

2 Mining lease objections review  
**SUMMARY PAPER 2**

# Participation

Most of the minerals are owned by the Queensland Government. So, anyone who wants to start mining has to get permission from the Government. This paper explains how people or groups can talk to the Government about any **mining proposal** for a large-scale mining project now: why they think it is a good idea or why they don't think it is a good idea, or what parts need to be changed.

Then the paper explains ideas for changing how people can talk to the Government about these things. And it asks questions about those ideas for changes.

## Before a miner gets permission to mine

Before a miner gets permission to mine, they usually get permission to explore the area.

Then, to get a **mining lease** they must show the Government several things, such as:

- the area they want to mine has minerals in the ground
- the mining they want to do will be done properly
- the minerals they get will be used properly.

As part of the permission to mine, the miner needs a permit called an **environmental authority**. This means the Government says it is OK

about how the miner plans to do the right thing about the environment. Before they get this OK, often the miner needs to get an **environmental impact statement**.

An **environmental impact statement** is a report that gives information about the good and bad things that can come from their mining to the environment, the people or the economy.

Some of the details the miner needs to give are about:

- the environment in the area they want to mine
- how they will try to stop the mining from hurting the environment, the people or the **economy**

When you see a word with **i**, you can read where we explain it: on the paper called 'What do these words mean?'



- how they will make these problems smaller, if they can't stop them
- how they will fix anything bad, if it happens
- how they will make up for anything bad, after it happens.

After they explain all of these things to the Government, they might get the **environmental authority**. If they don't get this, the mine doesn't go ahead.

## Feedback from Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their communities is important

It is unusual for the Government to get written **objections** from Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their communities about **mining proposals**.

We want to make it easier for people to tell the Government what they think about **mining proposals**.

It is very important that Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples can get their ideas to the Government before it decides.

**On the next page, we ask you some questions. You can let us know what you think:**

Write or draw your ideas, or give us your ideas on an audio or video recording. You can send them to us by email or mail or upload them to our website.

**We need to get your ideas by 13 September 2024**

**Email:** qlrc-miningobjections@justice.qld.gov.au

**Mail:** PO Box 13312

George Street Post Shop

Brisbane Qld 4003

**Web:** www.qlrc.qld.gov.au



## Objecting to a mining proposal: how does it work NOW?

Before the Government gives permission to mine, any person or group of people can tell the Government what they think about the **mining proposal**.

### Step 1: You send your **objection or submission to the Government**

Any person or group can do one or more of these 3 things:

- Write to the Government about why you think the miner's **environmental impact statement** needs some changes. What you write is called a **submission**.
- Write to the Government about why you think it is not OK for the miner to get permission for their **mining lease**, or what changes the miner needs to make. What you write is called an **objection**.
- Write to the Government about why you think there are problems or things that need to change, before

the Government decides to say OK to this miner's plans about looking after the environment. What you write is sometimes called a **submission** and sometimes called an **objection**. The Government's OK is called the **environmental authority**.

### Step 2: The Government tells the Land Court about your **objection**

### Step 3: The Land Court has a hearing about the **mining proposal and any objections**

If you made an **objection**, you can choose to go to the Land Court and tell them what you think about the miner's plan.

## We want to hear from you

### Changing it to make it work better?

We want to suggest changes to how people can tell the Government what they think about **mining proposals**.

The **processes** must make sure that everyone is treated fairly, and that changes make things better.

These are 3 of the main things that might need to change:

- leaving the court out of the **process** before the Government decides
- getting new ways that people can hear about what the miner wants to do, and then give their ideas before the Government decides. These new ways will be better if they are not organised as arguments between 2 sides. People must be able to explain their ideas and listen to other ideas in a positive way
- setting up an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee to tell the Government what they think about some **mining proposals**.

### A Government internet site

It might be good if the Government sets up an internet site, where:

- people can sign up to get notices about mining in their area or on their Country
- it gives up-to-date information about **mining proposals**
- all the information is together so that anyone can find out what they want to know on just one internet site.

**Q1:** What do you think about our ideas about changing it to make it work better?

**Q2:** Some **mining proposals** might worry people more than others. Is it good to have different ways for people to tell the Government what they think about these **mining proposals**?

**Q4:** What do you think about our idea for the Government to set up an internet site?

**Q5:** What else can the Government do to let Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples know about **mining proposals**?

The paper called **Models of Participation** is about different ways that people can tell the Government what they think.

**Q3:** What do you think about these different choices? And are there any other choices you want us to think about?

