

DEMIRS Approvals Performance Report (Mining and Petroleum) December Quarter 2024

Mining and petroleum approval performance was positive during the December 2024 quarter, despite continued high demand for approvals. Programmes of work experienced a significant performance increase, from 65 to 91 per cent.

Petroleum environmental plan, native vegetation clearing permit and mining proposal processing experienced challenges during the quarter. The department is introducing a number of digital and regulatory improvements that will enhance the efficiency of environmental applications for mining and petroleum activities in the long term.

Andrew Chaplyn

Deputy Director General
Resource and Environmental Regulation Group

The Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) is committed to transparency in its approval performance, which helps drive continuous improvement and assists industry planning.

The average total timeline is the time taken in the assessment process by DEMIRS, the proponent and where applicable, other government agencies. Other agency input may be required for complex applications, particularly if access is required to culturally important or environmentally sensitive areas.

The DEMIRS performance objective is to finalise 80 per cent of applications within the target timeline. Departmental performance is measured against a range of administrative and statutory targets. For example, the DEMIRS target for finalising a mineral

exploration programme of work application is 15 business days (BD). The “speedo” dashboard graphics used in this report represent performance against each approval type for the quarter.

The segment titled parallel processing shows the number of overlap days where an application was on hold for both the proponent and another agency.

Most mineral and petroleum tenure applications are subject to the requirements of the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993*. These applications include a four-month notification period (around 80 business days) prescribed under S29 of this Act. This period is included as part of the “Other agencies” component for mineral and petroleum tenure applications.

To further explain the above, refer to the Exploration Licence section (page 3). The average total timeline to finalise an Exploration Licence application is 348 business days (approx. 16 months). This consists of DEMIRS processing time (38 days), proponent time (26 days) and other agencies (253 days). There were 31 days of parallel processing as part of the average. Ninety six per cent of Exploration Licence applications were finalised within the target for DEMIRS processing time of 65 business days. *Native Title Act 1993* requirements represent the majority of the total timeline (approx. 12 months).

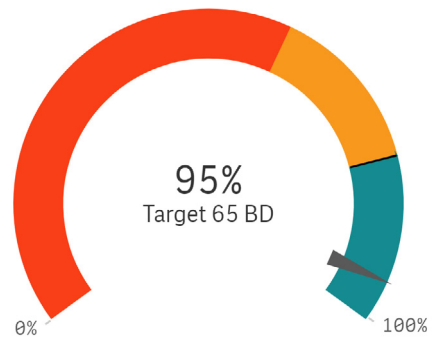
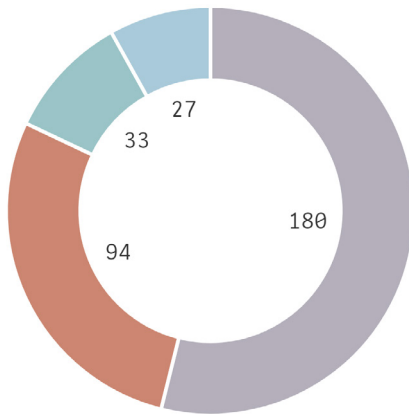
This report provides detailed information about the number of received, finalised and open applications.

Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Prospecting Licence

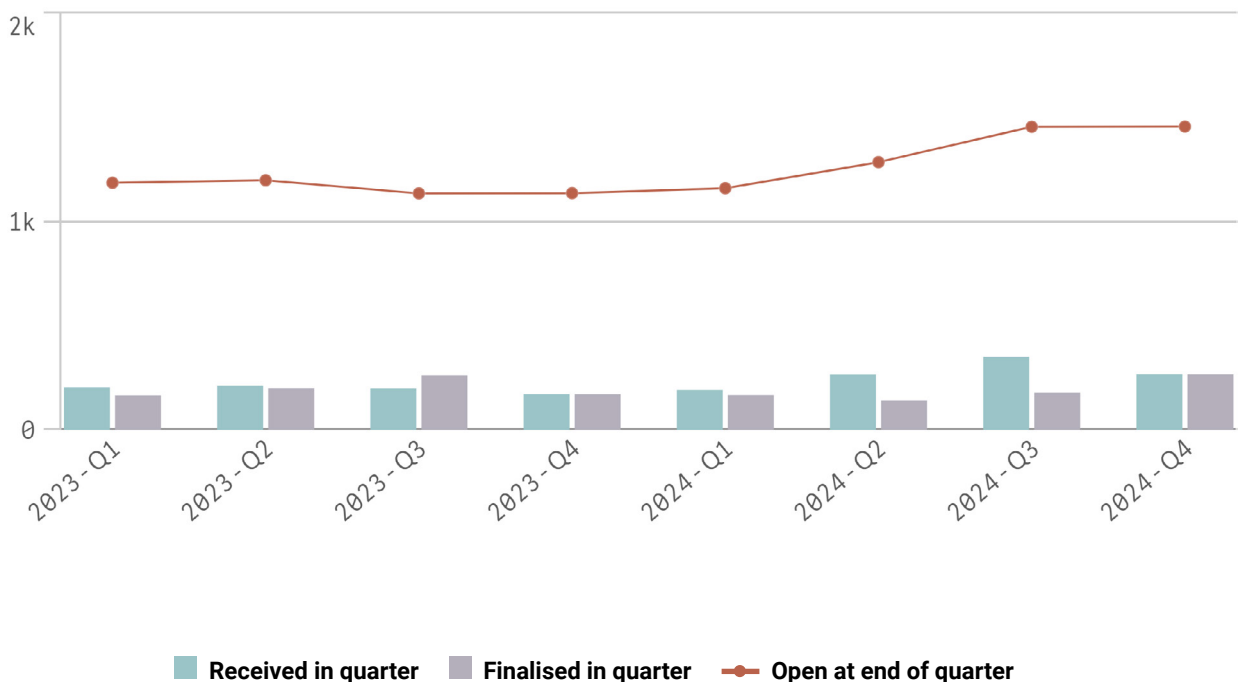
Average **334** days total

% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent
Other Agencies Parallel Processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

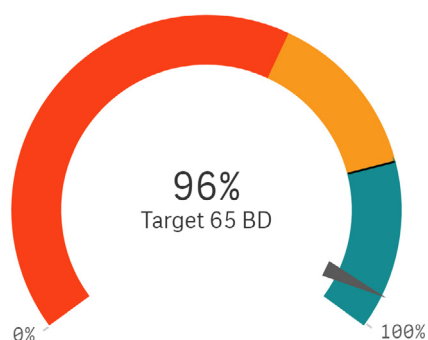
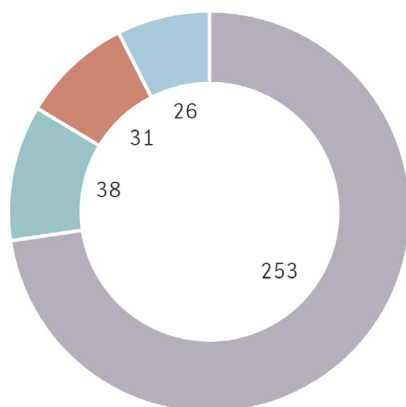


Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Exploration Licence

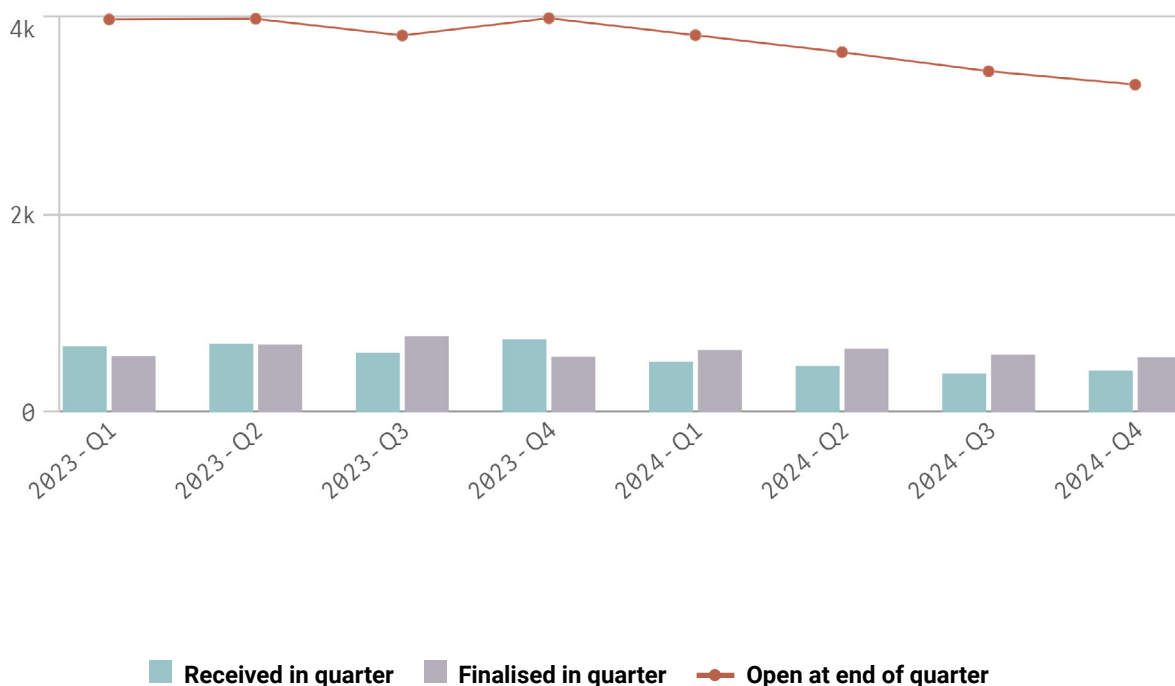
Average **348** days total

% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent
Other Agencies Parallel Processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

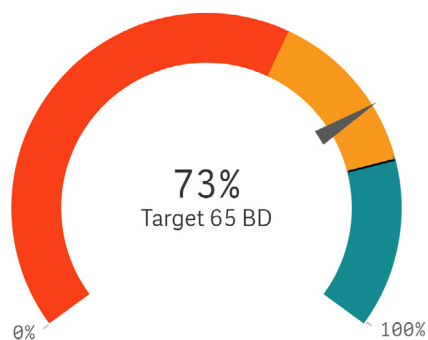
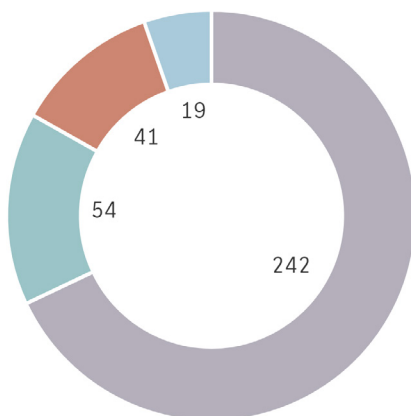


Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Mining Lease

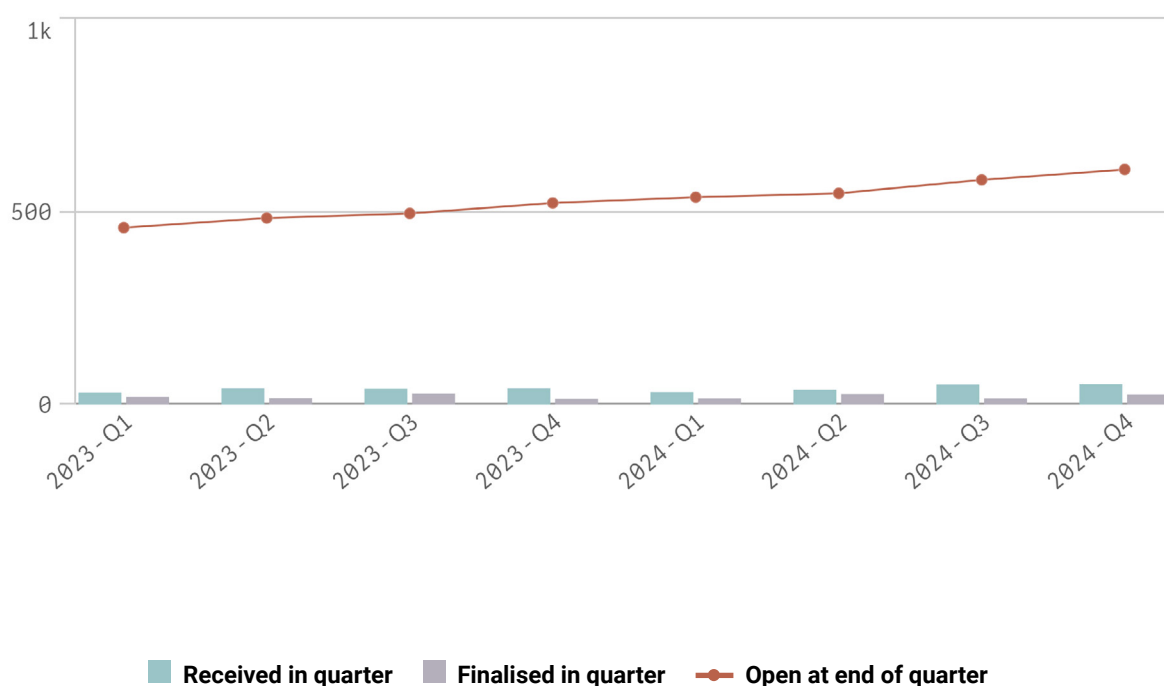
Average **356** days total

% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent
Other Agencies Parallel Processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

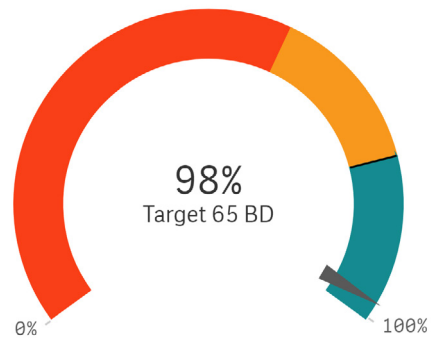
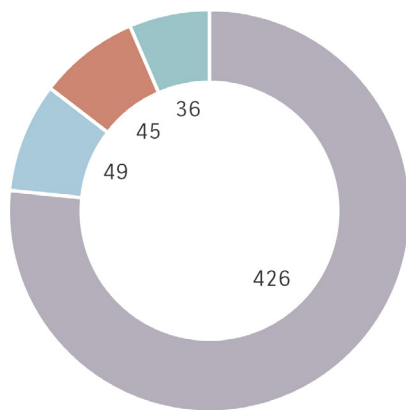


Mining Act 1978 – Mineral tenure applications

Miscellaneous Licence and other tenure

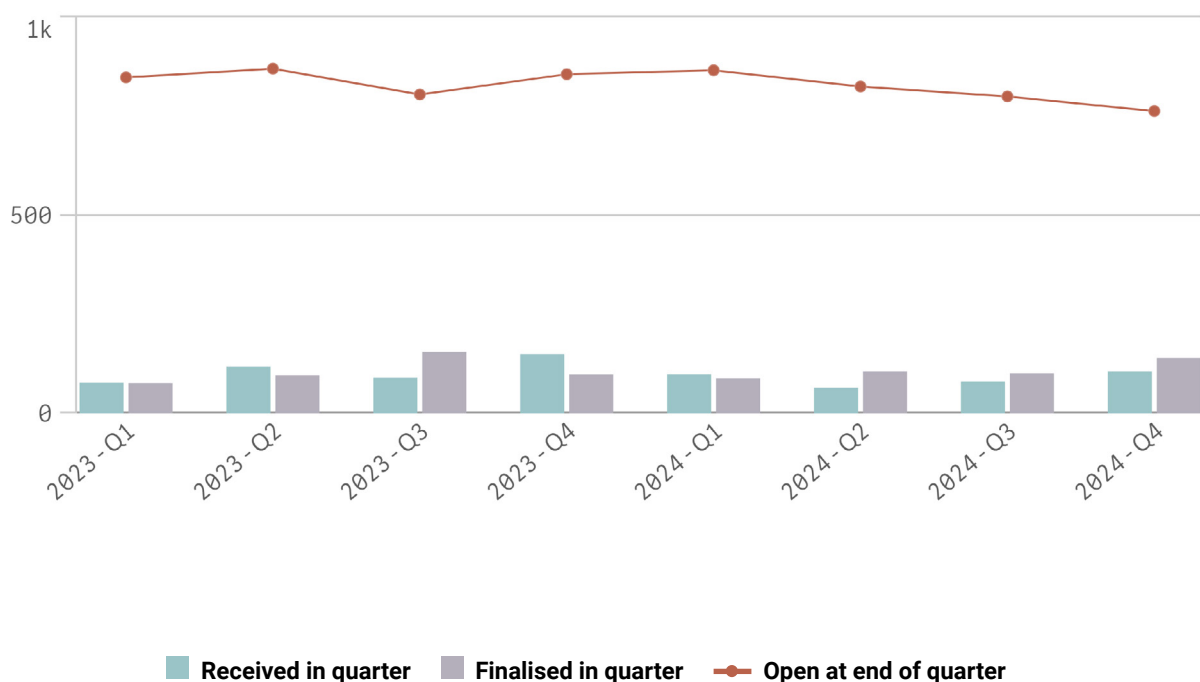
Average **556** days total

% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent
Other Agencies Parallel Processing

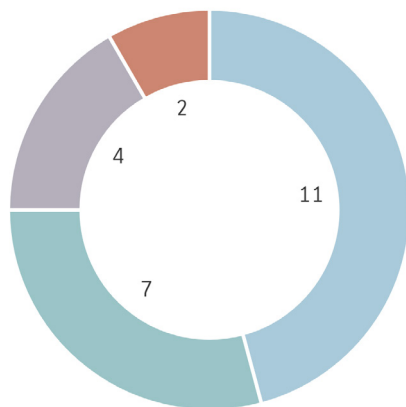
Trends for received, finalised and open



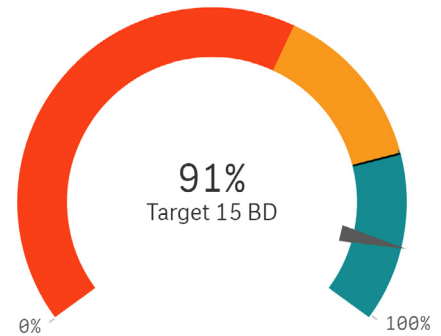
Mining Act 1978 – Environmental applications

Programme of Work

Average **24** days total

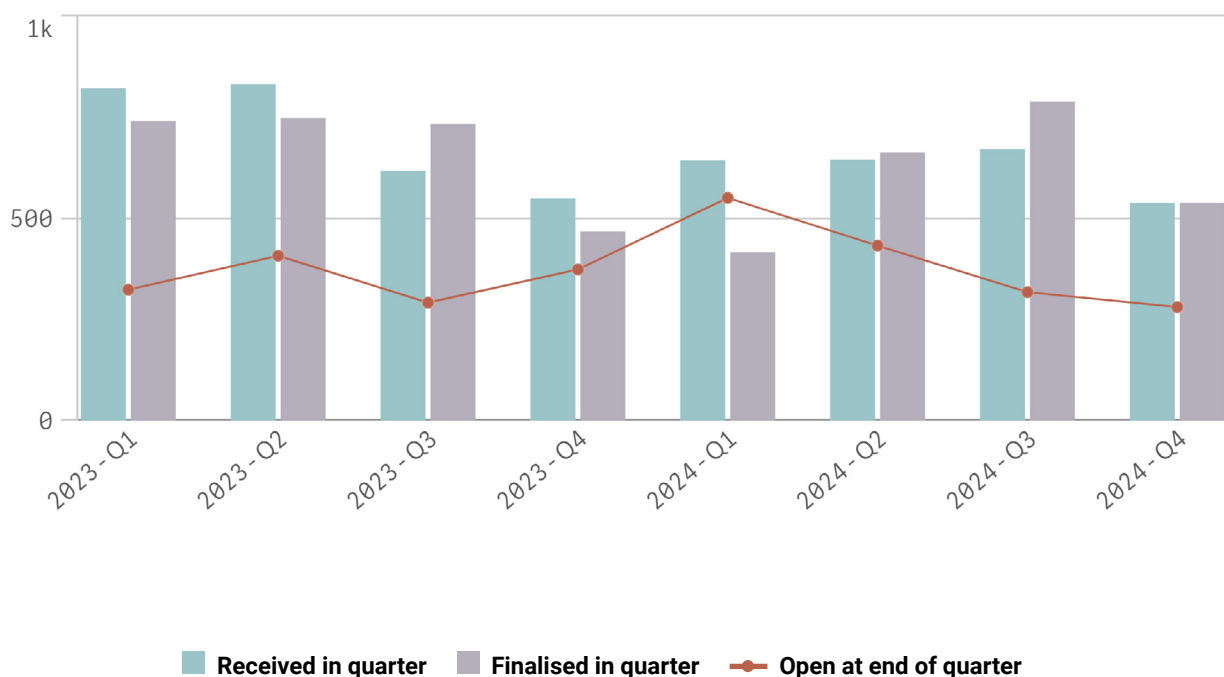


% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent
Other Agencies Parallel Processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

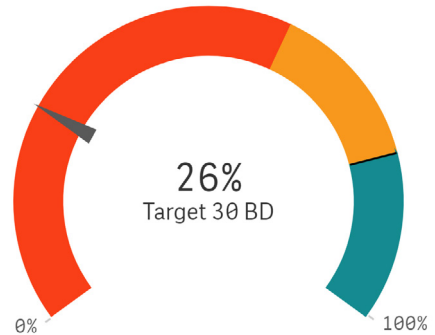
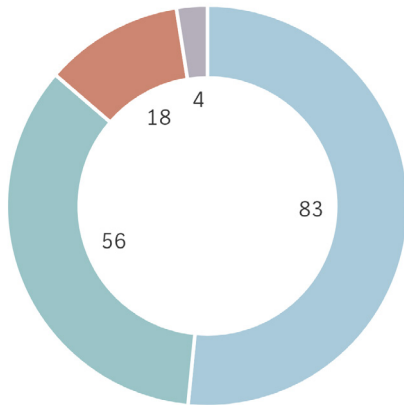


Mining Act 1978 – Environmental applications

Mining Proposal

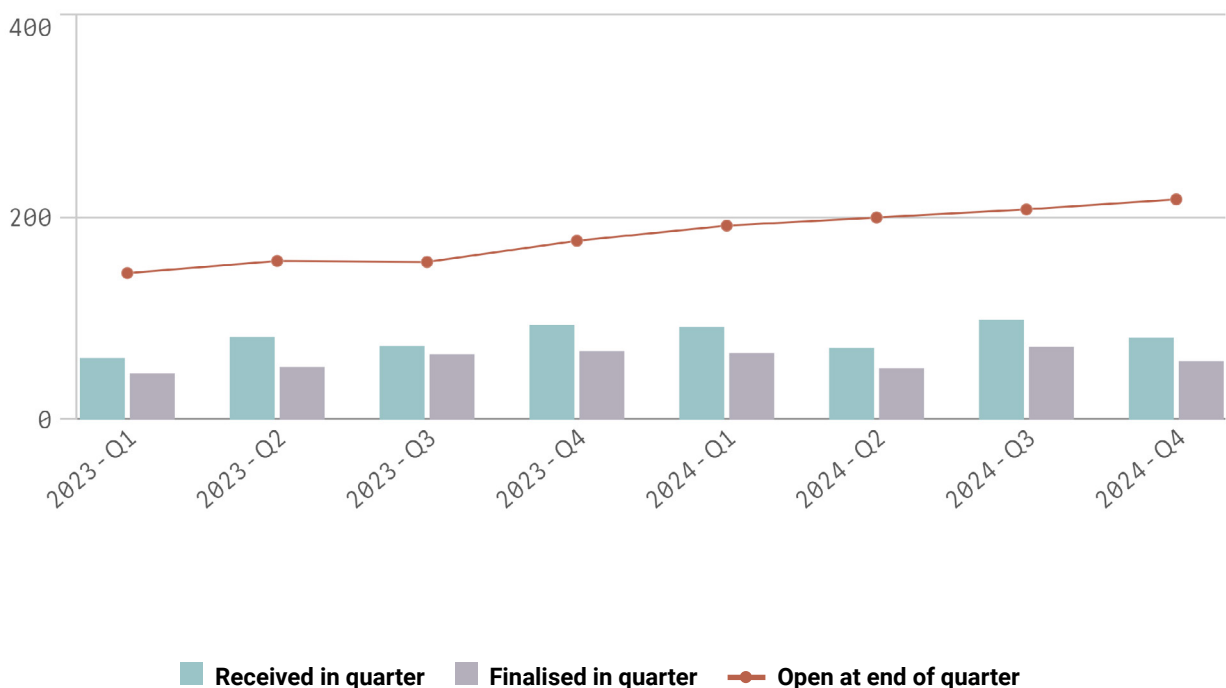
Average **161** days total

% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent
Other Agencies Parallel Processing

Trends for received, finalised and open

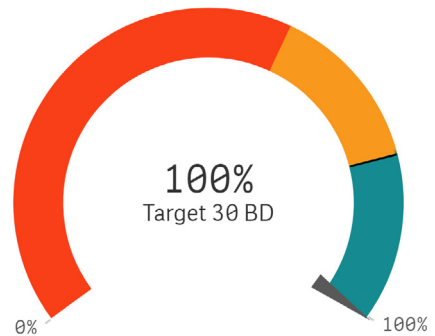
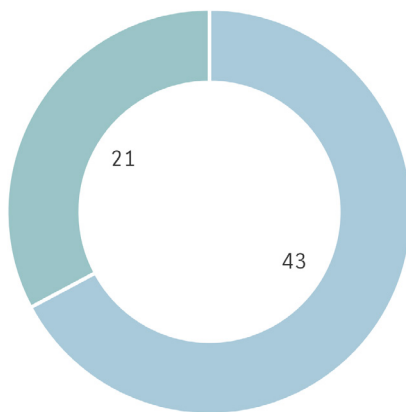


Work Health and Safety (Mines) Regulations 2022

Radiation Management Plans

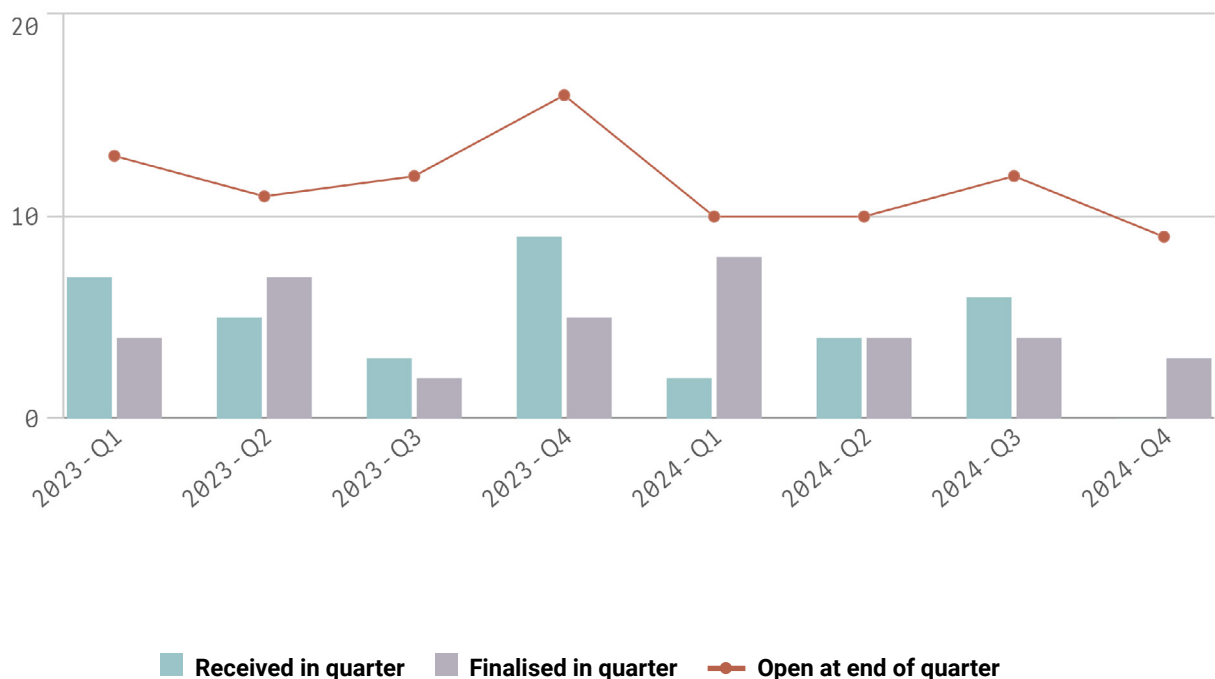
Average **64** days total

% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent

Trends for received, finalised and open

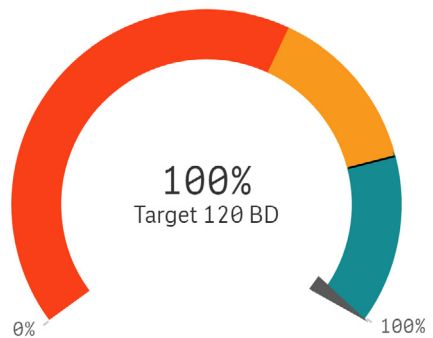
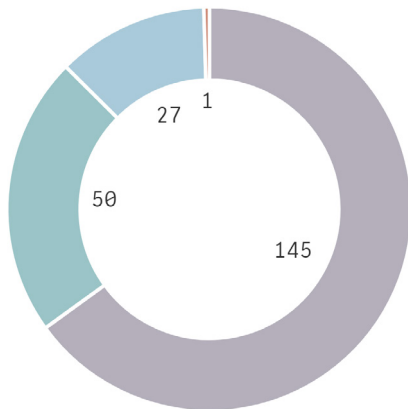


WA Petroleum Legislation

Petroleum Tenure

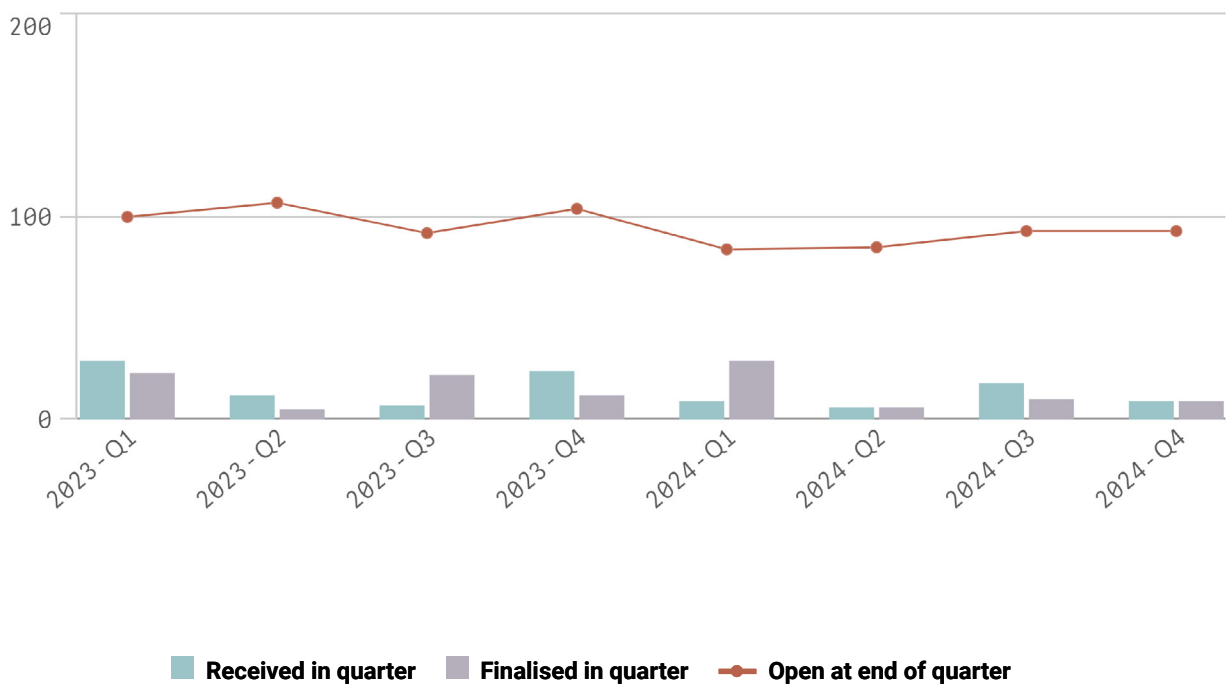
Average **223** days total

% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent
Other Agencies Parallel Processing

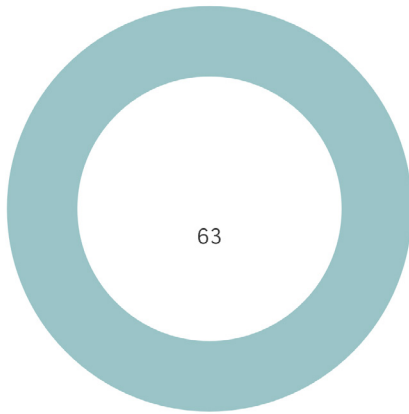
Trends for received, finalised and open



WA Petroleum Legislation

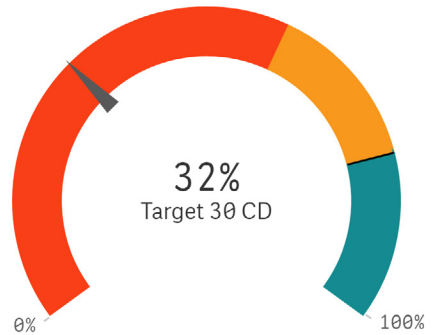
Petroleum Environment Plans

Average **63** days total

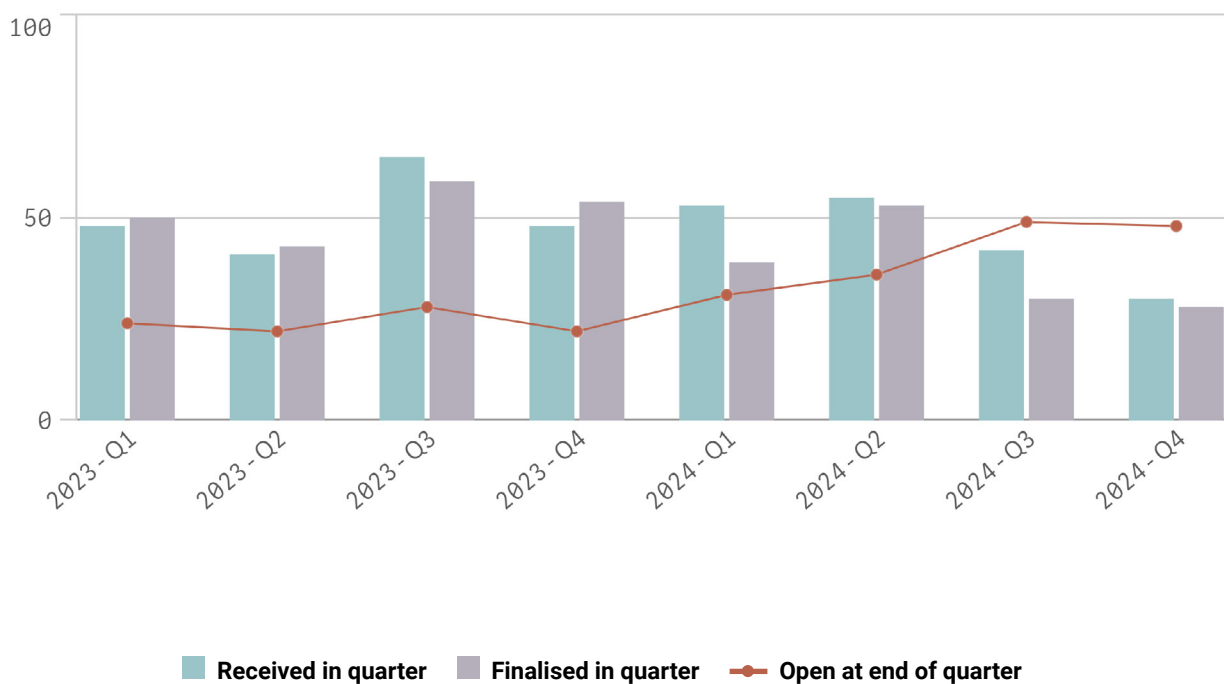


■ DEMIRS Licensing

% Finalised within target timeline



Trends for received, finalised and open

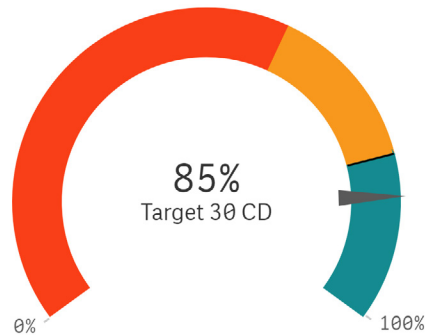
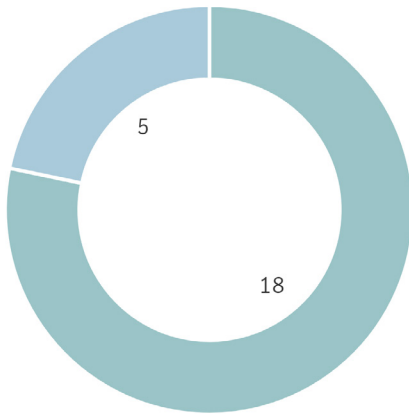


WA Petroleum Legislation

Well Activities

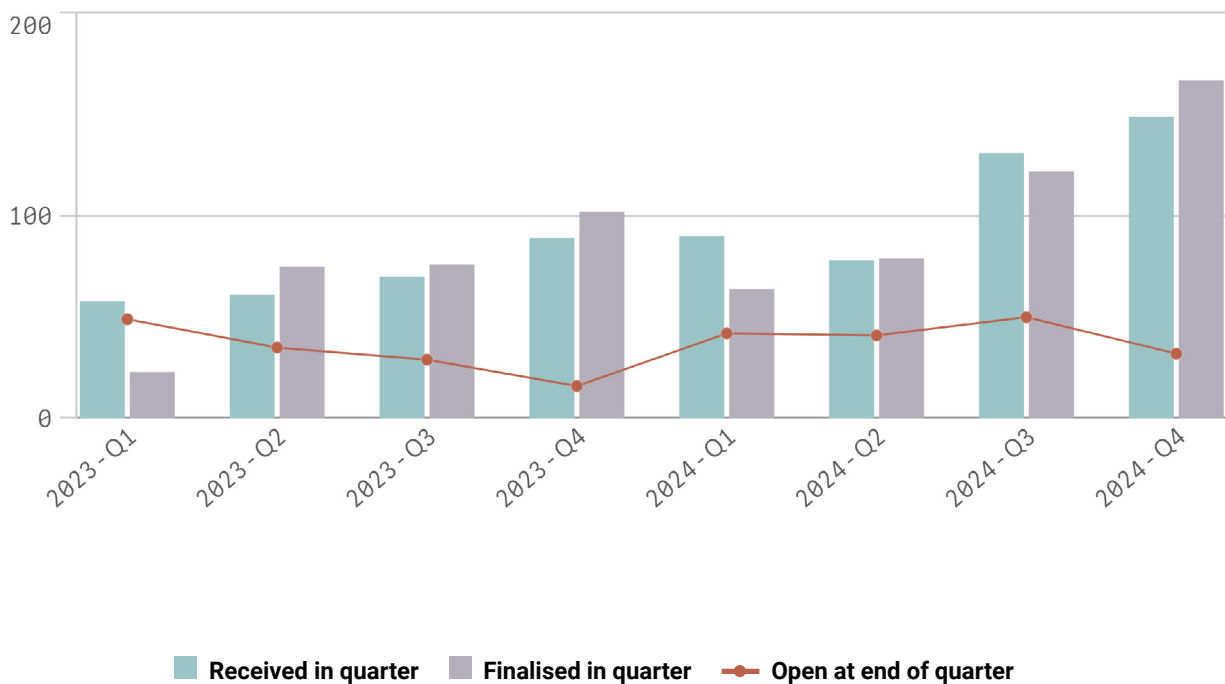
Average **23** days total

% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent

Trends for received, finalised and open

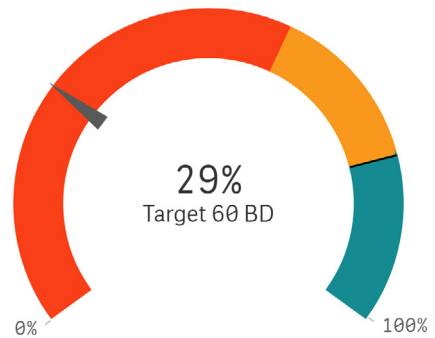
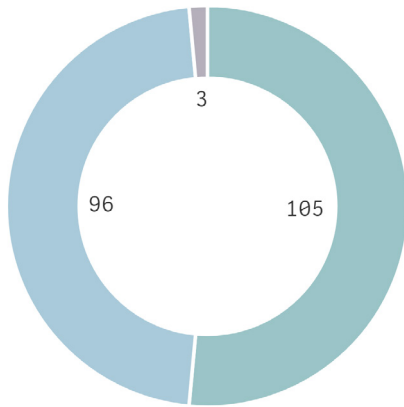


WA Environmental Protection Act 1986

Native vegetation clearing permits

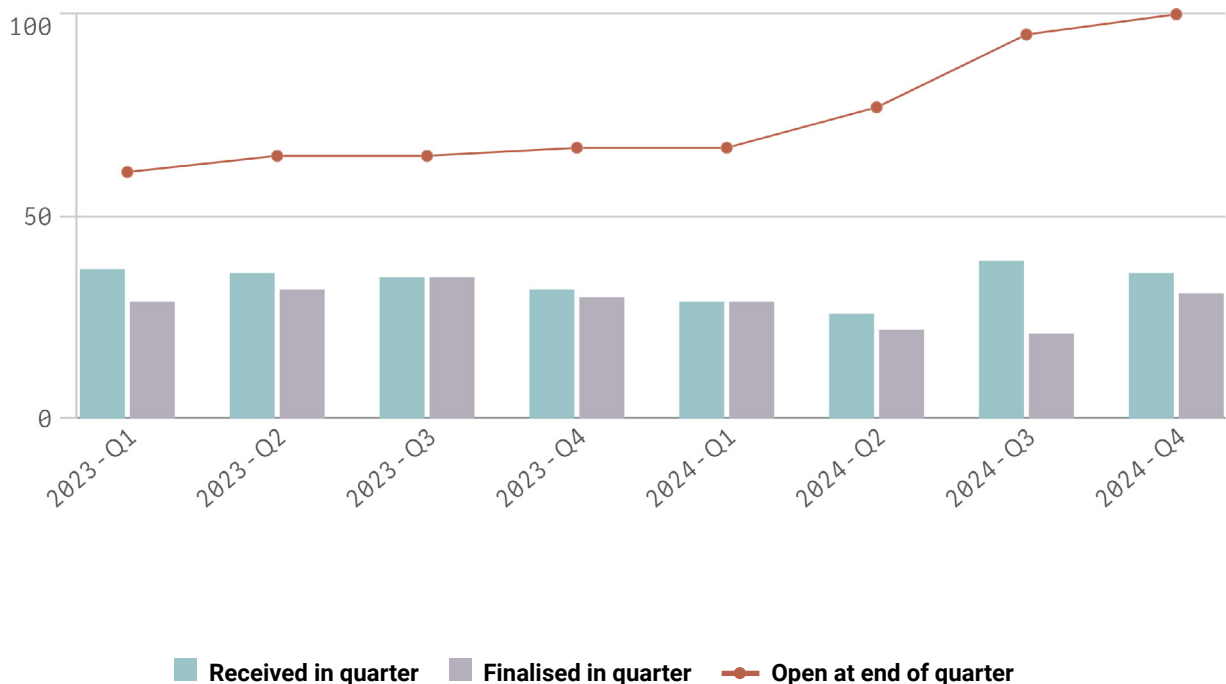
Average **204** days total

% Finalised within target timeline



DEMIRS Licensing Proponent
Other Agencies

Trends for received, finalised and open



Appendix – DEMIRS target timeline information

Key approval processes	Target timeline (business days)
Mining Tenure	65
Petroleum Tenure	120
Petroleum Environment Plan	21
Mining Proposal	30
Programme of Works	15
Radiation Management Plan	30
Well Activities	21
Native Vegetation Clearing Permit	60

Note: Petroleum Environment Plans and Well Activities have a statutory target of 30 calendar days (21 business days).