

Exploration Licences

Reporting period Q2: 1 October to 31 December 2023

Mineral Titles Unit is responsible for progressing exploration licence (EL) applications towards grant. Most applications are subject to either the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) (NTA) or the *Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act 1976* (Cth) (ALRA).

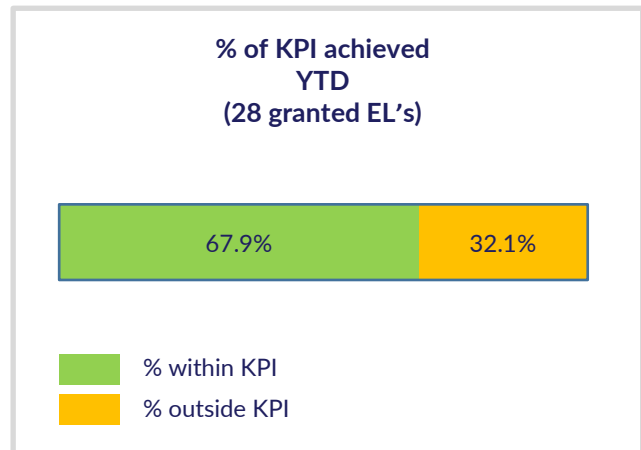
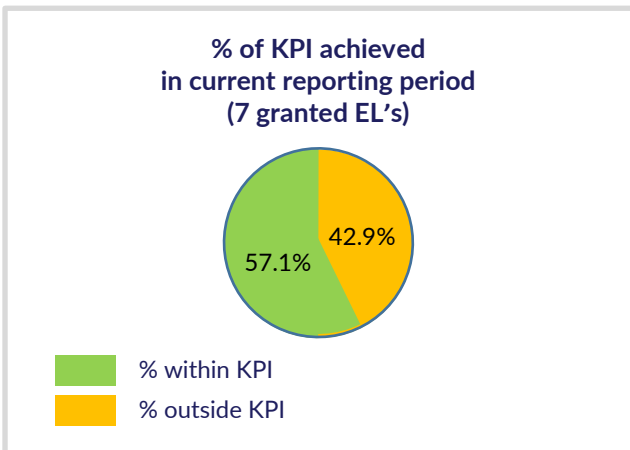
To increase transparency around decision timeframes, quarterly reports are made available showing timeframes to achieve a valid grant of an exploration licence under the *Mineral Titles Act 2010* (MTA), after satisfying the requirements of this Act and relevant Commonwealth legislation.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) relate to EL's granted on native title affected land only.

Key Performance Indicator Results

KPI: 85% of EL's granted on native title affected land within 9 months of application

Reported numbers are determined based on the grant date falling within the reporting period.



Comment:

- KPI impacted by increased landowner objections, applications in conflict and extensions to statutory timeframes requested by various applicants
- KPI continues to be impacted by lodgement of NTA objections to the use of the expedited procedure and resultant NNTT process

Application grant process timeframes for reporting period

Timeframes include all statutory requirements under the MTA and either the NTA or ALRA and include weekends and public holidays.

A total of 7 ELs were granted during the reporting period:

- 7 were on Native Title affected land. Average time to grant was 8.7 months
- 0 were on Aboriginal Freehold

Average time (months) to grant EL's on Native Title affected land



- Department
- Applicant
- NTA

Ave time (months) to grant EL's on Aboriginal Freehold land



- Department
- Applicant
- ALRA