



NEW ZEALAND
PETROLEUM & MINERALS

Complying with your alluvial gold mining permit

Crown minerals are owned by the Crown (the New Zealand government) for the benefit of all New Zealanders. We issue mining permits to applicants who meet the legal requirements under the Crown Minerals Act.

What your permit gives you the right to do

Your permit gives you the right to:

- prospect for
- explore for, and
- mine

the **minerals listed** on your permit certificate **within the defined area** of your permit.

You will need to apply for a change of minerals if you wish to prospect, explore or mine different minerals than those listed in your permit.

An application will also need to be made for other changes to your permit, such as:

- extending the land of your permit

- extending the duration of the permit, or
- changing the conditions of the permit if circumstances change.

What else you may need to do before you start work

Getting a permit under the Crown Minerals Act is just the first step. You will need a land access arrangement with the land owner, which may be a private land owner or the Crown. For Crown land this may be the Department of Conservation or Land Information New Zealand (LINZ).

You may also need other approvals such as:

- a resource consent
- WorkSafe approval.

Your compliance duties under the Crown Minerals Act

In return for your permit you must:

Update us about your activities each year in an annual summary report

Each year by **31 March** you must provide us with an annual summary report on your permit. Annual summary reports are required even if you haven't done any work on your permit in the previous year.

More information about annual summary reporting can be found on **our website**.

Provide us with technical reports

You must provide us with reports and records that are created as part of the prospecting, exploration or mining activities you do under your permit. These reports and records may relate directly to your work programme obligations, or they may be created as a result of other activities, such as mining feasibility studies.

These reports and records are due to be sent to us no later than **40 working days after the start of the permit year**. The permit year begins on the anniversary of the date your permit was granted.

Our website has more information about technical reporting.

Pay fees and royalties

You must pay annual fees by **31 July** each year, and – if you earn more than a certain amount of money from selling the gold mined under your permit – pay royalty fees. **Our website** has more information about paying fees and royalties.

Comply with the conditions of your permit

Your permit comes with a number of conditions that must be met for you to comply with the Act.

These might include commencing mining or completing certain activities by a specified date, a minimum mining production rate, or using only the specified equipment.

If you are unable to meet any of your conditions, you can apply to us to change these.

If you don't comply with the conditions of your permit, or pay your fees or royalties, you may face a penalty or revocation of the permit.



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If you have more than one permit you must meet your compliance obligations on a permit by permit basis. You can't, for example, average production or expenses across multiple permits.

You must also comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and any other legislation relevant to your operation. This is outlined on your permit certificate.

Non-compliance with your permit could affect future permit applications

Any non-compliance with your permit could affect any future applications you may want to make for other permits, or for a change to your current permit. Our staff look at your compliance history when considering your applications.

Keep records

You must keep records about what you do on your permit. Keep notes about all work activities you complete. This information builds a picture of the Crown's resources, and you will be asked to include it in your annual reports.

Selling or giving away your permit

You must apply for and be granted consent to be able to sell your permit or give it to someone else. More information about this can be found on our **website**.

Similarly, if your company holds a permit, and you sell your company, you must notify us that there has been a change of control of the permit holder. See our **website** for more information.

Keep your contact details current

You must let us know if your contact details change.

Throughout the duration of your permit, we may send you reminders of upcoming obligations which must be met. These reminders are designed to help you to comply with your permit obligations.

If your details change, email us at nzpam@mbie.govt.nz.

Pounamu

Your permit does not give you any rights to pounamu. The removal of pounamu for possession without agreement from Ngāi Tahu is unlawful. If your permit is in a pounamu management area (a specific area that Ngāi Tahu has identified as likely to have pounamu) we recommend you talk to Ngāi Tahu to work out how accidental discovery of pounamu will be dealt with. More guidance about pounamu can be found on our **website**.

DISCLAIMER

This document is a guideline only and is not intended to cover every possible situation. If this guideline is inconsistent with the Act, relevant Minerals Programme or relevant regulations, the Act, Programme and regulations prevail. This guideline has no binding legal effect and should not be used as a substitute for obtaining independent legal advice.

New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals (NZP&M) is not responsible for the results of any action taken on the basis of information in this guideline, or for any errors or omissions in this guideline. NZP&M may vary this guideline at any time without notice.

There may be factors taken into account in any application process, transaction or decision that are not covered by this or any other guideline. Adherence to this guideline does not guarantee a particular outcome. NZP&M retains the discretion to decline any application where the statutory requirements for that application are not met.



NEED MORE HELP?

If you need help or more information about anything in this guide, please contact us by:

- phone on 0508 263 782 (within New Zealand) or +64 3 962 6179 (from overseas), or email nzpam@mbie.govt.nz.