# **DIAGRAM**

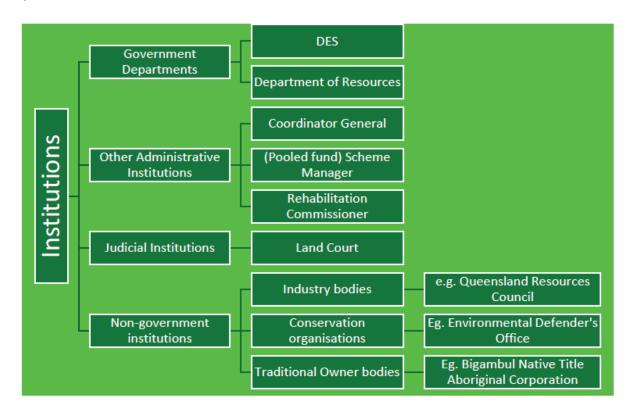
Project 1.3: State regulatory frameworks: Queensland



Extracted from: Hamblin, L., Gardner, A. and Haigh, Y. (2022). <u>Mapping the Regulatory Framework of Mine Closure</u>. CRC TiME Limited, Perth, Australia.

These are extracts only. Each should be read in context of the full final report. Please refer to the full report for more information.

#### **Queensland institutions**



### **Queensland principal regulatory instruments**

## **Principal Regulatory Instruments**

#### Legislation

Mineral Resources Act 1989
Environmental Protection Act 1994
Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Act 2017
Mineral and Energy Resources (Financial Provisioning) Act 2018

### Regulations

Environmental Protection Regulation 2008 Mineral Resources Regulation 2013

#### **Guidelines and policies**

Rehabilitation Requirements for Mining Resource Activities Guideline 2014

Social Impact Assessment Guideline 2018

National industry standards

Local government regulations

International industry standards

### Queensland: chronology of key reforms

2014: Guidelines issued on rehabilitation requirements

2017: Requirement to conduct a social impact assessment as part of a mine licence application introduced

2018: Pooled fund scheme introduced.

## **Summary**

Queensland's regulatory framework was quite pre-mining and planning centred, but it has been recently reformed to require more comprehensive mine closure planning. It does not require regular amendment to those plans throughout the mine life cycle, but adjustments can be made on an as-needs basis. An application for a mining licence can also be referred for an environmental approval, although Queensland does not have a separate environmental authority, such as an Environment Protection Authority.

Queensland also uses a pooled fund financial assurance system but requires a one-off payment as opposed to the annual payments required in Western Australia. Queensland's mining industry is more homogenous than Western Australia's and is centred around coal. Queensland also has many mines approaching closure, as well as a suite of significant new proposals undergoing the planning and approvals process.

Queensland encourages continual closure planning and progressive rehabilitation. In reality, however, it is only after decommissioning begins and operations have ceased that many of the difficulties of repurposing present themselves. To combat some of the delays to transformation that can arise, Queensland has introduced a system of progressive certification, allowing operators to relinquish portions of their mining lease with certainty that their obligations have been met.

#### **REFERENCES**

Hamblin, L., Gardner, A. and Haigh, Y. (2022). <u>Mapping the Regulatory Framework of Mine Closure</u>. CRC TiME Limited, Perth, Australia.

#### **ABOUT US**

The Cooperative Research Centre for Transformations in Mining Economies is part of Australia's national innovation ecosystem. Our diverse partnership brings scale, collaboration and coordinated investment to tackle the most complex mine closure and post-mine transition challenges. Together we're rethinking what's possible to improve outcomes for people, communities, the environment and industry.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians across all the lands on which we live and work, and we pay our respects to Elders both past and present.



