of the gas worked out under section 53, as if the gas had been sold, disposed of or used.
 - (4) If any of the minerals is a mineral, other than coal seam gas, for which the royalty payable must be worked out by reference to the mineral's value, the Minister must decide—
 - (a) the gross value of the mineral, worked out under part 5 as if the mineral had been sold, disposed of or used; and
 - (b) the value of the mineral, worked out under section 54, as if the mineral had been sold, disposed of or used.

Division 2 Exemptions

49 Exemption for coal seam gas

- (1) No royalty is payable for—
 - (a) coal seam gas that is—
 - (i) flared or vented; or
 - (ii) mined under a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease, to the extent the coal seam gas is used for mining the coal that produced the gas; or
 - (iii) mined under a mining lease under which underground mining of coal first started before 31 December 2004, to the extent the coal seam gas is used for mining under the lease; or

- (b) incidental coal seam gas that is mined under a mining lease, to the extent the incidental coal seam gas is—
 - (i) used for mining coal under the mining lease; or
 - (ii) if the mining lease is part of a mining operation—used for mining coal under any mining authority that is part of the mining operation on the day the incidental coal seam gas is used for mining the coal.
- (2) In this section—

mineral hydrocarbon mining lease see section 739 of the Act.

used, for mining, means used by the holder of the lease or mining authority for—

- (a) power generation for equipment used for the mining; or
- (b) heating used for the mining.

Example of incidental coal seam gas used for mining—

incidental coal seam gas stored or transported by the holder of the lease or mining authority to allow it to be used by the holder of the lease or mining authority for a purpose mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b)

50 Threshold exemption for relevant minerals

- (1) No royalty is payable on the first \$100,000 of the total value of a relevant mineral, mined under a mining operation, that is sold, disposed of or used in a financial year.
- (2) If more than 1 relevant mineral mined under a mining operation is sold, disposed of or used in a financial year—
 - (a) the person by whom the royalty is payable under the Act for the minerals must nominate 1 of the minerals (the *nominated mineral*); and
 - (b) no royalty is payable on the first \$100,000 of the total value of the nominated mineral that is sold, disposed of or used in the financial year.

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- (3) However, if less than \$100,000 of value of the nominated mineral is sold, disposed of or used in the financial year, the person may repeat the process under subsection (2) until the combined value of the relevant minerals nominated by the person and sold, disposed of or used in the financial year reaches \$100,000.
 - (4) The nomination must be stated in the return for the mineral lodged for the relevant return period.
 - (5) In this section—

relevant mineral means any of the following—

- (a) corundum;
- (b) a gemstone;
- (c) manganese;
- (d) molybdenum;
- (e) a precious stone;
- (f) a prescribed mineral;
- (g) a rare earth;
- (h) tantalum;
- (i) tungsten;
- (j) uranium;
- (k) a mineral mentioned in schedule 3, part 2, section 14.

relevant return period means the return period in which the threshold exemption is claimed for a relevant mineral for this section.

Division 3 Discounts for particular minerals

51 Particular minerals processed in Queensland

- (1) This section applies to royalty payable for a relevant mineral sold, disposed of or used if—

- (a) the mineral is processed in the State; and
- (b) after the mineral is processed, it has a metal content of—
 - (i) for cobalt—at least 50%; or
 - (ii) for copper, iron ore, lead, tantalum and zinc—at least 95%; or
 - (iii) for manganese—at least 75%; or
 - (iv) for molybdenum—at least 56%; or
 - (v) for nickel—at least 70%; or
 - (vi) for tungsten (WO₃)—at least 89%.
- (2) For subsection (1), a mineral is processed if it is changed to another substance by a process, including, for example, leaching, refining, smelting and solvent extraction electro winning (SX-EW).
- (3) The royalty payable for the relevant mineral is reduced by—
 - (a) for cobalt, copper, iron ore, nickel, molybdenum and tungsten—20%; or
 - (b) for lead—25%; or
 - (c) for manganese, tantalum and zinc—35%.
- (4) In this section—

relevant mineral means any of the following—

 - (a) cobalt;
 - (b) copper;
 - (c) iron ore;
 - (d) lead;
 - (e) manganese;
 - (f) molybdenum;
 - (g) nickel;
 - (h) tantalum;

- (i) tungsten;
- (j) zinc.

Part 4 Working out values of minerals

52 Application of pt 4

This part applies to a mineral for which, under part 3, the royalty payable in relation to the mineral must be worked out by reference to the value of the mineral.

Note—

See sections 46 to 48 and schedule 3, part 2.

53 Value of coal seam gas

The value of coal seam gas must be worked out in the same way as the value of petroleum is worked out for the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 590(3).

54 Value of minerals other than coal seam gas

- (1) Subject to subsection (3), the value of a mineral other than coal seam gas must be worked out by—
 - (a) working out the gross value of the mineral under part 5; and
 - (b) subtracting the following amounts from the gross value—
 - (i) any marine cost for the mineral;
 - (ii) if the mineral is a prescribed mineral or a relevant mineral—the amount the Minister has decided, on reasonable grounds, is the amount that should be subtracted from the gross value to allow for the loss of metal content in the processing of the mineral;

- (iii) any other cost the Minister has decided, on reasonable grounds, is a type of cost that should be subtracted from the gross value.
- (2) However, if the mineral is coal, any amount relating to an early despatch of the coal from a port must be added to the gross value before the amounts mentioned in subsection (1)(b) are subtracted from it.
 - (3) In working out the value of a mineral that is sold, regard must be had to whether the value has increased or decreased as a result of a change in the exchange rate from the time the mineral was sold to the time any payment for the sale is received.
 - (4) In this section—
 - marine cost* means—
 - (a) for coal—
 - (i) a cost relating to a late despatch of the coal from a port; or
 - (ii) a freight or an insurance cost relating to the transport of the coal by water to a port outside the State; or
 - (b) for another mineral—a freight or an insurance cost relating to the transport by water, to a port outside the State, of—
 - (i) the mineral; or
 - (ii) if the mineral is oil shale that has been processed—the oil processed from the oil shale.

relevant mineral means any of the following—

- (a) iron ore;
- (b) manganese;
- (c) molybdenum;
- (d) tantalum;
- (e) tungsten;

- (f) uranium.

Part 5 Working out gross values of minerals other than coal seam gas

Division 1 Preliminary

55 Application of pt 5

This part applies to a mineral for which, under section 54, the value of the mineral must be worked out by reference to its gross value.

56 Definitions for pt 5

In this part—

average listed price, for a mineral, means a price worked out by averaging the prices listed for the mineral in a recognised listing over a particular period of not longer than 3 months.

earlier return period, in relation to a gross value royalty decision for a mineral, means a return period for the mineral that occurs wholly or partly before the Minister—

- (a) makes the decision under section 63; or
- (b) amends the decision under section 65 or 68.

gross value, of a mineral, means—

- (a) for a mineral that is a market value mineral—see section 58; or
- (b) for a mineral that is not a market value mineral—see section 59.

gross value royalty decision, for a mineral, means a decision made by the Minister under section 63.

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listed price, for a mineral, means the price listed for the mineral in a recognised listing at the time the mineral is sold, disposed of or used.

market value mineral see section 57.

recognised listing means a list of quoted or published prices of minerals—

- (a) on a recognised international mineral exchange or market; or

Examples of recognised international mineral exchange or market—

London Metal Exchange, London Bullion Market

- (b) in a publication recognised for quoting or publishing prices of minerals in an international market.

Example of publication for paragraph (b)—

Metal Bulletin

Division 2 **Gross value of market value minerals**

57 **Meaning of *market value mineral***

- (1) A mineral mined by the holder for the mineral is a **market value mineral** if—
 - (a) the mineral is sold at a listed price or an average listed price; or
 - (b) the mineral is disposed of or used and a market value for the mineral may be established by reference to a listed price, or an average listed price, for the mineral; or
 - (c) neither paragraph (a) nor (b) applies to the mineral and—
 - (i) the mineral is sold in an arms-length transaction to a person other than a relevant entity for the holder; and

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- (ii) the holder has sold a mineral of the same kind in an arms-length transaction in the previous 2-year period to a person other than a relevant entity for the holder; or
 - (d) paragraphs (a) to (c) do not apply to the mineral and the holder entered into an agreement, before or as soon as practicable after the mineral was mined, to sell the mineral in an arms-length transaction to a person other than a relevant entity for the holder.
- (2) However, a mineral mined by the holder for the mineral is not a *market value mineral* if—
- (a) the mineral is sold or disposed of to, or used by, a relevant entity for the holder and the relevant entity is involved in the marketing or reselling of the mineral or in the production of a commodity using the mineral; or

Examples for paragraph (a)—

- 1 The holder mines coal and the coal is used by a related body corporate for the holder to produce electricity in a power station.
- 2 The holder mines coal and the coal is sold to a related body corporate for the holder, which sells the coal to another person in an arms-length transaction.

- (b) the mineral is sold or disposed of to, or used by, a person and the holder receives a non-financial benefit from the sale, disposal or use (whether or not the holder also receives a financial benefit from the sale, disposal or use).

Example for paragraph (b)—

The holder sells coal to another person for a price but also receives goods from the other person in return for the coal.

58 Gross value of market value minerals

- (1) The gross value of a market value mineral that is a prescribed mineral or a relevant mineral is—
 - (a) if the mineral is a market value mineral under section 57(1)(a)—the amount obtained for the mineral

- by selling it at the listed price, or average listed price, for the mineral, disregarding any processing cost for the mineral; or
- (b) if the mineral is a market value mineral under section 57(1)(b)—the market value established for the mineral by reference to a listed price, or average listed price, for the mineral, disregarding any processing cost for the mineral; or
 - (c) if the mineral is a market value mineral under section 57(1)(c) or (d)—the amount for which the mineral is sold, disregarding any processing cost for the mineral.
- (2) The gross value of a market value mineral other than a prescribed mineral or a relevant mineral is—
- (a) if the mineral is a market value mineral under section 57(1)(a), (c) or (d)—the amount for which the mineral is sold; or
 - (b) if the mineral is a market value mineral under section 57(1)(b)—the market value established for the mineral by reference to a listed price, or average listed price, for the mineral.
- (3) However, if a mineral is sold and an amount in relation to the royalty payable for the mineral is recovered from the buyer, the gross value of the mineral is the total of—
- (a) the amount worked out under subsection (1) or (2); and
 - (b) the amount recovered.
- (4) In this section—
- relevant mineral*** means any of the following—
- (a) iron ore;
 - (b) manganese;
 - (c) molybdenum;
 - (d) tantalum;
 - (e) tungsten;

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- (f) uranium.

Division 3 Gross value of minerals other than market value minerals

Subdivision 1 Gross value royalty decisions

59 Gross value of minerals other than market value minerals

If a mineral is not a market value mineral, the gross value of the mineral is—

- (a) the amount decided by the Minister in a gross value royalty decision for the mineral; or
- (b) if the mineral is sold and an amount in relation to the royalty payable for the mineral is recovered from the buyer—the total of—
 - (i) the amount decided by the Minister in a gross value royalty decision for the mineral; and
 - (ii) the amount recovered.

60 Application for gross value royalty decision

- (1) This section applies to the holder for a mineral if, for a period—
 - (a) no gross value royalty decision applies for the mineral; and
 - (b) the mineral is not, or may not be, a market value mineral.
- (2) Before, or as soon as practicable after, selling or disposing of or using the mineral, the holder must apply to the Minister for a gross value royalty decision for the mineral.

Maximum penalty—20 penalty units.

- (3) The application must—

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- (a) be in writing; and
 - (b) state why the holder is seeking the gross value royalty decision; and
 - (c) state a proposed gross value of the mineral, or a proposed method or formula for working out the gross value of the mineral, for 1 or more of the following—
 - (i) a particular transaction;
 - (ii) a particular class of transaction;
 - (iii) some or all transactions within a particular period; and

Examples of a method or formula for working out the gross value of a mineral—

 - a fixed value with adjustments in particular circumstances
 - a formula for deciding the market value
 - (d) state the proposed period for which the gross value royalty decision is to apply.
- (4) Without limiting subsection (3)(d), the application may relate to 1 or more return periods, regardless of whether any of the return periods starts or ends before the application is made.

61 Gross value royalty decision on Minister's own initiative

- (1) The Minister may, on the Minister's own initiative, make a gross value royalty decision under section 63 for a mineral if, for a period—
 - (a) the Minister reasonably believes the mineral is not, or may not be, a market value mineral; and
 - (b) the holder for the mineral has not applied under section 60 for a gross value royalty decision.
- (2) Subsection (1)(a) applies whether or not either or both of the following have happened—
 - (a) a transaction relating to the mineral;
 - (b) the lodgement of a royalty return for the period.

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- (3) If the Minister proposes to make a gross value royalty decision for a mineral on the Minister's own initiative, the Minister must—
- (a) give a notice to the holder for the mineral that the Minister proposes to make the decision; and
 - (b) invite the holder to make submissions about the proposed decision within—
 - (i) 30 days after the day the Minister gives the holder the notice; or
 - (ii) if the Minister approves a longer period—the longer period.

62 Considerations in making gross value royalty decision

In making a gross value royalty decision for a mineral (the *relevant mineral*), the Minister—

- (a) must consider—
 - (i) if the holder for the relevant mineral applied for the decision under section 60—the matters stated in the holder's application; and
 - (ii) any submissions about the proposed decision made by the holder within the period mentioned in section 61(3)(b) for the submissions; and
- (b) may consider any document or information the Minister reasonably considers relevant for making the decision; and
- (c) may also consider any of the following matters—
 - (i) the amount for which a mineral of a similar kind to the relevant mineral has been sold or disposed of in an arms-length transaction to a person other than a relevant entity for the holder;
 - (ii) the amount for which a product made using the relevant mineral, or a mineral of a similar kind, has been sold or disposed of;

- (iii) how the value of the relevant mineral can be adjusted to reflect changes to the market value of the mineral;
- (iv) the expenses incurred or likely to be incurred by the holder for the relevant mineral when selling or disposing of the mineral in an arms-length transaction to a person other than a relevant entity for the holder;
- (v) the nature of the relationship between the holder for the relevant mineral and the entity to which the relevant mineral has been or will be sold or disposed of, or that has used or will use the mineral;
- (vi) the period for which the gross value royalty decision, or aspects of the decision, will apply;
- (vii) the need for any future adjustment of the gross value royalty decision or aspects of the decision;
- (viii) any other relevant matter.

63 Gross value royalty decisions

- (1) This section applies if the Minister—
 - (a) receives an application under section 60 for a gross value royalty decision for a mineral; or
 - (b) decides under section 61 to make a gross value royalty decision for a mineral on the Minister’s own initiative.
- (2) The Minister must decide—
 - (a) the gross value of the mineral; or
 - (b) the method or formula for working out the gross value of the mineral.
- (3) The Minister’s decision under this section is a ***gross value royalty decision***.
- (4) Without limiting the scope of a gross value royalty decision, a gross value royalty decision may—

- (a) apply for a particular period, including, for example, an earlier return period starting or ending before the decision is made; and
 - (b) provide for different gross values for the mineral to which the decision applies for particular periods, transactions or classes of transactions; and
 - (c) provide for different methods or formulas for working out the gross values of the mineral for particular periods, transactions or classes of transactions.
- (4A) Subsection (4B) applies if the holder for a mineral applies for a gross value royalty decision for the mineral.
- (4B) To remove any doubt, it is declared that the Minister may decide the gross value of the mineral, the method or formula for working out the gross value of the mineral or the period, transaction or class of transaction for which the decision applies (each a *relevant matter*), even if—
- (a) the relevant matter is not stated in the holder's application; or
 - (b) the way in which the relevant matter is stated in the holder's application is different from the way the relevant matter is stated in the decision.
- (5) After making a gross value royalty decision for a mineral, the Minister must give the holder for the mineral a notice stating—
- (a) the reasons for the decision; and
 - (b) either—
 - (i) the gross value of the mineral; or
 - (ii) the method or formula for working out the gross value of the mineral; and
 - (c) if the decision applies for a period—the period; and
 - (d) if the decision applies for a particular transaction or class of transaction—the transaction or class; and

[s 63A]

- (e) if the decision applies for an earlier return period—whether, subject to section 70, the Minister will assess or reassess the amount of royalty payable for the earlier return period.

Note—

See also sections 331A and 331B of the Act.

63A Reference to gross value royalty decision for working out average price of particular minerals

- (1) This section applies if a gross value royalty decision applies for a relevant mineral for a return period.
- (2) For part 3, the average price for each tonne or kilogram of the relevant mineral sold, disposed of or used in the return period must be worked out by reference to—
 - (a) the gross value of the mineral under the gross value royalty decision; or
 - (b) the method or formula for working out the gross value of the mineral under the decision.
- (3) In this section—

relevant mineral means coal, iron ore or uranium.

Subdivision 1A Expired gross value royalty decisions

63B Use of expired gross value royalty decision

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a gross value royalty decision for a mineral (the *original decision*) states that the decision applies for a particular period; and
 - (b) before the period ends (the *expiry*)—
 - (i) the holder for the mineral applies under section 60 for a gross value royalty decision for the mineral

-
- (the *new decision*) proposed to take effect immediately after the expiry; or
- (ii) the Minister, under section 61(3), gives the holder for the mineral a notice stating that the Minister proposes to make a gross value royalty decision for the mineral (also the *new decision*) to take effect immediately after the expiry; and
- (c) on the expiry, the Minister has not made the new decision.
- (2) For mineral sold, disposed of or used by the holder for the mineral during the period starting immediately after the expiry and ending when a notice for the new decision is given to the holder under section 63(5)—
- (a) the holder, in complying with the holder's obligations under the Act, must—
- (i) work out the gross value of the mineral as if the original decision continues to apply to the mineral; and
- (ii) if the mineral is a relevant mineral—work out the average price as required under section 63A as if the original decision continues to apply to the relevant mineral; and
- (b) the Minister must make any assessment of the amount of royalty payable for the mineral as if the original decision continues to apply to the mineral.
- (3) This section applies subject to section 63C.
- (4) In this section—
- relevant mineral* means coal, iron ore or uranium.

63C Minister must reassess amount of royalty payable if particular expired gross value royalty decisions used

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) the Minister makes the new decision mentioned in section 63B(1); and

[s 64]

- (b) the new decision applies for a return period starting during the period mentioned in section 63B(2); and
 - (c) the Minister has made an assessment of the amount of royalty payable by the holder for the mineral for the return period without having regard to the new decision.
- (2) The Minister must reassess, under section 331B of the Act, the amount of royalty payable by the holder for the mineral for the return period having regard to the new decision.

Note—

On the making of a reassessment, see section 332AA of the Act for the Minister's obligation to refund any excess amount.

- (3) Subsection (4) applies if the reassessment period, as defined in section 331B(4) of the Act, has expired in relation to the return period.
- (4) For section 331B(5)(b) of the Act, a reassessment required under subsection (2) decreasing the amount of royalty payable for the mineral by the holder for the return period must be made after the reassessment period.
- (5) Subsection (6) applies if, on a reassessment under subsection (2), the holder for the mineral is liable for a royalty penalty amount, unpaid royalty interest or a civil penalty (each a *relevant liability*).
- (6) The Minister must remit the relevant liability to the extent it is payable solely because of the operation of subsection (2).

Subdivision 2 Incorrect gross value royalty decisions

64 Obligation to notify incorrect gross value royalty decision

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a holder for a mineral to which a gross value royalty decision (the *existing decision*) applies becomes aware that the existing decision was not, or is no longer, correct; and

-
- (b) the gross value of the mineral, correctly decided, would be greater than the value stated in the existing decision.
 - (2) Within 60 days after becoming aware the existing decision was not, or is no longer, correct, the holder must—
 - (a) advise the Minister, in writing—
 - (i) that the existing decision was not, or is no longer, correct; and
 - (ii) the reason the existing decision was not, or is no longer, correct; and
 - (b) give the Minister any relevant documents or information to enable the gross value of the mineral to be correctly decided.

Maximum penalty—20 penalty units.

65 Minister may amend gross value royalty decision

- (1) The Minister may amend a gross value royalty decision (an *earlier decision*) for a mineral if the Minister is reasonably satisfied that the earlier decision was not, or is no longer, correct.
- (2) If the Minister proposes to amend the earlier decision in a way that increases the gross value of a mineral under the decision, the Minister must—
 - (a) give notice to the holder for the mineral that the Minister proposes to make the amendment; and
 - (b) invite the holder to make submissions about the proposed amendment within—
 - (i) 30 days after the day the Minister gives the holder the notice; or
 - (ii) if the Minister approves a longer period—the longer period.
- (3) In amending the earlier decision, the Minister—
 - (a) may consider any of the matters mentioned in section 62 as if they related to making the amendment; and

- (b) if a submission about the proposed amendment is made by the holder within the period mentioned in subsection (2)(b) for the submission—must consider the submission.
- (4) The amendment of an earlier decision under subsection (1) must, for a return period for which the decision applies, be made within 5 years after the day that royalty became payable for that return period.
- (5) Despite subsection (4), the Minister may amend an earlier decision at any time in a way that increases the gross value of a mineral if the Minister reasonably believes that before the earlier decision was made, the holder for the mineral, or a person acting on behalf of the holder—
 - (a) knowingly misled the Minister, or knowingly caused the Minister to be misled, about a matter relevant for deciding the gross value of the mineral; or
 - (b) deliberately failed to give the Minister documents or information relevant for deciding the gross value of the mineral.
- (6) The Minister can not be compelled to amend the earlier decision in a way that decreases the gross value applying for a mineral under the decision if, for a return period, royalty was payable for that period.

66 Notice of amendment

After amending an earlier decision under section 65, the Minister must give the holder for the mineral to which the earlier decision applied a notice stating—

- (a) the earlier decision has been amended; and
- (b) the reasons for the amendment; and
- (c) the period for which the amended decision applies; and
- (d) how the earlier decision has been amended; and

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- (e) if the amendment applies for an earlier return period—that the Minister will reassess the amount of royalty payable for the earlier return period.

Note—

For reassessment of royalty payable, see section 331B of the Act and subdivision 4.

Subdivision 3 Review of gross value royalty decisions

67 Review application

- (1) The holder for a mineral may apply to the Minister to review—
 - (a) a gross value royalty decision for the mineral; or
 - (b) an amendment, made under section 65, of a gross value royalty decision for the mineral.
- (2) The application must—
 - (a) be in writing; and
 - (b) state the reasons for requesting the review.
- (3) If the application seeks a review of a gross value royalty decision, the holder must lodge it within—
 - (a) 60 days after the day the Minister gives the holder the notice mentioned in section 63(5); or
 - (b) if the Minister approves a longer period for lodging the application—the longer period.
- (4) If the application seeks a review of an amendment, made under section 65, of a gross value royalty decision, the holder must lodge it within—
 - (a) 60 days after the day the Minister gives the holder the notice mentioned in section 66; or
 - (b) if the Minister approves a longer period for lodging the application—the longer period.

68 Review decision

- (1) If the holder for a mineral makes an application (the *review application*) under section 67, the Minister must decide the application by either affirming or amending the decision (the *original decision*) the subject of the review application.
- (2) If the original decision was made by a delegate of the Minister, the delegate must not decide the review application.
- (3) In deciding the review application, the Minister may consider any matter mentioned in section 62 as if that matter related to the review.

69 Notice of review decision

- (1) After deciding a review application under section 68, the Minister must give the applicant a notice stating—
 - (a) that the Minister has affirmed or amended the original decision; and
 - (b) the reasons for the Minister’s decision to affirm or amend the original decision; and
 - (c) if the original decision has been amended—how the decision has been amended; and
 - (d) if the amended decision applies for an earlier return period—that the Minister will reassess the amount of royalty payable for the earlier return period for which the amendment applies.

Note—

For reassessment of royalty payable, see section 331B of the Act and subdivision 4.

- (2) In this section—
original decision see section 68(1).

Subdivision 4 Reassessment if gross value royalty decision amended

70 Minister must reassess amount of particular royalty payable

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a gross value royalty decision (the *unamended decision*), or an amendment under section 65 or 68 of a gross value royalty decision, applies for a mineral for an earlier return period; and
 - (b) the Minister has made an assessment of the amount of royalty payable for the mineral by the holder for the period without having regard to the unamended decision or the amendment.

Note—

If an assessment of the royalty payable for the mineral has not been made for the earlier return period, the Minister must make an assessment of the royalty payable for the period, having regard to the unamended decision or amendment, under section 331A of the Act.

- (2) The Minister must reassess, under section 331B of the Act, the amount of royalty payable for the mineral by the holder for each earlier return period to which the unamended decision or the amendment applies.
- (3) Subsection (4) applies if the reassessment period, as defined in section 331B(4) of the Act, has expired in relation to an earlier return period mentioned in subsection (2).
- (4) For the purposes of section 331B(5)(b) of the Act, a reassessment required under subsection (2) decreasing the amount of royalty payable for the mineral by the holder for the earlier return period must be made after the reassessment period unless—
- (a) the gross value royalty decision was made on the Minister's own initiative under section 61; or
 - (b) all of the following apply—

- (i) the reassessment was made because the Minister made the amendment, under section 65(1), after being reasonably satisfied, for the amendment, of a matter mentioned in the section;
- (ii) the Minister considers section 64 applies in relation to that matter;
- (iii) the holder failed to comply with the requirement to advise the Minister under section 64(2) in relation to that matter before the amendment.

Part 7 Civil penalty

77 Imposition—Act, s 321A

- (1) This section applies if a person makes a section 44 election and either—
 - (a) the royalty payable for the current return period exceeds the royalty payable for the previous return period by an amount that is more than 15% of the royalty payable for the previous return period; or
 - (b) both of the following apply—
 - (i) the royalty payable for the current return period is less than the royalty payable for the previous return period;
 - (ii) the total of the royalty payable for the first month and the second month of the current return period is less than 50% of the total royalty payable for the current return period.
- (2) The person is liable to the State for an amount (*civil penalty*) equal to 25% of the default estimate difference, if any, for each month of the current return period for which the person makes the section 44 election.
- (3) For subsection (2), the *default estimate difference* for a month of the current return period is the difference between—

-
- (a) the amount that would have been payable for the month under section 42 if the person had not made the section 44 election; and
 - (b) the amount payable for the month under the section 44 election.
- (4) However, if the amount mentioned in subsection (3)(a) is less than the amount mentioned in subsection (3)(b), the default estimate difference for the month is taken to be zero.
- (5) Subsection (6) applies if, for royalty payable for the current return period—
- (a) an assessment is made under the Act, section 331A; or
 - (b) a reassessment is made under the Act, section 331B.
- (6) For subsection (1)—
- (a) the royalty payable for the current return period is the amount of royalty payable taking into account the assessment or reassessment; and
 - (b) a reference to the royalty payable for the previous return period is a reference to the amount worked out under section 44(2).
- (7) The Minister may remit the whole or part of the civil penalty.
- (8) In this section—

current return period see section 44(1)(a).

section 44 election means an election under section 44(3) to change the amount payable to the State for the first month or the second month of the current return period.

78 Notice

- (1) If a person is liable to pay a civil penalty, the Minister must give the person a notice stating—
- (a) the amount of the civil penalty that is payable; and
 - (b) that the person must pay the civil penalty on or before the day stated in the notice.

- (2) For subsection (1)(b), the day must be at least 28 days after the day the Minister gives the notice to the person.

79 Civil penalty not payable if proceeding for offence started

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a person is liable to pay a civil penalty because of an act or omission of the person; and
 - (b) the act or omission constitutes an offence (the *offence*) under the Act.

Example of an act or omission constituting an offence—

giving false or misleading information in contravention of the Act, section 333D

- (2) If a proceeding is started against the person for the offence and the civil penalty has not been paid to the State, the civil penalty is payable only if the proceeding against the person is withdrawn.
- (3) If the civil penalty has been paid to the State, but a proceeding is started against the person for the offence, the amount of the civil penalty must be remitted in full.
- (4) However, if the proceeding against the person is withdrawn, the civil penalty remitted under subsection (3) again becomes payable by the person.

Part 8 Unpaid royalty interest

80 Rate—Act, s 332

For section 332(2)(a) of the Act, the rate of interest on unpaid royalty is the rate prescribed for unpaid tax interest under the *Taxation Administration Act 2001*, section 54(2).

81 Working out unpaid royalty interest on royalty payable for quarterly return period—Act, s 332

- (1) This section applies for working out the period for which unpaid royalty interest accrues under section 332 of the Act, if—
 - (a) royalty is payable by a person under section 40(1) for a quarterly return period; and
 - (b) the person has not paid all of the amount payable for instalment 1, instalment 2 or instalment 3 as required under section 40.
- (2) If instalment 1 or instalment 2 is not paid in full by the day required under section 40, unpaid royalty interest accrues on the amount unpaid from time to time, for the period—
 - (a) starting on, and including, the day after the day the instalment is required to be paid; and
 - (b) ending on, and including, the earlier of the following days—
 - (i) the day the instalment is paid in full;
 - (ii) the lodgement day.
- (3) If the royalty payable for the quarterly return period is not paid in full on the lodgement day, unpaid royalty interest accrues on the total amount unpaid, from time to time, for the period—
 - (a) starting on, and including, the day after the lodgement day; and
 - (b) ending on, and including, the day the total amount is paid in full.
- (4) In this section—

lodgement day means the day a royalty return must be lodged for the quarterly return period, disregarding any later day for lodging the return approved by the Minister under section 36(5).

Part 9 Royalty estimates

82 Application of pt 9

This part provides for matters about royalty estimates, including by prescribing matters for section 327A(2) and (3)(a) of the Act.

83 Royalty estimate notices

- (1) The notice given by the Minister to a person under section 327A(1) of the Act (a *royalty estimate notice*) must include the following—
 - (a) the period (the *estimate period*) for which the person is to estimate the royalties payable by the person under section 320 of the Act;
 - (b) the day by which the person must provide the royalty estimate;
 - (c) the form in which the person must provide the royalty estimate;
 - (d) a description of the information the person must provide in the royalty estimate.
- (2) For subsection (1)(d), the information the Minister may ask the person to provide in the royalty estimate includes the following—
 - (a) an estimate of the royalties payable by the person under section 320 of the Act for the estimate period;
 - (b) identification of each type of mineral the person expects to sell, dispose of or use in the estimate period;
 - (c) for each type of mineral identified for paragraph (b)—an estimate of the volume of the mineral the person expects to sell, dispose of or use in the estimate period;
 - (d) any exchange rate the person has assumed for working out the estimate of royalties mentioned in paragraph (a).

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- (3) Subsection (2) does not limit the information the Minister may ask a person to provide in the royalty estimate.

84 Form of and information to be included in royalty estimate

The royalty estimate must—

- (a) be in the form stated in the royalty estimate notice; and
- (b) include the information the Minister has asked for in the royalty estimate notice.

85 Minister may request information to support royalty estimate

- (1) The Minister may, by notice to a person who has lodged a royalty estimate, ask the person to give the Minister, by the day stated in the notice, information to support the matters stated in the royalty estimate.
- (2) The Minister may, by notice to a person who must provide a royalty estimate under section 327A(2) of the Act, ask the person to give the Minister, by the day stated in the notice, additional information about the matters that must be included in the royalty estimate.
- (3) If the Minister gives a person a notice under subsection (1) or (2), the person must provide the information by the day stated in the notice.

Part 10 Giving documents under royalty provisions

85A Where royalty return may be lodged and timing of lodgement—Act, ss 333QD and 333QE

- (1) Subsection (2) prescribes, for section 333QD(d) of the Act, the person with whom, and the way, a royalty return may be given.

[s 85B]

- (2) For section 333QD(d) of the Act, a royalty return is taken to be given to the Minister if it is left at an office of the department (mining) with the chief executive, or a public service employee, of that department.
- (3) For section 333QE(1)(d) of the Act, the royalty return is given to the Minister under subsection (2) when it is actually received by the chief executive or public service employee under subsection (2).
- (4) In this section—
department (mining) means the department in which the Act, other than the royalty provisions, is administered.

85B Non-application of s 333QH of Act

Section 333QH(1) of the Act does not apply to a person if the person is not required to pay a royalty-related amount for a royalty return period under—

- (a) an Act relating to the royalty-related amount; or
- (b) a court order.

85C Way document may be given by Minister—Act, s 333QI

For section 333QI(1)(c) of the Act, the circumstances are—

- (a) the document relates to a royalty provision; and
- (b) the person has consented to the document being given using the approved information system; and
- (c) the document is made available in a format that can be saved and stored by the person outside the approved information system.

85D When document is given to person—Act, s 333QJ

- (1) For section 333QJ(1)(c) of the Act, a document made available using an approved information system is taken to be given to the person on—

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- (a) the day the person is given notice that the document is available using the approved information system; or
 - (b) if the Minister is satisfied that, on the day mentioned in paragraph (a), the approved information system itself was not available to be accessed—the day the document is first available, using the approved information system, after the notice mentioned in paragraph (a) is given.

Examples for paragraph (b)—

- 1 Planned system maintenance or an unplanned system outage affects the approved information system and prevents it being accessed. The approved information system itself is not available to be accessed during the maintenance or outage.
 - 2 A person does not have access to the internet, but the approved information system is functioning normally. The approved information system itself is available to be accessed.
- (2) For subsection (1), the notice is taken to be given to the person on—
- (a) if the notice is given by email—the date the email is sent; or
 - (b) if the notice is given by text message—the date the text message is sent.

Chapter 4 Miscellaneous

Part 1 Administration and judicial functions

86 Amount held by tribunal for compensation trust decision—Act, s 712

- (1) The amount paid to the tribunal under section 712(1)(a) of the Act must be held in the way specified in the *Court Funds Act 1973*, sections 7 and 8.

- (2) For subsection (1), a reference in the *Court Funds Act 1973*—
 - (a) to ‘court’ or ‘the court’ is taken to be a reference to the tribunal; and
 - (b) to ‘the registrar’ is taken to be a reference to the registrar of the tribunal.

Part 4 Additional information and lodgement requirements

93 Plan of survey must be lodged

- (1) This section applies if the Minister has, under section 407 of the Act, asked the applicant for a grant of, or the holder of, a mining tenement to have the land to which the application relates or the tenement applies, surveyed or further surveyed.
- (2) The plan of the survey must be lodged with the chief executive.
- (3) If the survey does not meet the requirements of the Act, the chief executive may do either or both of the following—
 - (a) ask the applicant or holder to provide, within a stated period, further information about the survey;
 - (b) not accept the survey plan.

Example of a survey not meeting the requirements of the Act—

In contravention of section 408(1) of the Act, a survey is carried out by a surveyor who has a share in the relevant tenure.

- (4) In this section—

mining tenement means a mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease.

94 Prescribed way for making applications etc.—Act, s 386O

- (1) For section 386O(2)(b) of the Act, the prescribed way for doing any of the following is electronically, using the online system on the department’s website—

- (a) the making of an application;
 - (b) the giving of a document to the Minister or chief executive;
 - (c) the filing, forwarding or lodging of a document;
 - (d) the making of a submission.
- (2) Also, the chief executive may, by notice given to the person making, giving, filing, forwarding or lodging a document mentioned in subsection (1), require the person to lodge a hard copy of the document at the place required under section 386O(2)(a) of the Act.
- (3) A document mentioned in subsection (1) that is lodged electronically between 4.30p.m. on a working day and 8.30a.m. on the next working day (the *later day*) is taken to have been lodged at 8.30a.m. on the later day.

Part 5 Small scale mining code

96 **Small scale mining code—Act, 391C**

- (1) For section 391C(1) of the Act, the small scale mining code consists of parts 2, 3 and 4 of the document called ‘Small Scale Mining Code’ published by the department.
- (2) The chief executive must—
- (a) keep a copy of the code and a record of each part of the code including, for example, the dates when each part was published or superseded; and
 - (b) ensure an up-to-date copy of the code and the record are available to be read free of charge on the department’s website.

Part 6 Mining tenements

97 Particular applications can not be accepted

- (1) A document (the *document*) purporting to be an application for a mining tenement can not be accepted as an application if—
- (a) the person stated in the document as the applicant for the mining tenement is not an eligible person; or
 - (b) the land, stated in the document as the land for which the application is made, is unavailable land for the mining tenement for which the application is made; or
 - (c) the document is not in the approved form for an application for the mining tenement; or

Note—

See, however, the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*, section 49.

- (d) the person has not paid the prescribed fee for the application.
- (2) If, under subsection (1), the document can not be accepted as an application for a mining tenement, the chief executive must keep a copy of the document and give the person lodging it a notice stating—
- (a) that the document has not been accepted as an application for the mining tenement; and
 - (b) the reason the document has not been accepted.
- (3) In this section—

unavailable land, for a mining tenement, means land over which the mining tenement can not be granted under the Act.

Examples of land over which a mining tenement can not be granted—

- 1 land to which an existing mining tenement applies if the holder of the existing mining tenement is not the applicant or has not given the applicant written consent to apply for a mining tenement over the land
- 2 land that is part of a restricted area if the mining tenement is a prohibited mining tenement for the restricted area

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- 3 land that is part of a protected area
 - 4 land that has been excluded from the application of the Act by a law of the Commonwealth

98 Rental payable

- (1) The rental payable under the Act, for a year, for a mining tenement is stated in schedule 4.

Note—

See also the Act, sections 95, 138, 193 and 290.

- (2) However, for a mineral development licence that relates to more than 1,000ha, the rental payable on each hectare must be worked out at the following rate—
 - (a) for the first 1,000ha—at the rate mentioned in schedule 4;
 - (b) for the next 1,000ha—at 40% of the rate mentioned in schedule 4;
 - (c) for the next 3,000ha—at 25% of the rate mentioned in schedule 4;
 - (d) for the next 10,000ha—at 5% of the rate mentioned in schedule 4;
 - (e) for each additional hectare—at 1% of the rate mentioned in schedule 4.
- (3) In this section—

year means—

 - (a) for an exploration permit—a period of 1 year starting, in each year, on the day the exploration permit was granted; or
 - (b) for another mining tenement—a rental year.

Part 7 **Other miscellaneous provisions**

99 **Time of lodgement to be noted**

If an application under the Act is lodged with the chief executive and complies with the requirements under the Act for the application, the chief executive must endorse the application with the day and time it was lodged.

100 **Prescribed hours of business**

The hours prescribed for the conduct of business for an office of the chief executive are between 8.30a.m. and 4.30p.m. on each business day.

101 **Fees**

The fees payable under the Act are stated in schedule 5.

Part 8 **Repeal**

102 **Repeal**

The Mineral Resources Regulation 2003, SL No. 174 is repealed.

Part 9 **Transitional provisions for Mineral Resources Regulation 2013**

103 **Definitions for pt 9**

In this part—

commencement means the commencement of this section.

former, in relation to a provision, means a provision of the repealed regulation.

repealed regulation means the Mineral Resources Regulation 2003, SL No. 174 as in force immediately before its repeal.

104 Period to which royalty return must relate

- (1) This section applies to a person who was, immediately before the commencement, required under former section 27 to lodge royalty returns relating to either—
 - (a) a period of 1 year starting on 1 July; or
 - (b) a quarter as decided by the Minister under former section 27(1(b)).
- (2) Despite section 35, the person must lodge royalty returns relating to the period mentioned in subsection (1)(a) or (b).
- (3) However, the Minister may at any time on or after the commencement decide that—
 - (a) this section no longer applies to the person; and
 - (b) the person must lodge royalty returns under section 35.
- (4) The Minister must give the person a notice of the Minister's decision under subsection (3).
- (5) The notice must state the day (the *stated day*) on which the decision takes effect.
- (6) The stated day must not be a day earlier than the day the Minister gives the person the notice.

105 Minerals sold, disposed of or used before commencement

Former part 9 continues to apply, despite its repeal, for working out the gross value of minerals sold, disposed of or used before the commencement.

106 Existing application for gross value royalty decision

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) an application for a gross value royalty decision for a mineral was made under former section 43C or 43D; and
 - (b) the application related to an amount of the mineral to be sold, disposed of or used on or after the commencement; and
 - (c) at the commencement, the application has not been decided.
- (2) For mineral to be sold, disposed of or used on or after the commencement, the application is taken to have been made under section 60.

107 Existing gross value royalty decisions

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a gross value royalty decision (the *pre-commencement decision*) was made for a mineral before the commencement; and
 - (b) the decision related to mineral to be sold, disposed of or used on or after the commencement.
- (2) For mineral sold, disposed of or used on or after the commencement, the pre-commencement decision is taken to be a gross value royalty decision made for the mineral under section 63.
- (3) For subsection (2), the notice given for the decision under former section 43F(3) is taken to be a notice given under 63(5).

108 Minister may do particular things

The Minister may do any act or thing the chief executive was, before the commencement, required to do under former part 9 in relation to a right, privilege or liability acquired, accrued or

incurred by a person under the former part 9 before the commencement.

Example—

On the day before the commencement, the chief executive made an assessment under former section 44 as a result of which a person was entitled to receive a refund under former section 45. Former section 45 was repealed before the refund could be processed. The Minister may give the refund after the commencement.

109 Threshold exemption for relevant minerals

For working out the threshold exemption that applied for a relevant mineral under former section 34, and that applies for a relevant mineral under section 50, the total threshold exemption that applies for the financial year that commenced on 1 July 2013 is \$100,000.

110 References to provisions of repealed regulation

A reference in a document to a particular provision (the *former provision*) of the repealed regulation may, to the extent necessary and if the context permits, be taken as a reference to a provision of this regulation all or part of which corresponds, or substantially corresponds, to the former provision.

Example—

A reference in a document to former section 13D or 14D is taken to be a reference to section 17 of this regulation.

Part 10

Transitional provisions for Water Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2014

111 Application of joint interaction management plan provisions

- (1) The pre-amended regulation continues to apply in relation to coal mining operations carried out under a coal mining lease in an overlapping area for a period of 6 months after the commencement as if the joint interaction management plan provisions had not commenced.
- (2) Despite subsection (2), a plan made under the pre-amended regulation, section 25 or 26 is to be known as a 'joint interaction management plan' from the commencement.
- (3) In this section—

joint interaction management plan provisions means chapter 2, part 4, division 4, as inserted by the *Water Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2014*.

overlapping area see section 23(1)(a).

pre-amended regulation means this regulation as in force immediately before the commencement.

111A Requirement for joint interaction management plan by particular date

- (1) This section applies in relation to coal mining operations mentioned in section 111(1) if, on 27 September 2017 and despite the *Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Transitional Regulation 2016*, section 10—
 - (a) a joint interaction management plan has not been made under section 25 in relation to the coal mining operations; and

- (b) the reason a joint interaction management plan has not been made under section 25 is that arbitration of a dispute about the plan has been applied for under section 25(3) or (4).
- (2) The plan mentioned in section 111(2) made in relation to the coal mining operations is taken to be a joint interaction management plan for section 25(1)(a).
- (3) Subsection (2) applies until a joint interaction management plan is made under section 25 for the coal mining operations.

112 Requirement for joint interaction management plan relating to overlapping petroleum lease under 1923 Act

- (1) This section applies in relation to coal mining operations carried out under a coal mining lease in an overlapping area if a petroleum lease relating to the overlapping area is a petroleum lease under the *Petroleum Act 1923*.
- (2) A plan made under the pre-amended regulation, section 25 or 26, in relation to the coal mining operations is taken to be a joint interaction management plan for the purposes of section 25(1)(a).
- (3) Subsection (2) applies until a joint interaction management plan is made under section 25 for the coal mining operations.
- (4) The holder of the coal mining lease responsible for making a joint interaction management plan under section 25 must—
 - (a) make reasonable attempts to consult with the operator of each authorised activities operating plant, as mentioned in section 25(1)(b)(i), within 2 months after the commencement; and
 - (b) if the holder seeks to rely on section 25(2)—give the operator of each authorised activities operating plant a copy of the proposed plan, as mentioned in that subsection, within 2 months after the commencement.
- (5) In this section—

pre-amended regulation means this regulation as in force immediately before the commencement of section 111.

Part 11 **Transitional provision for Revenue Legislation (Fees and Other Matters) Amendment Regulation 2019**

113 **Application of ch 3, pt 5, div 3, sdiv 1A to existing gross value royalty decisions**

Chapter 3, part 5, division 3, subdivision 1A applies in relation to a gross value royalty decision for a mineral made before the commencement if the period stated in the decision for which the decision applies ends on or after 1 July 2019.

Part 12 **Transitional provision for Mineral Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2019**

114 **Transitional reporting period**

- (1) This section applies for the period starting on the commencement and ending on 31 October 2020.
- (2) For sections 31B and 31C, the reporting period is taken to be the period that started on 1 July 2019 and ends on—
 - (a) 31 October 2020; or
 - (b) if the period relates to a mineral development licence or mining lease that expires or is surrendered on a day before 31 October 2020—that day.

Schedule 1 Conditions

sections 4, 8(1), 11,12 and 22

- 1 The holder, or another person acting under the authority, of a mining tenement must use, if practicable, only existing roads or tracks on the land to which the tenement applies.
- 2 The holder, or another person acting under the authority, of a mining tenement must take reasonable steps to ensure no reproductive material of a declared plant is moved onto, within or from the land to which the tenement applies.
- 3 The holder, or another person acting under the authority, of a mining tenement must not allow an animal in the custody of the holder or person to be on the land to which the tenement applies unless—
 - (a) the land is fenced in a way to prevent the animal from leaving it; or
 - (b) the animal is restrained.
- 4 The holder, or another person acting under the authority, of a mining tenement must not discharge a firearm on the land to which the tenement applies, unless—
 - (a) the holder of the tenement has obtained the written consent of the owner of the land; and
 - (b) the consent has been lodged with the chief executive.
- 5 The holder, or another person acting under the authority, of a mining tenement must not light an open fire on the land to which the tenement applies, unless—
 - (a) the holder of the tenement has obtained the written consent of the owner of the land; and
 - (b) the consent has been lodged with the chief executive.
- 6 The holder, or another person acting under the authority, of a mining tenement must not access the land to which the tenement applies other than at a point designated by the chief executive, unless—

Schedule 1

- (a) the holder of the tenement has obtained the written consent of the owner of the land; and
- (b) the consent has been lodged with the chief executive.

Schedule 2 Prescribed area for mining claim land

section 7

Part 1 Emerald mining district

- 1 Rubyvale designated fossicking land—900m²
- 2 Sapphire designated fossicking land—900m²
- 3 Reward designated fossicking land—900m²
- 4 Divide designated fossicking land—900m²
- 5 Willows designated fossicking land—900m²
- 6 land within the boundaries of designated fossicking land mentioned in items 1 to 5, but not part of the designated fossicking land—900m²

Part 2 Georgetown mining district

- 1 land in restricted area 26 within the boundaries shown on plan no. 31028—900m²

Part 3 Quilpie mining district

- 1 land in restricted area 25 within the boundaries shown on plan no. 30953—2ha
- 2 land in restricted area 296 within the boundaries shown on plan no. 36673—900m²
- 3 land in restricted area 297 within the boundaries shown on plan no. 36673—900m²

Part 4 **Winton mining district**

- 1 land in restricted area 77 within the boundaries shown on plan no. 30955—900m²

Schedule 3 Royalty payable for minerals

sections 46, 47 and 48

Part 1 Royalty rates for prescribed minerals

1 Definitions for pt 1

In this part—

average market price, for a prescribed mineral, means the average for a return period of the following price, converted to Australian dollars at the hedge settlement rate for each day of the return period—

- (a) for cobalt, copper, lead, nickel or zinc—the spot price quoted on the London Metal Exchange;
- (b) for gold—the p.m. fix price quoted on the London Bullion Market;
- (c) for silver—the fix price quoted on the London Bullion Market.

reference price 1, for a prescribed mineral, means—

- (a) for cobalt—\$55,115 for each tonne; or
- (b) for copper—\$3,600 for each tonne; or
- (c) for gold—\$600 for each troy ounce; or
- (d) for lead—\$1,100 for each tonne; or
- (e) for nickel—\$12,500 for each tonne; or
- (f) for silver—\$9 for each troy ounce; or
- (g) for zinc—\$1,900 for each tonne.

reference price 2, for a prescribed mineral, means—

- (a) for cobalt—\$83,775 for each tonne; or
- (b) for copper—\$9,200 for each tonne; or

- (c) for gold—\$890 for each troy ounce; or
- (d) for lead—\$2,500 for each tonne; or
- (e) for nickel—\$38,100 for each tonne; or
- (f) for silver—\$16.50 for each troy ounce; or
- (g) for zinc—\$4,400 for each tonne.

2 Royalty rate for prescribed mineral

- (1) The royalty rate for a prescribed mineral is—
 - (a) if the average market price for the mineral is equal to or lower than reference price 1 for the mineral—2.5% of the value of the prescribed mineral; or
 - (b) if the average market price for the mineral is higher than reference price 1 for the mineral but lower than reference price 2 for the mineral—the prescribed percentage of the value of the prescribed mineral; or
 - (c) if the average market price for the mineral is equal to or higher than reference price 2 for the mineral—5% of the value of the prescribed mineral.

- (2) In this section—

prescribed percentage means the amount, expressed as a percentage, rounded down to the nearest increment of 0.02%, worked out by using the following formula—

$$PP = 2.5 + \left(\frac{PD}{RFD} \times 2.5 \right)$$

where—

PP is the prescribed percentage.

PD is the difference between the average market price and reference price 1 for the prescribed mineral.

RFD is the difference between reference price 2 and reference price 1 for the prescribed mineral.

Example—

If, for a return period, the average market price for copper is \$8,300 for each tonne of copper, the royalty rate for copper for the return period must be worked out under subsection (1)(b), given the average market price is higher than reference price 1 for copper (\$3,600) but lower than reference price 2 for copper (\$9,200). The royalty rate would be 4.58%, being the amount (4.598214%) worked out by using the formula in subsection (2), definition *prescribed percentage*, rounded down to the nearest increment of 0.02%.

Part 2 Royalty rates for minerals other than prescribed minerals

3 Particular minerals

The royalty rate for the following minerals is the rate, for each tonne of the mineral, stated opposite the mineral—

	\$
1 Bentonite	1.80
2 Calcite	1.00
3 Clay shale	0.50
4 Clay used for fired clay products	0.50
5 Diatomite	1.50
6 Dolomite	1.00
7 Feldspar	0.75
8 Gypsum	0.50
9 Kaolin	1.00
10 Lime, earth	0.50
11 Limestone	0.75
12 Magnesite	1.50
13 Marble	1.00

Schedule 3

	\$
14 Mica	1.50
15 Perlite	1.00
16 Rock mined in block or slab form for building or monumental purposes	1.00
17 Salt	1.50
18 Sand, gravel and rock, other than rock mined in block or slab form for building or monumental purposes	0.50
19 Silica	0.90
20 Wollastonite	0.75

4 Bauxite

The royalty rate for bauxite sold, disposed of or used in a return period by the holder is—

- (a) if the bauxite is mined for consumption outside the State—the higher of the following—
 - (i) 10% of the value of the bauxite;
 - (ii) \$2 for each tonne of bauxite; or
- (b) if the bauxite is mined for consumption within the State—
 - (i) for a holder who has also sold, disposed of or used bauxite in the return period that is mined for consumption outside the State—the higher of the following—
 - (A) 75% of the amount per tonne of the rate calculated under paragraph (a)(i), rounded down to 2 decimal places;
 - (B) \$1.50 per tonne of bauxite; or
 - (ii) otherwise—\$1.50 per tonne of bauxite.

5 Coal

- (1) The royalty rate for coal is—
- (a) if the average price per tonne of the coal sold, disposed of or used in the return period is \$100 or less—7% of the value of the coal; or
 - (b) the royalty rate applied to the value of the coal sold, disposed of or used in the return period, rounded down to 2 decimal places, worked out using the following formula—
 - (i) if the average price per tonne of the coal sold, disposed of or used in the return period is more than \$100 but not more than \$150—

$$RR = 7 + \left(\frac{(AP - 100)}{AP} \times 5.5 \right)$$

- (ii) if the average price per tonne of the coal sold, disposed of or used in the return period is \$150 or more—

$$RR = 7 + \left(\frac{(AP - 100)}{AP} \times 5.5 \right) + \left(\frac{(AP - 150)}{AP} \times 2.5 \right)$$

where—

RR is the royalty rate, expressed as a percentage.

AP is the average price per tonne of the coal sold, disposed of or used in the return period.

- (2) The royalty rate must be worked out and applied separately for coal sold or disposed of for consumption, or used, inside the State and coal sold or disposed of for consumption, or used, outside the State.

6 Corundum, gemstones and other precious stones

The royalty rate for corundum, gemstones or other precious stones is 2.5% of the value of the corundum, gemstones or precious stones.

7 Coal seam gas

The royalty rate for coal seam gas is the rate applying to petroleum under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, section 590.

8 Manganese, molybdenum, rare earths, tantalum and tungsten

The royalty rate for any of the following minerals is 2.7% of the value of the mineral—

- (a) manganese;
- (b) molybdenum;
- (c) rare earths;
- (d) tantalum;
- (e) tungsten.

9 Mineral sands

(1) The royalty rate for a concentrate of a mineral sand is 5% of the value of the concentrate.

(2) In this section—

mineral sand includes the following—

- (a) anatase;
- (b) ilmenite;
- (c) leucoxene;
- (d) monazite;
- (e) rutile;
- (f) zircon.

10 Phosphate rock

- (1) The royalty rate for phosphate rock is the higher of the following—
- (a) 80 cents for each tonne of phosphate rock;
 - (b) the rate, rounded down to 2 decimal places, for each tonne of phosphate rock worked out using the following formula—

$$R = \$1 \times \frac{G}{32.3} \times \frac{P_{curr}}{\$72.50}$$

where—

R is the royalty rate.

G is the average P₂O₅ content of the phosphate rock for the return period.

P_{curr} is the average price for the return period, converted to Australian dollars at the average hedge settlement rate for the return period, of Moroccan phosphate rock with 32.3% P₂O₅ content.

Example for subsection (1)—

For a return period—

- the average P₂O₅ content of phosphate rock is 24%, so that *G* is 24
- the average price of Moroccan phosphate rock with 32.3% P₂O₅ content is US\$175
- the average hedge settlement rate is 90c.

The rate under subsection (1)(b), by applying the formula, is \$1.99. Therefore, the royalty rate is \$1.99 for each tonne of the phosphate rock.

- (2) In this section—

average hedge settlement rate, for a return period, means the average, worked out for the return period, of the hedge settlement rates for each day in the return period.

average price for the return period, of Moroccan phosphate rock, means the average of the benchmark prices per tonne of

Moroccan phosphate rock with 32.3% P₂O₅ content published in the magazine called *Fertilizer Week* for the return period.

Note—

Fertilizer Week is available online at www.crugroup.com/market-analysis/products/fertilizerweek.

11 Processed oil shale

- (1) The royalty rate for the oil processed from oil shale is the lesser of the following—
 - (a) 10% of the value of the oil processed from the oil shale;
 - (b) the WTI%, rounded down to 2 decimal places, of the value of the oil processed from the oil shale.
- (2) For subsection (1)(b), the WTI% must be worked out using the following formula—

$$\text{WTI}\% = \left(\left[\frac{\text{CPI}_{\text{BASE}}}{\text{CPI}_{\text{NOW}}} \times \text{WTI} \right]^2 \div 1000 \right) + 0.5$$

where—

*CPI*_{BASE} is 61.2.

*CPI*_{NOW} is the CPI for the calendar quarter for which the royalty for oil shale is being worked out.

WTI is the average crude oil price.

- (3) In this section—

average crude oil price means the last daily ‘West Texas Intermediate Cushing Crude Oil’ price—

- (a) converted to Australian dollars at the hedge settlement rate for each day of trading in the calendar quarter for which the royalty payable for oil shale is being worked out; and
- (b) averaged over the calendar quarter for which the royalty payable for oil shale is being worked out.

CPI means the ‘Consumer Price Index: All Groups Index Numbers—Weighted Average of 8 Capital Cities’ published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Example for subsection (1)—

For a calendar quarter—

- the CPI is 102.8; and
- the WTI is \$A105.

The WTI%, worked out using the formula in subsection (2), is 4.40%. Therefore, the royalty rate for the oil processed from the oil shale would be 4.40% of the oil’s value.

12 Iron ore

(1) The royalty rate for iron ore is—

- (a) if the average price for each tonne of iron ore is \$100 or less—\$1.25 for each tonne; or
- (b) if the average price for each tonne of iron ore is more than \$100—the following percentage of the value of the iron ore, whichever is the higher—
 - (i) 1.25%;
 - (ii) the amount, expressed as a percentage, worked out using the following formula, rounded down to the nearest increment of 0.02%—

$$P = 1.25 + \left(\frac{(A - 100)}{A} \times 1.25 \right)$$

where—

P is the percentage.

A is the average price for each tonne of the iron ore.

(2) In this section—

average price for each tonne, of iron ore, means the average price for each tonne of the iron ore sold, disposed of or used in the return period.

13 Uranium

The royalty rate for uranium is—

- (a) if the average price per kilogram of the uranium sold, disposed of or used in the return period is \$220 or less—5% of the value of the uranium; or
- (b) if the average price per kilogram of the uranium sold, disposed of or used in the return period is more than \$220—the royalty rate applied to the value of the uranium sold, disposed of or used in the return period, rounded down to 2 decimal places, worked out using the following formula—

$$RR = 5 + \left(\frac{(AP - 220)}{AP} \times 5 \right)$$

where—

RR is the royalty rate, expressed as a percentage.

AP is the average price per kilogram of the uranium sold, disposed of or used in the return period.

14 Other minerals

The royalty rate for a mineral for which a royalty rate is not otherwise stated in this schedule is 2.5% of the value of the mineral.

Schedule 4 Rental payable

section 98(1)

	\$
1 For a mining claim	nil
2 For an exploration permit—for each sub-block to which the exploration permit applies	164.90
3 For a mineral development licence—for each hectare to which the development licence relates—	
(a) for the first year of the licence	4.55
(b) for the second year of the licence	9.40
(c) for the third year of the licence	14.40
(d) for the fourth year of the licence	24.85
(e) for a year of the licence after the fourth year	29.90
4 For a mining lease—for each hectare to which the mining lease relates	63.70

Schedule 5 Fees

section 101

Part 1 Prospecting permits

		\$
1	Application for district prospecting permit—for each month of the term of permit applied for (Act, s 21(b)(ii))	133.70
2	Application for parcel prospecting permit (Act, s 21(b)(ii))	133.70

Part 2 Mining claims

		\$
1	Application for mining claim (Act, s 61(1)(j)(iii))	401.60
2	Application for renewal of mining claim (Act, s 93(2)(c))	401.60
3	Application for approval to mine specified minerals not specified in mining claim (Act, s 105(2))	53.30
4	Lodging notice of surrender of mining claim (Act, s 107(1)(c))	53.30
5	Application for variation of the land used or proposed to be used as access in relation to land the subject of mining claim (Act, s 125(2)(b))	53.30

Part 3 Exploration permits

	\$
1 Application for exploration permit, for a mineral other than coal (Act, s 133(g)(v))—	
(a) for 4 or fewer sub-blocks in restricted area 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264 or 265	334.80
(b) otherwise	1,000.00
2 Tender for exploration permit, for a mineral other than coal (Act, ss 136A(3)(a) and 136E(d)(ii))	1,337.00
3 Tender for exploration permit for coal (Act, s 136E(d)(ii))	1,337.00
4 Application for exploration permit under chapter 4, part 3, division 5 of the Act (Act, s 136R(f)(ii))	1,337.00
5 Application for renewal of exploration permit (Act, s 147(2)(b))—	
(a) for coal	667.00
(b) for any other mineral—	
(i) for 4 or fewer sub-blocks in restricted area 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264 or 265	200.50
(ii) otherwise	667.00

Part 4 Mineral development licences

	\$
1 Application for mineral development licence (Act, s 183(1)(n)(iii))—	
(a) for coal	2,678.00
(b) for any mineral other than coal	2,678.00

	\$
2 Application for renewal of mineral development licence (Act, s 197(2)(b))—	
(a) for coal	936.00
(b) for any mineral other than coal	936.00
3 Application for adding another mineral to mineral development licence (Act, s 208(2))	667.00
4 Lodging notice of surrender of mineral development licence (Act, s 210(3)(c))	200.50
5 Application for variation of the land used or proposed to be used as access in relation to land the subject of mineral development licence (Act, s 231(2)(b))	468.70

Part 5 Mining leases

	\$
1 Obtaining copy of mining lease application (s 20(2))	53.30
2 Application for mining lease (Act, s 245(1)(p)(iii))—	
(a) for coal	4,687.00
(b) for corundum, gemstones and other precious stones	835.00
(c) for eluvial, colluvial and alluvial gold and eluvial, colluvial and alluvial tin	835.00
(d) for any other mineral	1,671.00
3 Application for surface of restricted land for mining lease to be included in the lease (Act, s 275A(3))	468.70
4 Application for renewal of mining lease (Act, s 286(2)(b))—	
(a) for coal	4,687.00
(b) for corundum, gemstones and other precious stones	835.00

	\$
(c) for eluvial, colluvial and alluvial gold and eluvial, colluvial and alluvial tin	835.00
(d) for any other mineral	1,671.00
5 Application for approval to mine specified minerals (other than coal seam gas) not specified in mining lease (Act, s 298(2))	667.00
6 Application to add a purpose (other than mining of minerals) to mining lease granted for purposes other than the mining of minerals (Act, s 298(5))	667.00
7 Application to add a purpose to mining lease granted for mining of minerals (Act, s 298(7))	667.00
8 Application for grant of mining lease consolidating mining leases other than coal mining leases or oil shale mining leases (Act, s 299(2))	667.00
9 Lodging notice of surrender of mining lease (Act, s 309(2)(c))	200.50
10 Application for variation of the land used or proposed to be used as access in relation to land the subject of mining lease (Act, s 317(2)(b))	468.70
11 Application for indicative approval of an application transfer (Act, s 318AAR(2)(c)(ii))—	
(a) for coal	1,344.00
(b) for corundum, gemstones and other precious stones	234.50
(c) for eluvial, colluvial and alluvial gold and eluvial, colluvial and alluvial tin	234.50
(d) for any other mineral	468.80
12 Application for approval of an application transfer (Act, s 318AAS(2)(c))—	
(a) if the Minister has given an indicative approval of the transfer	182.00
(b) otherwise—	
(i) for coal	1,526.00

Schedule 5

	\$
(ii) for corundum, gemstones and other precious stones	416.50
(iii) for eluvial, colluvial and alluvial gold and eluvial, colluvial and alluvial tin	416.50
(iv) for any other mineral	650.80

Part 6 Fees relating to chapter 8 of the Act

	\$
1 Application for amendment of relinquishment condition (Act, s 318DC(g))	1,337.00
2 Application for grant of mining lease consolidating coal mining leases or oil shale mining leases (Act, s 318DM(2)(b))	1,337.00
3 Lodging proposed later development plan for coal or oil shale mining lease within the time required under section 318EB(3) of the Act (Act, s 318EB(6), definition <i>relevant fee</i> , paragraph (a))	1,337.00

Part 7 Water monitoring bores

	\$
1 Transfer of water monitoring bore to landowner (Act, s 334ZZO(1)(b))	2,005.00
2 Transfer of water monitoring bore to holder of mineral development licence, mining lease or water monitoring authority (Act, s 334ZZQ(1)(c))	2,005.00

Part 8 **Royalty returns**

	\$
1 Lodging royalty return after the day mentioned in section 36(2), (3) or (5)	199.70
2 Lodging royalty return after the day mentioned in section 37(2)	199.70

Schedule 6 Dictionary

section 3

active bore field means a single bore, or a group of bores, being used to dewater the whole, or a particular part, of a surface mine or underground mine.

affected land means land to which—

- (a) a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease applies; or
- (b) an application for a mining claim, mineral development licence or mining lease relates.

arbitration, of a dispute, for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 24.

authorised activities operating plant, for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 24.

average listed price, for chapter 3, part 5, see section 56.

calendar quarter means each of the following 3-month periods in a year—

- (a) 1 January to 31 March;
- (b) 1 April to 30 June;
- (c) 1 July to 30 September;
- (d) 1 October to 31 December.

civil penalty see section 77(2).

coal mine, for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 24.

coal mining operations, for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 24.

commencement, for chapter 4, part 9, see section 103.

CSG well means a well that is made for the production of coal seam gas under—

- (a) a coal or oil shale mining lease for a use under section 318CN(2) of the Act; or
- (b) a transitional lease.

declared plant means a plant that is—

- (a) invasive biosecurity matter under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*; or

Note—

For invasive biosecurity matter under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* see—

- 1 the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, schedule 1, part 3 or 4 or schedule 2, part 2; and
 - 2 the note to the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, schedules 1 and 2.
- (b) controlled biosecurity matter or regulated biosecurity matter under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*; or
 - (c) declared, under a local law of a local government, to be a pest.

designated fossicking land means land declared to be designated fossicking land under the *Fossicking Act 1994*, section 42.

earlier return period, for chapter 3, part 5, see section 56.

former, for chapter 4, part 9, see section 103.

gross value, for chapter 3, part 5, see section 56.

gross value royalty decision, for chapter 3, part 5, see section 56.

hedge settlement rate, for a day, means the WM/Reuters Australia Fix 10.00a.m. rate on the day.

holder—

- (a) for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 24; or
- (b) for chapter 3, see section 32.

identifying name means the unique identifying name and number for the CSG well recorded in the register.

instrument, in relation to an exploration permit, mineral development licence, or mining lease, means an instrument of

the exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease, issued under the Act, and includes a replacement instrument.

joint interaction management plan, for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 25(1)(a).

listed price, for chapter 3, part 5, see section 56.

market value mineral, for chapter 3, part 5, see section 56.

mining authority means a mining claim, mining lease or other authority under the Act or an authority under another Act relating to mining.

mining operation, for chapter 3, see section 32.

notice means written notice.

operating plant, for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 24.

operator, of an operating plant, for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 24.

overlapping area, for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 23(1)(a).

petroleum lease, for chapter 2, part 4, division 4, see section 24.

petroleum well see the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act, schedule 2.

prescribed mineral means any of the following—

- (a) cobalt;
- (b) copper;
- (c) gold;
- (d) lead;
- (e) nickel;
- (f) silver;
- (g) zinc.

previous return period, for a return period, means the return period immediately preceding the return period.

quarterly return period means a return period that is a calendar quarter.

Queensland Government business and industry portal means a website with a URL that contains ‘qld.gov.au’, other than the website of a local government, and that relates to business and industry.

rare earth means each of the following—

- (a) cerium;
- (b) dysprosium;
- (c) erbium;
- (d) europium;
- (e) gadolinium;
- (f) holmium;
- (g) lanthanum;
- (h) lutetium;
- (i) neodymium;
- (j) praseodymium;
- (k) promethium;
- (l) samarium;
- (m) scandium;
- (n) terbium;
- (o) thulium;
- (p) ytterbium;
- (q) yttrium.

reasonable means reasonable in all the circumstances.

recognised listing, for chapter 3, part 5, see section 56.

relevant entity, for chapter 3, see section 32.

relinquished area, of an exploration permit, means the relinquished part of the area of the permit.

repealed regulation, for chapter 4, part 9, see section 103.

reporting period—

- (a) for an exploration permit or a mineral development licence, means each 1-year period from the anniversary of the day the permit or licence takes effect; or
- (b) for sections 31B and 31C, means the period starting on 1 November and ending on—
 - (i) 31 October; or
 - (ii) if the period relates to a mineral development licence or mining lease that expires or is surrendered on a day before 31 October—that day.

reproductive material, of a plant, means any part of the plant that is capable of asexual or sexual reproduction.

Examples—

- 1 seed or part of a seed
- 2 bulb, rhizome, stolon, tuber or part of a bulb, rhizome, stolon or tuber
- 3 stem or leaf cutting

restricted area means an area of land stated to be a restricted area in a gazette notice made by the Minister.

return period means—

- (a) in relation to a royalty—the period for which the royalty is payable; or
- (b) in relation to a royalty return—the period to which the royalty return must relate.

Note—

For paragraph (b), see section 35.

royalty estimate notice see section 83(1).

surface mine means—

- (a) a mine other than an underground mine; or
- (b) the surface operations of an underground mine.

surrendered area, for a mineral development licence, means the surrendered part of the area of the licence.

transitional lease means a mineral hydrocarbon mining lease as defined in section 739 of the Act.

underground mine means a mine where workers normally work beneath the surface of the earth, and includes structures, apparatus and equipment that extend continuously from the surface into an underground mine, but does not include the surface operations of the mine.

well—

- 1 A *well* is a hole in the ground made or being made by drilling, boring or any other means—
 - (a) to explore for or produce coal seam gas; or
 - (b) through which coal seam gas may be produced.
- 2 However, a *well* does not include a hole in which the activities mentioned in item 1(a) or (b) are not authorised under the Act, a coal or oil shale mining lease or a transitional lease.