

May 2023

Fact sheet

Post 2015 mineral claim (grant) validation process - Lightning Ridge Mineral Claims District

Who is this fact sheet for?

Follow the steps in this fact sheet if your mineral claim:

- is located in the Lightning Ridge Mineral Claims District, and
- was originally **granted** between 1 January 2015 and 14 February 2023, and
- you have received a letter from the Department confirming that your mineral claim is **invalid**.

All activity on the mineral claim must cease until you have completed the process set out in this fact sheet and you are granted a mineral claim.

The information in this fact sheet is not intended to provide legal advice and is general in nature.

Why is this process required?

The Department has identified that some mineral claims granted between 1 January 2015 and 14 February 2023 are invalid.

What do I need to do?

If you want to continue mining:

1. Cease mining activities on your mineral claim area until your application is resolved.
2. Give all landholders notice of your intention to exercise rights under a mineral claim. Fill out Form LR23, attach the required map and send to affected landholders by registered post.
3. You must then wait until:
 - a. You obtain confirmation that the Form LR23 and map have been delivered to the landholder. Confirmation must be via a registered post receipt that shows delivery to all landholders; or
 - b. At least seven working days has lapsed since you posted the notice to the landholder/s.
4. Complete Form LR2B which provides evidence that you have properly given the notice of your intention to exercise rights under a mineral claim.
5. Lodge the following information with the Small-Scale Titles team:
 - a. Completed Form LR23
 - b. Completed Form LR2B

- c. Postage receipt proving you posted the Form LR23 and, if applicable, the delivery receipt

Note – Unless a delivery receipt is obtained, the Department will only progress your application seven (7) working days after the documents have been posted to all landholders.

If you do not want to continue mining:

Please contact the Department at sstproject@regional.nsw.gov.au if you do not want to proceed with obtaining a mineral claim over your area.

Do I need to pay fees or levies?

You will not be required to pay any new fees or levies. However if you have a private landholder compensation agreement, the Department may advise that you need to pay a small amount to cover any CPI increase in the standard landholder compensation that was collected. Departmental staff will calculate the CPI payable and provide a payment request. **The payment must be paid before the mineral claim can be determined.**

Term of your mineral claim

If granted, the term of your new mineral claim will be the same as the current term in our system for your invalid mineral claim. For example, if your invalid claim was granted or renewed for a term expiring on 20 September 2026, your new mineral claim (if granted) will expire on this date.

If you wish to apply for a longer term than the current term for your invalid claim in our system, you will incur additional costs (levies and landholder compensation).

What happens next

You will be notified once the Department has determined your application. A mineral claim certificate and tags will be given to you if your application is granted.

More information

If you require assistance or more information, please contact:

Mining, Exploration and Geoscience

Small-Scale Titles project team

Phone: +61 2 4063 6900

sstproject@regional.nsw.gov.au

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