

# Mining, Exploration and Geoscience Quarterly Performance Report

**Quarter One 2024**

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# Executive summary

## Quarterly wrap-up

Quarter 1 2024 saw Mining, Exploration and Geoscience (MEG) finalise 93 measured title actions. Overall, 92% of these matters were completed within target timeframes, exceeding MEG's target for the quarter.

This quarter sees a new format for this report, following the completion of the ageing dealings project. A small number of ageing dealings continue to be assessed and progressed alongside routine assessments. Most of the remaining ageing dealings continue to be matters awaiting finalisation actions by the applicant (such as obtaining development consent or furnishing final surveys) or involve the management of final rehabilitation and security deposit matters following expiration of title terms. At quarter 1, 608 of 662 ageing dealings are completed.

## Overview

This report provides a summary of the performance for title assessments and application processing within the department for quarter 1 2024 (1 January 2024 to 31 March 2024).

MEG's performance is reported against the Service Delivery Standards ('target dates',) which define target timeframes for the processing of applications under the *Mining Act 1992*. Service Delivery Standards and 'target dates' are published by MEG at:

[meg.resourcesregulator.nsw.gov.au/mining-and-exploration/service-delivery-standards](https://meg.resourcesregulator.nsw.gov.au/mining-and-exploration/service-delivery-standards)

## Processing timeframes

Processing timeframes for title applications, renewals, transfers, part transfers and changes in control commence when a complete application, including payment of relevant application fees and all required supporting information, is received by MEG. If an application is deficient, the applicant is notified and given 10 business days to submit all required supporting information. Processing timeframes for Stage 1 ends when the applicant is notified of the proposed decision for the application. Processing timeframes for Stage 2 ends when the applicant is notified of the final decision for the application.

Exception management (stop-the-clock) principles apply when circumstances beyond the control of MEG's process prevent the valid assessment of an application. The exception management principles can be found at the link above.

# Quarter one 2024

## Performance overview

The following chart (Table 1) details the performance of decisions as measured against the target dates for the quarter. The ‘target date’ represents an end-to-end application process (application to final decision) that incorporates the title instrument being issued as the final step. Table 1 below shows how many applications for grant, renewal, transfer and part transfer were completed within the ‘target date’ within this quarter, by resource (mineral or coal), and by application type.

During this quarter:

- 15 exploration licences were granted
- 55 exploration licences were renewed
- Two mining leases were granted
- 15 mining leases were renewed
- Six transfers were registered

Of these, **92 per cent** met the target timeframe.

## Historic performance trend

Figure 1 below shows the historic trend in the reported service delivery standard performance each quarter. Quarter 4 2021 saw the implementation of MEG’s new SDS. These SDS now report on end-to-end performance, rather than to proposed decisions, as well as the inclusion of transfer and part transfer applications in the performance report.

Figure 1 – Historic trend of service delivery standard performance (for all application types measured)

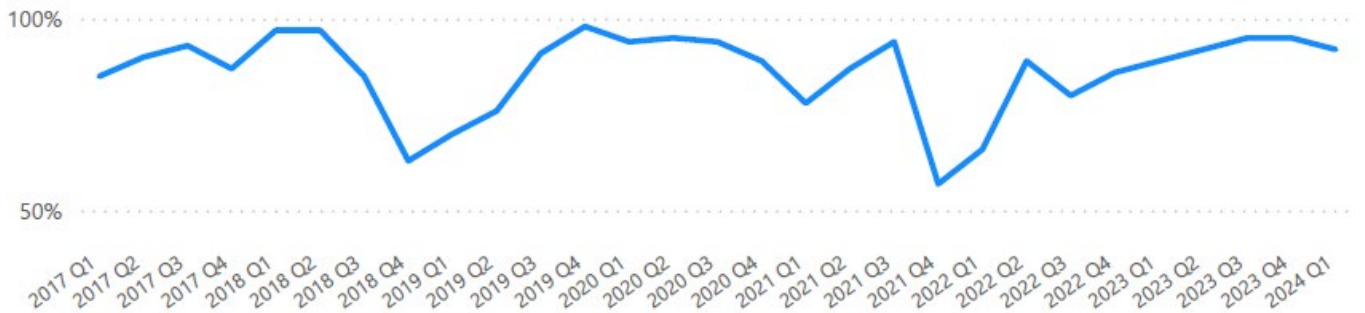


Table 1. Service performance for the quarter

Service Performance - Itemised				
Application type	Total matters	Met target date	Missed target date	Service performance %
<b>Mineral</b>				
Exploration licence applications	15	15	0	100%
Exploration licence renewals	54	51	3	94%
Assessment lease applications	0	0	0	N/A
Assessment lease renewals	0	0	0	N/A
Mining lease applications	0	0	0	N/A
Mining lease renewals	7	5	2	71%
<b>Coal</b>				
Exploration licence applications	0	0	0	N/A
Exploration licence renewals	1	1	0	100.00%
Assessment lease applications	0	0	0	N/A
Assessment lease renewals	0	0	0	N/A
Mining lease applications	2	2	0	100.00%
Mining lease renewals	8	6	2	75.00%
<b>Other</b>				
Transfers	6	6	0	100%
Part transfers	0	0	0	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>92%</b>

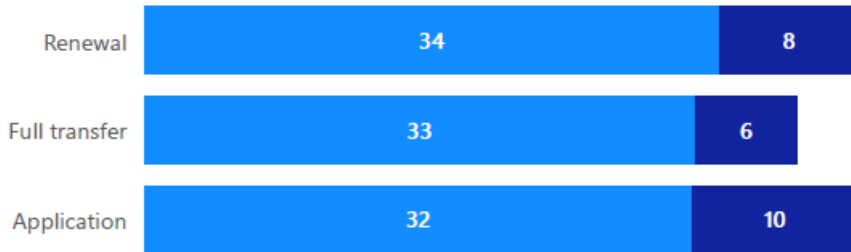
## Average processing time by stage

Figures 2, 3 and 4 below display the average number of days taken to process the applications determined in the quarter, broken down by application category and application stage (from submission to notice of proposed decision, customer acceptance to final notice etc).

### Mineral exploration licences

Figure 2 – Average processing days for mineral exploration titles by application stage

● To proposed decision/transfer approval ● Approval/NoPD to completion



### Coal exploration licences

Figure 3 – Average processing days for coal exploration titles by application stage

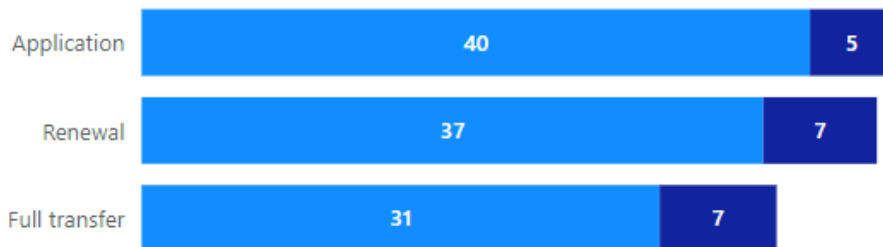
● To proposed decision/transfer approval ● Approval/NoPD to completion



### Mineral mining leases

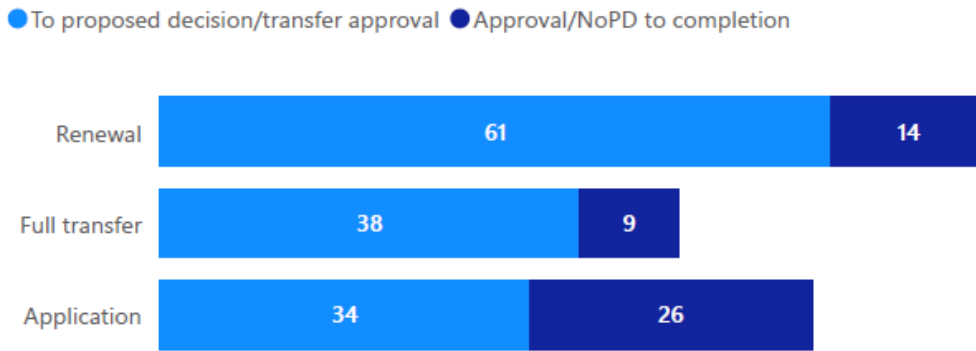
Figure 4 – Average processing days for mineral mining titles by application stage

● To proposed decision/transfer approval ● Approval/NoPD to completion



## Coal mining leases

Figure 5 – Average processing days for coal mining titles by application stage



## Average end-to-end processing time by resource

Figures 6 and 7 below display the average number of days taken processing the applications determined in the quarter, broken down by application category and resource type (coal, mineral and petroleum).

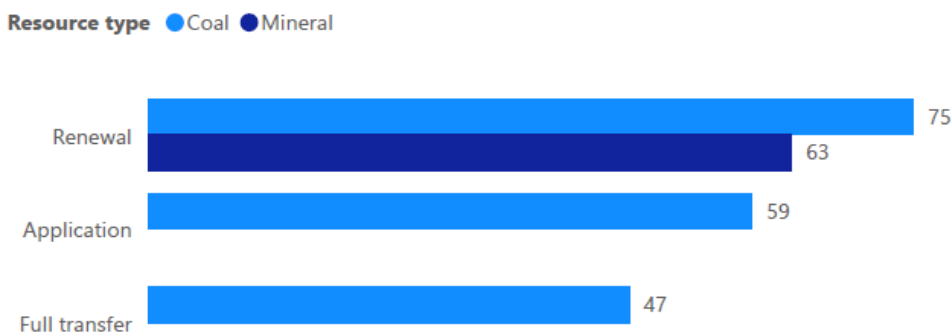
### Exploration licences

Figure 6 – Average processing days for exploration titles by resource type



### Mining leases

Figure 7 - Average processing days for mining titles by resource type





# Current pending applications

Figures 8 and 9 below detail the number of pending applications for grant, renewal, transfer and part transfer under assessment with MEG at the end of the quarter. Figure 8 itemises the applications by type and resource, and figure 9 details when these applications were received. Please note that these pending applications do not include applications which form part of MEG’s ageing dealings project (applications received prior to 1 January 2020). These are reported separately.

Figure 8 – Current pending applications by type and resource

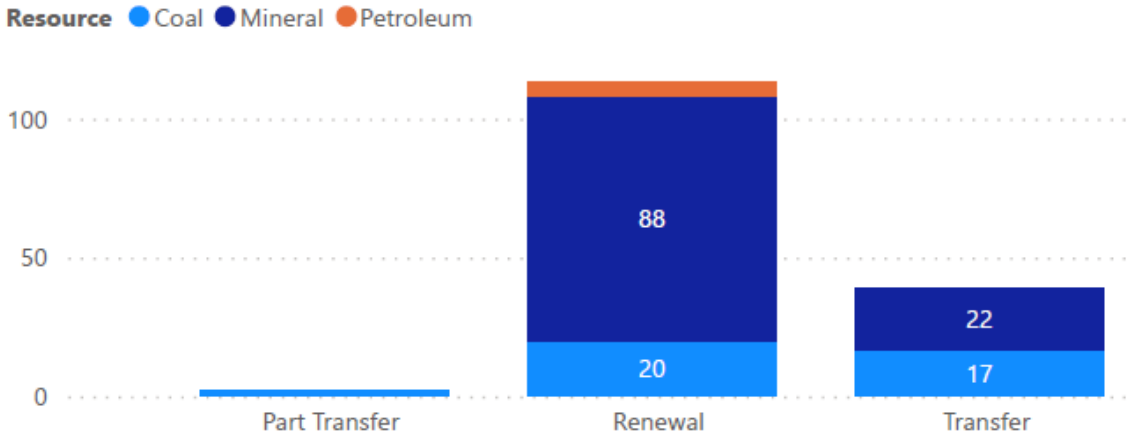


Figure 9 – Remaining pending applications by received date

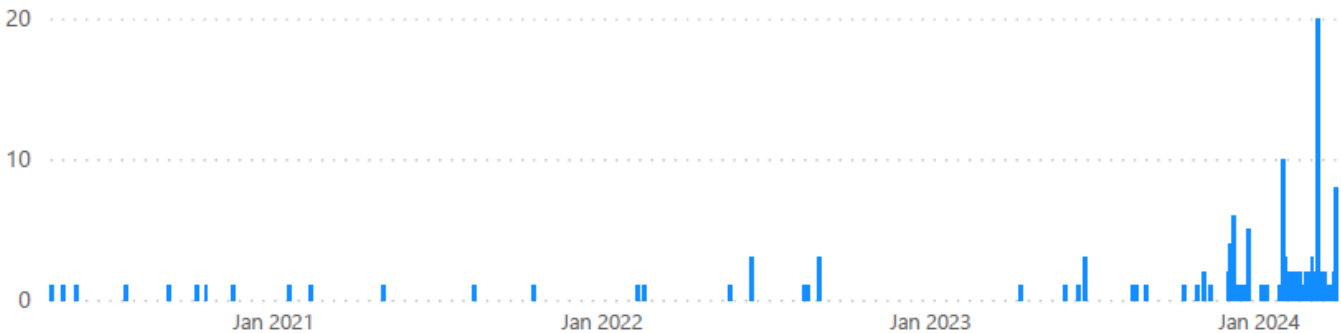


Figure 10 below details the number of applications that currently have their processing clock stopped and identifies the reason for the stoppage.

Figure 10 – Current clock stoppages by category

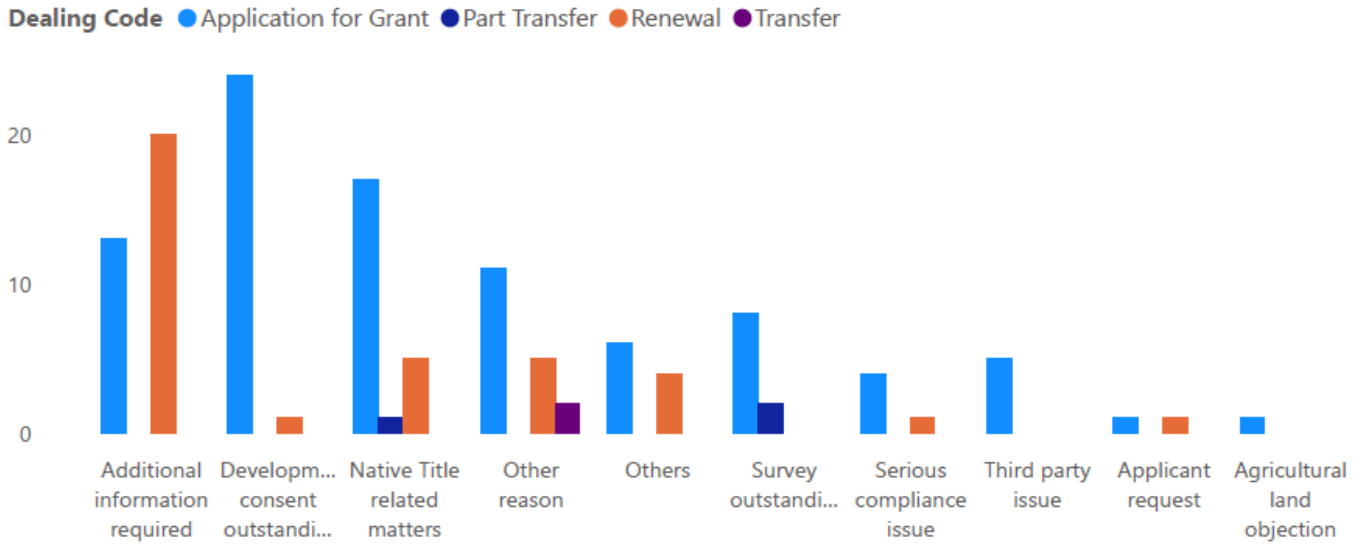


Figure 11 below identifies the number of items on stop the clock and shows the date the stoppage occurred.

Figure 11 – Current clock stoppages by stoppage date

