

August 2023

Fact sheet

Pre-2015 Mineral claim renewal 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 before 1 January 2015 and has been renewed between 1 January 2015 and 14 February 2023?
- You have received a letter from the department confirming that your mineral claim is **invalid**?

Your mineral claim is currently in a 'pending' status. You may continue to mine your claim in accordance with your mineral claim conditions until your renewal application has been re-determined.

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

Why is this new process required?

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

To rectify this issue, the applicant must undertake the following steps for the invalid claim to meet all legislative requirements for determination.

What do I need to do?

If you want to continue mining:

You will need to follow the process outlined below to renew your mineral claim in the Lightning Ridge Mineral Claims District:

1. You will need to complete form LR23 **Notice of intention to exercise rights under a small-scale title**. Take a copy or photographic evidence of your Form LR23.
2. You will then need to send the completed form LR23 and a copy of the map enclosed with this package to the landholder(s) on which your claim is located by registered post.
3. You must obtain a copy of the receipt from the post office showing you posted the Form LR23 and map to the landholder(s).
4. 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 7 working days have elapsed since you posted the documents.
5. Once that has occurred, you need to then complete form LR6Bv enclosed with this package and provide to the department (either in person or electronically), the:
- a. completed form LR6Bv
 - b. copy of your completed form LR23 and map you sent the landholder(s)
 - c. postage receipt proving you posted form LR23 and, if applicable, delivery receipt
 - d. your proof of identity documents for verification by staff.

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 renewing your mineral claim.

Do I need to pay fees?

You will not be required to pay any new application fees, however, 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. Department staff will calculate the CPI payable and provide a payment request. The payment must be paid before the mineral claim will be renewed.

Term of your mineral claim

If renewed, the term of your 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 renewed for a term expiring on 20 September 2026, your renewed mineral claim (if granted) will expire on this date.

If your mineral claim has an expiry date within the next two months, or has expired, it will be renewed for an additional one year term. You will be required to pay further landholder's compensation and required levies.

What happens after I have lodged my renewal application?

The department will review the documentation and assess the renewal application. As part of the assessment of your renewal, you will be issued a Notice of Proposed Decision (NoPD).

The NoPD outlines any proposed decision to renew your mineral claim and, if proposed to grant, contains a draft mineral claim certificate and details of additional payments such as landholder compensation required to enable the final grant.

The additional payments can be paid at the office, by phone or by credit card if you have completed an authorisation to take payment. If the renewal application is granted, the new mineral claim renewal certificate will be emailed to your nominated email address, posted, or made available for collection at the office. If you require assistance or more information, please contact:

Mining, Exploration and Geoscience

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