



Austwide Newsletter

March 2017 Edition

DMP launches new spatial lodgement system for PoW applications



Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) has launched a new spatial lodgement system for Programme of Works.

The new spatial lodgement system will run in parallel with the current lodgement process and will continue to be accessed through the current EARS Online facility however, during log-in, the applicant has the option of applying for a PoW Spatial form or a PoW Exploration form.

The new system is expected to be mandatory for exploration activities from 1st July however Programme of Work prospecting (POW-P) forms will continue to be accepted in hard copy or online through DMP Submissions.

The updated map-based application allows users to enter their proposed activities, either by loading existing spatial files or creating spatial files on screen. The system conducts automatic checks of the proposed activities by intersecting with other data layers of environmental and cultural significance, and alerts the user with the results.

The new system has many benefits including real time feedback, and also allows users to upload shape files. It will give us all the relevant information on the tenement at lodgement stage rather than the old system which wouldn't look at the intersections until the assessment stage.

For further information please discuss with **Steve Milner, Manager – Geological Services**

steve@austwidemining.com.au or contact DMP directly at PoWSpatial@dmp.wa.gov.au

Mining Rehabilitation Fund



Well, it's March already, which means that there are less than four months remaining until 30th June 2017 – the due date for this year's Mining Rehabilitation Fund (MRF) report.

Austwide will be sending regular e-mail reminders to those of you who haven't yet lodged their report.

Please don't leave your report until the last moment: you can lodge your report on-line at any time between now and the 30th June.

Please advise if you would like Austwide to lodge your report or alternatively advise if you will be lodging the report yourself so we can make note in our database. If you lodge the report yourself, please let us know as it is vital that we monitor all reports lodged for and by our clients.

If you want Austwide to lodge on your behalf please contact our MRF team on 9309 0400 or compliance@austwidemining.com.au or steve@austwidemining.com.au.

If you have any questions about the MRF please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mining Act Amendments



The Licencing Provisions Amendment Act 2016 which amends the following sections of the Mining Act 1978 was proclaimed on Wednesday 8 February 2017.

The amendments come into effect on and from Thursday 9 February 2017 and are as follows:-

- I. **Section 8** – Definitions, introduces a definition for designated tenement contact (DTC) ie. nominated contact person/company/agent, in the tenement register will be used when serving Departmental notices, rent, caveat notices, breach notices, notices of intention to forfeit etc or when requesting additional information.
- II. **Section 17** - Designated tenement contact – new Section inserted. Provides that as long as the Department sends any request for information or gives any notice, and sends it to the DTC then it has done all that is required of it.
- III. **Section 40C** - Issue of miner's right – Wording change from 'on the application of a natural person' to 'on the application of any person', a Miner's Right will be issued. The amendment was brought about by an interpretation that 'a natural person' was limited to an individual and did not include a Company. Therefore some time ago DMP had ceased issuing Miner's Rights to companies. The reference to 'any person' includes a Company and so DMP is now issuing Miner's Rights to companies. Has important consequences for companies, eg. it now authorises them to pass and repass over Crown land (includes a Pastoral Lease) or conservation land and to take samples.
- IV. **Section 111** – Power of Minister to exclude mining for iron from mining tenements – on and from 9/2/2017 all new tenement applications for E's, M's, P's and R's, will include 'iron' in the 'all minerals' that tenements are granted for.
- V. **Section 162** – Regulations - The Regulation making powers have been amended to make regulations in connection with Designated Tenement Contacts.

Austwide Ground Monitoring Service



We advise that Austwide provides a ground monitoring service for the following areas:

- All mining tenements within a specified distance from the nominated prime tenement.
- All mining tenements within a certain mineral field(s).
- Subject to providing a plan of the area of interest, Austwide can extract all mining tenements within this area and monitor the tenements.

In addition, Austwide can provide the following services:

- Advising of all mining tenements which are **outright surrendered, voluntarily surrendered, withdrawn, forfeited, expired or refused** within the area of interest;
- Monitoring the **Government Gazette** which displays all tenements which are non-compliant and may be forfeited;
- Monitoring all **finances** (unpaid fines will result in the tenement being forfeited as of that night);
- Monitoring all **expiries**;
- Monitoring all **compulsory surrenders which go to release**;
- Monitoring **extension of terms which are refused**;
- Tenements of extreme interest can be placed on our **urgent list** with an application prepared in the case the ground is relinquished.

Austwide holds the most up to date monitoring systems which are scanned throughout the day. Also, a member of our team is always available to apply for ground on demand.

Please contact **Paul Humberston** (paul@austwidemining.com.au) if you would like to discuss this service.