

FACT SHEET

Conscious consistency: mining and other resource production tenures

**We have released our final consultation paper
and we are seeking your feedback.**

As part of our mining lease objections review, we are required to consider whether any recommended changes to mining lease processes should apply for other resource production tenures, including their associated environmental authorities. These are production tenures under the:

- Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2009
- Geothermal Energy Act 2010
- Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004.

The processes for other resource production tenures differ from mining leases in the following key ways:

- there is no Land Court objections hearing
- public participation is limited to the associated environmental authority
- the public interest is not considered in deciding petroleum tenures
- there are different review and appeal rights.

These inconsistencies may create complexity, inefficiency and inequity.

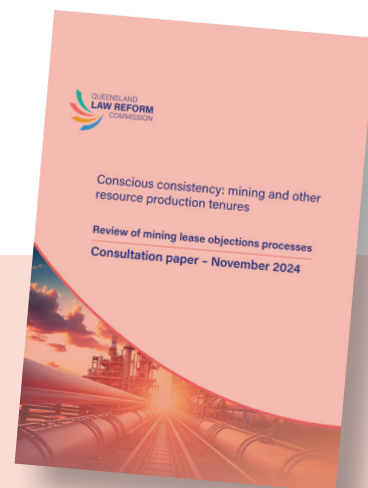
Our approach to reform

We have not yet developed our recommendations for reforming the mining lease processes. Therefore, our focus for this second part of the review is on the purpose and intended outcomes of the proposals, rather than their implementation.

We are seeking feedback on:

- whether there should be consistent processes across the resources Acts
- whether recommendations for a consistent process would be fair, efficient, effective and contemporary.

Timeline



We want to hear your views

You can share your views with us in any way, including in written submissions, drawings or audio or video recordings.

You can send them to us by email or mail or upload them to our website. Submissions close on **31 January 2025**.

There will also be opportunities to attend meetings and forums to share your views in November 2024 and January 2025.

Details about these meetings will be shared on our [website](#) and through our newsletters and [LinkedIn](#).

For more information about the mining lease objections review and to access the consultation paper and submissions form, please visit the QLRC [website](#) or scan the QR code.



Our proposals

We recently consulted on six proposals for reform.

1. Reframe participation by:

- removing the pre-decision objections hearing
- introducing an integrated, non-adversarial participation process
- establishing a mechanism to obtain input and advice from Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their communities.

This would create opportunities for early and ongoing participation, improve efficiency and align the Land Court's function with the traditional role of a court.

2. Establish a central online Government portal

to facilitate public notice and give information. This would support clear and effective notification, facilitate informed participation and improve transparency and accountability.

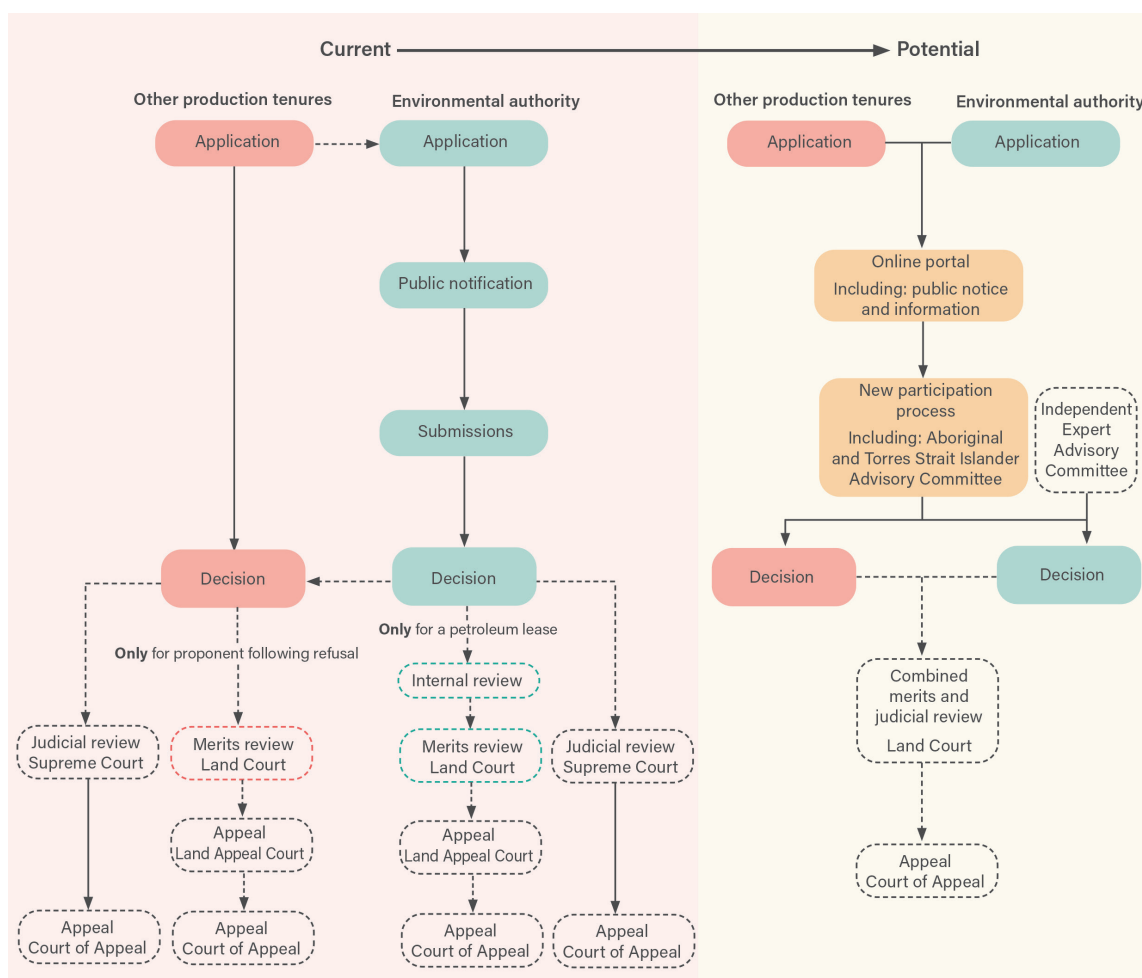
3. Establish an Independent Expert Advisory Panel

that could form project-specific committees to give independent expert advice. This would enhance the evidence base for decisions, improve the quality, consistency and transparency of the decision-making process and increase public trust and confidence in decisions.

4. **Amend the decision-making criteria** to require decision-makers to consider input provided through the new participation process and advice from relevant committees. This would support effective, informed, outcomes-based decision-making.

5. **Require decision-makers to consider the rights and interests of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples** in land, culture and cultural heritage. This would ensure the rights and interests of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples are appropriately considered, break down siloed decision-making processes and enhance protection of cultural rights.

6. **Introduce combined merits and judicial review by the Land Court** after Government decisions are made. This would streamline review rights, ensure decisions are subject to appropriate merits review and support access to justice. It would increase efficiency by creating a single appeal pathway and limiting review to the evidence that was before the primary decision-maker.



The diagram gives a high-level overview of the current processes for deciding applications for other resource production tenures and their associated environmental authority and compares it to what the process would look like if the consultation proposals were applied.