

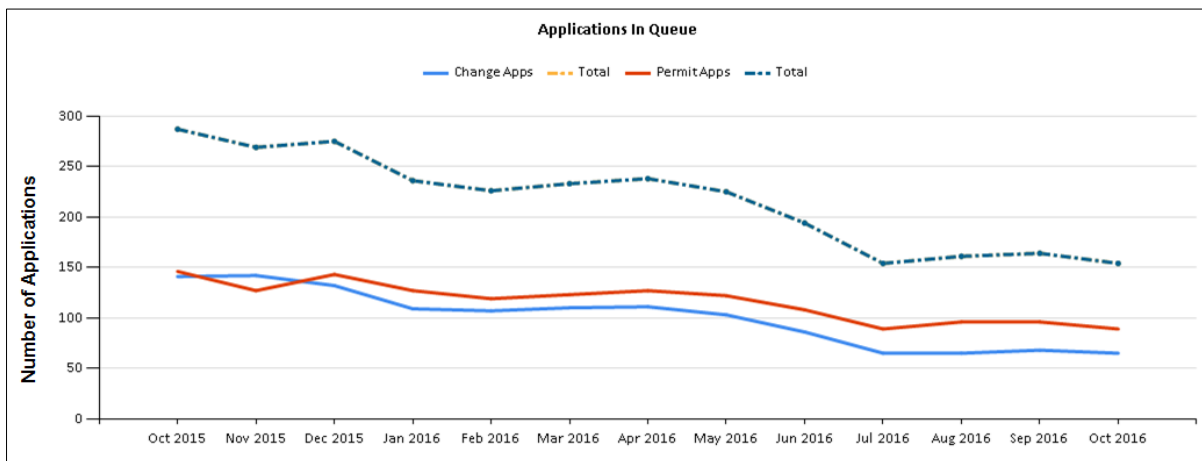
MINERALS PERMIT PROCESSING PERFORMANCE REPORT – THIRD QUARTER (July – September) 2016

This is our third quarter Minerals Permit Processing Performance Report. For the continued development of the resources sector we need an efficient and timely permitting process for mining projects. We have committed to publishing our performance for processing permit applications against the target timeframes to provide transparency for the sector.

This quarter we have continued to improve our processing times with 63 per cent of accepted applications being processed within the target timeline, compared to 41 per cent last quarter. This is due to our efforts in reducing the number of historic applications, which allows us to more quickly respond to new applications.

At the same time, we ensured the backlog of applications did not increase. 158 applications were in the queue at the beginning of the third quarter and 98 new applications were also received. 156 applications were carried over at the end of the quarter.

It's important to note that the application queue will never get to zero. We estimate the natural balance point is around 100-150 in queue at any one time. We aim to have 80 per cent of applications within the target timelines in 2017.



Overall in this quarter a total of 82 permit and change applications were decided. To assist applicants submit high quality applications, we have produced guidance specifically for Tier 2 alluvial gold permit applications which is available on our [website](#).

We continue to be encouraged by the continued uptake of the Online Permitting System (OPS) with 31 per cent of all permit and change applications being submitted online. This is up from the previous quarter and the average of 24 per cent during the first 12 months of the OPS.

NZP&M will continue to improve the transparency, certainty and timeliness of our approvals process. Feedback on the usefulness of this report is welcome.

The table below provides information on minerals applications received and processed in the third quarter of 2016. It also shows how permit processing measures against our timeline targets. The timeline targets apply to NZP&M's processing time and do not include the time taken where the assessment process is put on hold while additional information is sought from applicants.

Application statistics for Third Quarter (July-September) 2016

Application types	Applications carried over from previous quarter	New applications received this quarter	Applications rejected or withdrawn	Accepted applications approved or declined	Total resolved applications	Applications carried over to next quarter	Timeline target (business days)	% decision made on accepted applications within timeline target this quarter *
All hobby permit applications	6	12	2	6	8	10	60	67%
New Permit applications	87	37	17	26	43	81		38%
Prospecting Permits	18	6	1	2	3	21	80	0%
Tier 1 Exploration Permits	7	0	0	2	2	5	80	0%
Tier 2 Exploration Permits	32	14	9	13	22	24	80	31%
Tier 1 Mining Permits	2	0	0	0	0	2	120	N/A
Tier 2 Mining Permits	28	17	7	9	16	29	120	67%
Change applications	65	61	11	50	61	65		76%
Change of Conditions	15	9	2	1	3	21	60	100%
Transfers, Change of Operator & Consent to dealings	12	10	3	13	16	6	40	69%
Notification of Change of Control	3	1	0	2	2	2	40	0%
Extension of Duration to a Prospecting or Exploration Permit	7	4	2	2	4	7	60	50%
Change of Minerals to a Prospecting or Exploration Permit	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	N/A
Extension of Land to a Prospecting or Exploration Permit	1	1	0	1	1	1	60	100%
Extension of Duration for Appraisal to an Exploration Permit	2	0	0	0	0	2	120	N/A
Extension of Duration to a Mining	8	4	1	1	2	10	120	0%

Permit								
Extension of Land to a Mining Permit	12	6	1	7	8	10	120	71%
Change of Minerals to a Mining Permit	2	0	0	0	0	2	120	N/A
Partial Surrenders	2	8	0	8	8	2	20	75%
Full Surrenders	1	18	2	15	17	2	10	100%
Totals	158	110	30	82	112	156		63%

* "N/A" means no applications were finalised in the quarter; 0% means that none of the applications finalised met the timeline target.