

March 2023

Fact sheet

Application for a new mineral claim within the Lightning Ridge Mineral Claims District

Who is this fact sheet for?

Follow the steps in this fact sheet if you wish to apply for a mineral claim in the Lightning Ridge Mineral Claim District.

The information in this fact sheet is not intended to provide legal advice and is general in nature. If you have any questions about this factsheet, please talk to our Small Scale Titles team by phone at 02 6820 5200.

How do I apply for a mineral claim?

You will need to follow a two-stage process to apply for a new mineral claim (or opal prospecting licence) in the Lightning Ridge Mineral Claims District.

Stage 1

1. Before you lodge the new application, you will need to:
 - a. Mark out the proposed mineral claim area, and take photographs of proposed mineral claim area; and
 - b. Install a notice on the marked out mineral claim setting out your name and address and the date you marked out the proposed mineral claim area and take a photograph of it.
2. Complete form LR21 and take a photocopy of it to include with your mineral claim application. You will need to serve on each affected landholder a copy of the LR21 form.
3. Serve the completed form LR21 and the map on the landholder/s by mail or by delivering it in person to their address.
4. Fill out the form LR2A **Application for a mineral claim within the Lightning Ridge Mineral Claims District**.
5. Then you need to attend the Lightning Ridge Office with the following:
 - a. your photographs of the new notice and the marking out of the claim;
 - b. the copy of the LR21 form and map sent to the landholder;
 - c. the form LR2A completed as much as possible; and
 - d. your proof of identity documents for verification by staff;
 - e. application fee

6. Staff will review your application and advise you if any documents or information are missing.
 7. Before leaving the Lightning Ridge Office you will be given a copy of the form LR23 Notice of your intention to exercise rights under the mineral claim, map of your claim area, and Form LR2B to assist you in completing the next steps.
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Stage 2

8. You will then need to complete and send form LR23 and a copy of the map to the landholder by registered post.
9. You must obtain a copy of the receipt from the post office showing you posted the form LR23 and map to the landholder.
10. You must then wait until:
 - a. You obtain confirmation that the form LR23 and map have been delivered to the landholder by either a signature of delivery notification, or
 - b. At least seven working days have lapsed.
11. Once that has occurred, you need to complete form LR2B then and provide to us (either in person or electronically), the:
 - a. completed form LR23
 - b. completed form LR2B
 - c. postage receipt proving you posted form LR23 and, if applicable, the delivery receipt
 - d. payment of landholder compensation and any other fees.

Note - Unless a delivery receipt is obtained, the Department will only progress your application seven (7) working days after the LR23 notice of intention to exercise rights form and map has been posted to the landholder.

The Department will review the documentation and assess the mineral claim. This may take up to 3 or more business days to process. If any additional payments are necessary, they can be paid at the office or by phone. If the application is approved, the mineral claim certificate and tags will be made available for collection.

If you require assistance or more information, please contact:

Mining, Exploration and Geoscience Small-Scale Titles Team

Phone: +61 2 6820 5200

lightningridge.office@regional.nsw.gov.au

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