

Earth Resources Regulator Extractive Performance Report

2024-25 Q3



We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it.

We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

Resources Victoria is committed to genuinely partnering with Victorian Traditional Owners and Victoria's Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

# **Extractive Summary FY2024-25 YTD (1 July 2024 to 31 Mar 2025)**



Work Authorities / Work Plans

11

new work authorities

12

Work plans / work plan variations approved

56

pipeline work plan applications

99%

of decisions made within statutory timeframes



Estimated Resource

~86

million tonnes approved (greenfield/variations/admin updates)



Bonds

\$149

million bonds held

60

bond assessments completed



Compliance

308

compliance activities

102

enforcements

15

incidents

32

complaints received

# Extractive Summary – work authorities and work plans

#### What we promised

- Reduce decision timeframes by 15 per cent by 30 June 2025 (Towards 2030: Resources Victoria Strategy)
- Approve at least 80 million tonnes of new extractive resources available for extraction (<u>Towards 2030: Resources Victoria</u> <u>Strategy</u>)

#### What we delivered in FY2024/25 YTD

- Unlocking a further 12.7 million tonnes this quarter has resulted in a total of ~86million tonnes of resources YTD.
- 99% of work plan decisions made within statutory time frame.
- Tracking ahead of target for 15% reduction of end-to-end decision timeframe for work plan/variation approvals
- Improved cooperative working approach with industry to reduce instances of recurring changes with positive feedback
- Introduced RVAC pre-submission review process
- Introduced Scoping Document option for new applications
- Refined referral triggers for Air Quality assessment to reduce regulatory burden (proportionate to risk)
- 11% (6 out of 56) of work plan applications are with the regulator for assessment and 89% are with the applicant or with the applicant seeking a planning permit

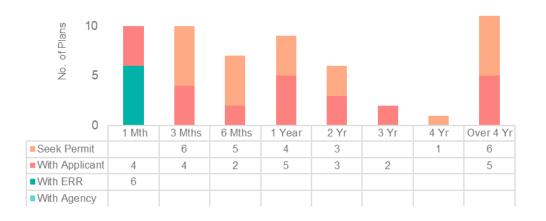
#### Work Plan / Work Plan Variations Approvals:

Ahead of target for 15% reduction of end-to-end decision timeframes

FY	Work Plans Approved	Median Days with ERR	Median Days with Applicant	Median Days to Seek Permit	Median Days End to End	Ave No. returns to applicant per plan
FY2024-25 YTD	12	85	58	180	298	<2
FY2023-24	22	138	92	221	636	<3
FY2022-23	12	130	251	274	562	<3
FY2021-22	10	125	46	240	440	<2

#### **Stage Duration of Work Plan Applications**

15



# Extractive summary – rehabilitation liabilities

#### What we delivered in FY2024/25 YTD

- Assessed ~ \$39.8 million in rehabilitation bonds.
- 60 bond assessments including 10 initial bonds, 24 further bonds, and 23 bond returns.
- Further bonds were primarily a result of work plan variations, priority sites assessed under MRSDA
   Section 79A and applications for transfer of ownership.
- The majority (\$10.3M) of the increase in Q3 resulted from review of two priority sites, which are both large operations producing over 500,000t/yr without a bond review for 12 years.
- Progressive rehabilitation and more frequent self-assessment can reduce bond amounts held and
  ensure rehabilitation liability accurately reflects bonds held (for more information see
  resources.vic.gov.au/community-and-land-use/rehabilitation)
- Continue to deliver on our commitments in the <u>Regulatory Practice Strategy for the Rehabilitation of</u> Earth Resources Sites

#### Bonds 892 \$149 number of bonds held (inc ceased FY23/24 FY24/25 **Bond Assessment** YTD YTD 38 Sites bond assessed 60 Total bond assessed \$5.9 \$39.8 amount (\$m)

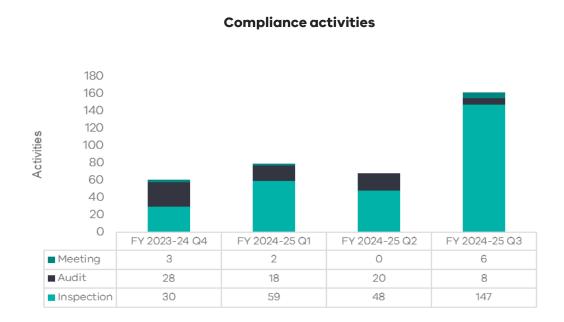
#### Rehabilitation bond assessments last four quarters

Bond Assessment	FY 2023-24 Q4		FY 2023-24 Q4 FY 2024-25 Q1 FY 2024-25 Q2		-25 Q2	FY 2024-25 Q3		
	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount
Bond Increase	10	\$4,540,750	9	\$21,575,000	5	\$2,680,000	10	\$14,099,000
Initial Bond	7	\$1,320,500	6	\$788,500	2	\$14,000	2	\$119,000
Full Release	8	\$43,500	5	\$89,800	10	\$163,500	5	\$74,090
Partial Release					2	\$173,500	1	\$14,000
No Change					2		1	
Total Assessments	25	\$5,904,750	20	\$22,453,300	21	\$3,031,000	19	\$14,306,090

# **Extractive summary – compliance**

#### What we delivered in FY2024/25 YTD

- 308 audits, inspections and meetings across 265 sites
- 32 community complaints were received for 23 sites.
- 102 Compliance actions including 61 educations and 35 S110 notices issued
- Continued focus on inspections rather than audits to progress compliance priority focus areas, and monitor compliance with remedial notices
- Continued communications on actions including regulatory actions webpage



308 Compliance **Activities YTD** 

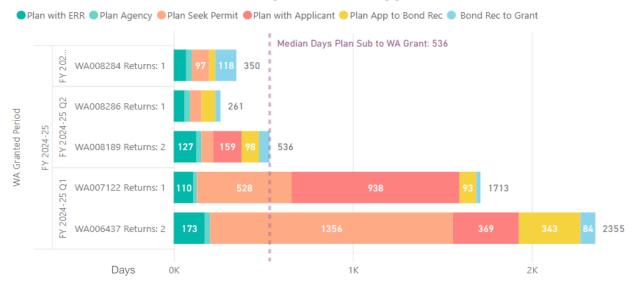
265 **Unique Work Authorities YTD** 

#### **Key points to note**

- The Compliance team have inspected more sites (across quarries and mines) in the last quarter than any quarter for at least the last 8 years. This is primarily due to the introduction of a new type of inspection.
- Several themes are emerging from the rapid risk inspections: excess derelict equipment, poor management of hydrocarbons, failure to complete progressive rehabilitation and failure to have a copy of the approved work plan on site.
- More information on the rapid risk inspections will be available in Q4.
- Compliance with the actions specified in s110 notices, and completion by the required date is an increasing focus. In this quarter a work authority holder was issued an official warning for failure to complete a required action by the due date.
- Review of aerial imagery in relation to **potential over-extraction** is in progress. The team are following up sites where further information is required, either in an inspection or by requesting information directly.

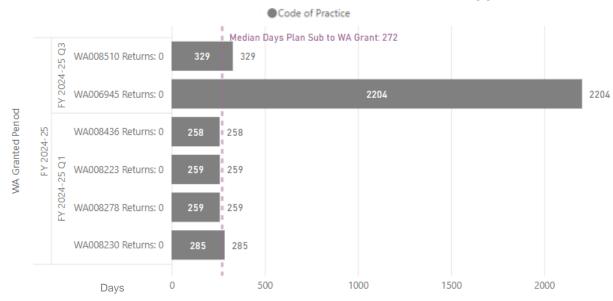
### Extractive work authorities granted FY2024-25 YTD (01 Jul 2024 to 31 Mar 2025)

#### **Work Authority End to End Approval**



Stage	FY21/22 YTD Median Days	FY22/23YTD Median Days	FY23/24 YTD Median Days	FY24/25YTD Median Days
WA Granted	11	4	3	5
With ERR	121	107	140	110
With Applicant	57	103	44	159
Seek Permit	143	253	221	97
Plan Appr to Bond Received	234	504	157	93
Bond Received to Grant	18	34	28	59
End to End	837	1017	587	536
COP WA Granted	3	5	2	6
COP Submitted to WA Grant	727	479	703	272

#### Work Authority COP (<5Ha) End to End Approval



• In FY24/25 Q3 one new quarry (under a work plan) was granted, totalling five for FY24/25 YTD unlocking 5.2 million tonnes of resources. The median end to end time was 536 days. The time to seek a planning permit, time with the applicant were factors in the high end to end time.

 Two quarries were granted under a code of practice in Q3. One of these was over 2000 days due to planning permit amendments.

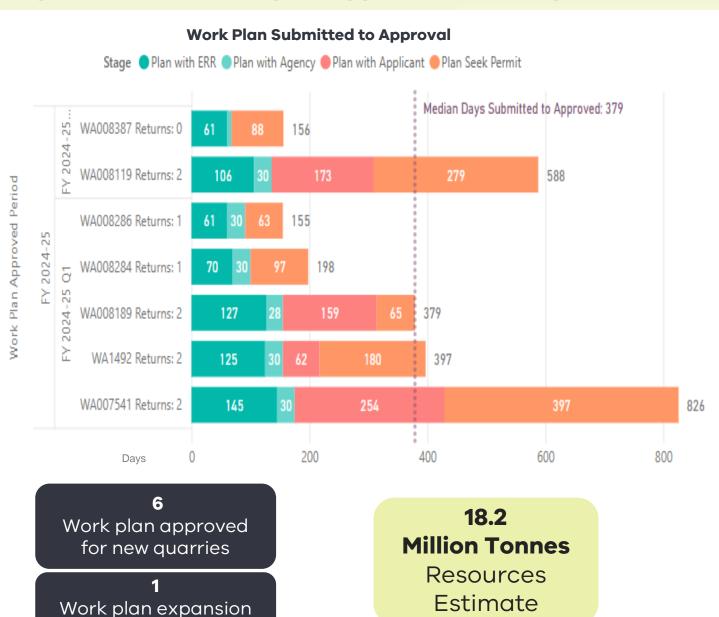
# **11**Work Authorities Granted

# **5.2 Million Tonnes**Resources Estimate

#### **Geographic location**

Tenement	Area Ha	Km from GPC	ORV Region	Primary LGA
WA008284	258	393	North	Mildura
WA008286	97	446	North	Mildura
WA007122	65	505	North	Mildura
WA006437	31	29	North	Whittlesea
WA008189	9	177	East	Wellington
WA008436	5	205	West	Nth Grampians
WA008223	5	489	North	Mildura
WA008278	5	514	North	Mildura
WA008230	5	498	North	Mildura
WA006945	5	505	North	Mildura
WA008510	5	326	North	Hindmarsh

# Pipeline – Initial work plan approved for new quarries



#### **Initial Work Plans - End to End Approvals**

Stage	FY21/22 YTD Median Days	FY22/23YTD Median Days	FY23/24 YTD Median Days	FY24/25YTD Median Days
Work Plans Approved	5	3	5	7
With ERR	124	109	140	106
With Internal Agency	30	30	30	30
With Applicant	19	68	44	62
Seek Permit	248	274	655	97
End to End	432	489	953	379

#### **Geographic location**

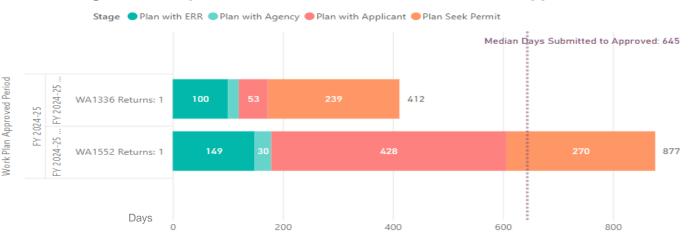
Tenement	Area Ha	Km from GPO	RV Region	Primary LGA	Status
WA008284	294	393	North	Mildura	Granted
WA008387	230	444	North	Mildura	Yet to submit WA application
WA008119	121	312	North	Hindmarsh	Yet to submit WA application
WA007541	114.6	79	East	Cardinia	Yet to submit WA application
WA008286	97.3	446	North	Mildura	Granted
WA008189	8.8	177	East	Wellington	Granted
WA1492	4.9	323	North	Yarriambiack	COP to Work Plan

- There were two initial work plan for new quarry approval in FY24/25 Q3.
- Three of these work plans were granted a work authority and three are yet to submit the application for a work authority.
- In Q1 One work plan was approved to expand from a code of practice operation to a quarry operating under a work plan.

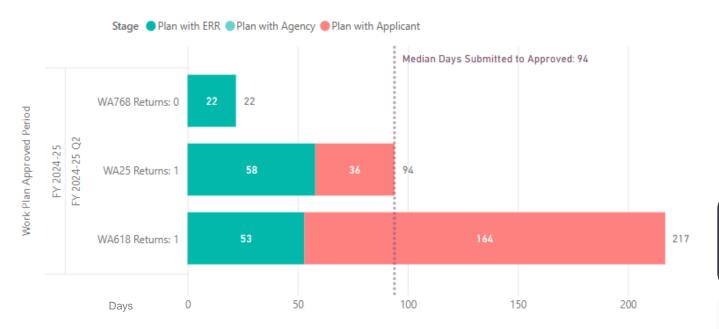
COP to full quarry

## Work plan variations FY2024-25 YTD (01 Jul 2024 to 31 Mar 2025)

#### Planning Permit Required - Work Plan Variation Submitted to Approval



#### Planning Permit Not Required - Work Plan Variation Submitted to Approval



#### Planning Permit Required - Work Plan Variation - End to End Approvals

Stage	FY21/22 YTD Median Days	FY22/23YTD Median Days	FY23/24 YTD Median Days	FY24/25YTD Median Days
Variation Approved	2	5	8	2
With ERR	139	138	163	125
With Internal Agency	30	30	30	25
With Applicant	112	361	84	241
Seek Permit	232	259	192	255
End to End	513	834	580	645

#### Planning Permit Not Req - Work Plan Variation - End to End Approvals

Stage	FY21/22 YTD Median Days	FY22/23YTD Median Days	FY23/24 YTD Median Days	FY24/25YTD Median Days
Variation Approved	2	2	4	3
With ERR	133	96	140	53
With Internal Agency	-	15	-	-
With Applicant	778	432	554	36
End to End	1487	924	717	94

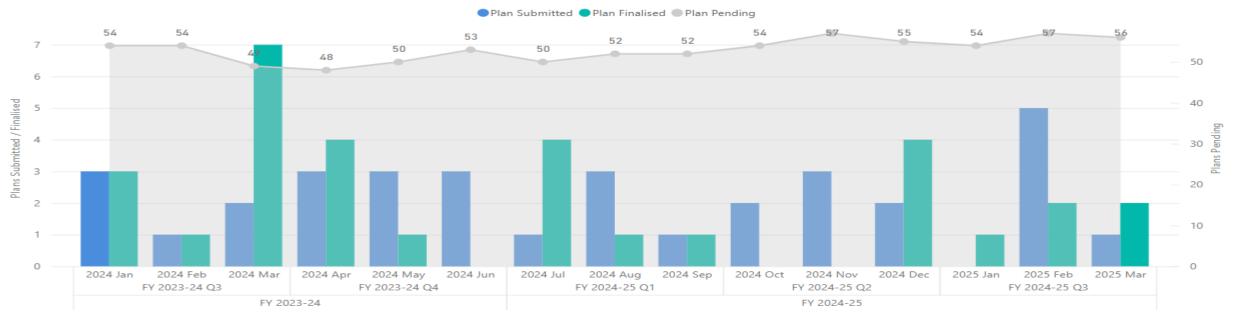
**5** Work plan variations approved

# **66.9 Million Tonnes**Resources Estimate

• In FY24/25 Q3 one work plan variation was approved . YTD there were five approvals in total unlocking 66.9 million tones of resources.

## Extractive Work Plan Applications In the pipeline (31 Mar 2025)

#### **Work Plan Summary by Status**

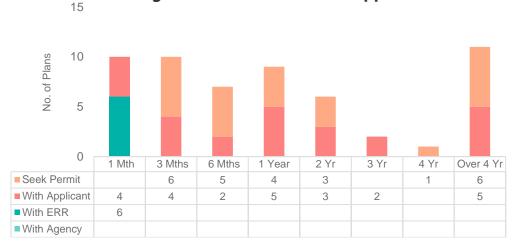


Status: Submitted | finalised (Approved, Withdrawn, Refused) | Pending (work plan submitted yet to be finalised)

#### **Work Plan Application Stage**

• •	
Stage	No. Plans
Seeking Planning Permit	25
With Applicant	25
With ERR for Assessment	6
With Internal Agency	0
Work Plan Applications	56

#### **Stage Duration of Work Plan Applications**



- At 31 Mar 2024 there were 56 work plans in the pipeline
- 89% of the work plan applications are with applicant or with applicant seeking a planning permit.
- RV periodically contacts applicants that have projects that appear to have stalled to confirm if they are still pursuing the applications and if so, what is holding it up and whether the department can provide any assistance to progress.

# Work Plan Decisions Made Within Statutory Time Frame (STF)

#### **Work Plan Decision Time Frames**



#### **Work Plan Decision Time Frames**

Decisions Time frame	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY 2024-25 Q1	FY 2024-25 Q2	FY 2024-25 Q3
Within STF	38	15	31	24
Over STF	3	1	0	0
Total	41	16	31	24
% Within STF	93%	94%	100%	100%

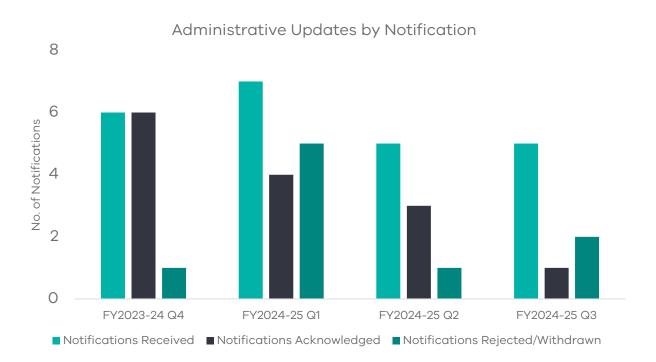
#### FY24/25 Q3 Decision Outcomes

Outcomes	Within STF	Over STF	Q3 Total
Return to Applicant	8	0	8
Agency Referral Outcome	6	0	6
Endorsed Work Plan	6	0	6
Agency Referral	2	0	2
Work Plan Approved	2	0	2
Total Outcomes	24	0	24

- In FY24/25 Q3, 100% of decisions were made within statutory time frame (24 out of 24) from 17 unique work plans.
- Eight work plans were returned to the applicant as they did not meet the legislative requirement, six were referred to internal agency and six work plans were endorsed for the applicant to seek a planning permit.

# **Work Plan Administrative Updates by Notification**

Extractive Industries	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY 2024-25 Q1	FY 2024-25 Q2	FY 2024-25 Q3
Notifications Received	6	7	5	5
Notifications Acknowledged	6	4	3	1
Notifications Rejected / Withdrawn	1	5	1	2

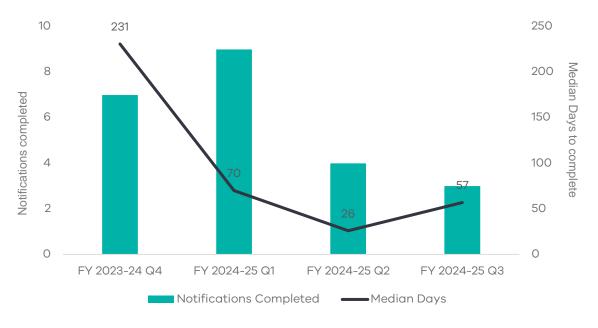


# **8** Administrative Updates Acknowledged YTD

# **0.7 Million Tonnes**Resources Estimate YTD

- In FY24/25 Q3 there was one administrative updates acknowledged.
- Eight administrative updates in total for FY24/25 YTD unlocking 0.7 million tonnes of resources.

#### Notifications Completed and Median Days



# **Work Authority Bonds**

892

total bonds held

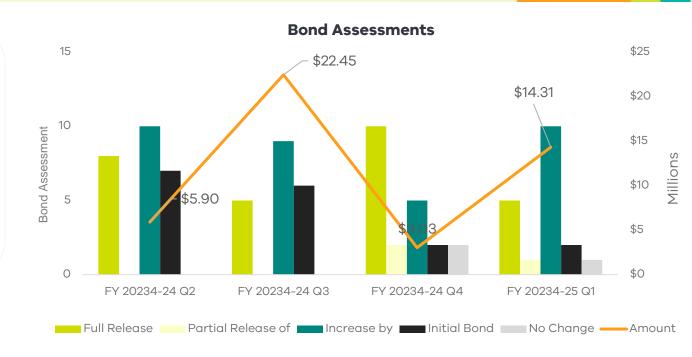
# \$149 million

Value of bonds (at 31 Mar 2025)

- In Q3, 19 bond assessments were conducted totalling a value of ~\$14.3M.
- 10 had a bond increase, most of the increases were priority sites assessed under s79A.
- 5 bond releases across the state following successful completion of rehabilitation commitments.
- 2 initial bonds for new sites set.

Link to website bond information and public bonds dashboard:

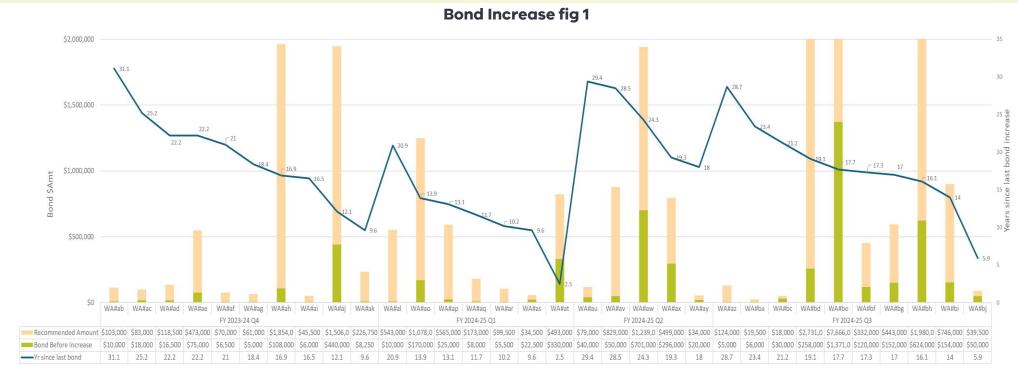
Rehabilitation - Resources Victoria



#### **Bond Assessments**

Bond Assessment	FY 2023-24 Q4		FY 2024-25 Q1		FY 2024-25 Q2		FY 2024-25 Q3	
	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount
Bond Increase	10	\$4,540,750	9	\$21,575,000	5	\$2,680,000	10	\$14,099,000
Initial Bond	7	\$1,320,500	6	\$788,500	2	\$14,000	2	\$119,000
Full Release	8	\$43,500	5	\$89,800	10	\$163,500	5	\$74,090
Partial Release					2	\$173,500	1	\$14,000
No Change					2		1	
Total Assessments	25	\$5,904,750	20	\$22,453,300	21	\$3,031,000	19	\$14,306,090

# **Work Authority Bond Increase**



	B	ona incre	ase fig 2	
	\$20,000,000			. 3
	\$15,000,000			
nt	\$10,000,000	17	15.7	
Bond \$Amt	\$5,000,000			
	\$0	WA#am FY 202	WA#an 4-25 Q1	
	Recommended Amount	\$2,768,500	\$15,820,500	
	Bond Before Increase	\$4,097,500	\$621,500	
_	Yr since last bond	17	15.7	

Rond Increase fig 2

Fig1 have been separated from fig2 due to the difference in bond amount scales

### \$387,500 Median Increased amount

## 17 years

Median years since previous bond increase

Bond Increase	FY 2023-24 Q4		FY 2024-25 Q1		FY 2024-25 Q2		FY 2024-25 Q3	
Reasons	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount
MRSDA Section 79A			1	\$2,768,500	4	\$2,646,000	7	\$13,729,500
Transfer	3	\$198,500	2	\$15,855,000	1	\$34,000	2	\$37,500
Work Plan Variation	6	\$2,836,250	5	\$2,458,500				
Work Authority Extension	1	\$1,506,000						
Scheduled / Annual Review			1	\$493,000			1	\$332,000
Total Increases	10	\$4,540,750	9	\$21,575,000	5	\$2,680,000	10	\$14,099,000

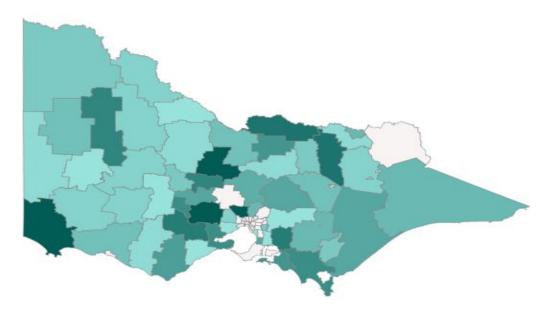
- In FY24/25 Q3 there were 10 further bonds assessed totalling \$14M.
- The median years since previous bond increase reflects the work to address the historic backlog.

<sup>\*</sup> Work Authorities have been deidentified.

# **Compliance Activities FY2024-25 Q3**

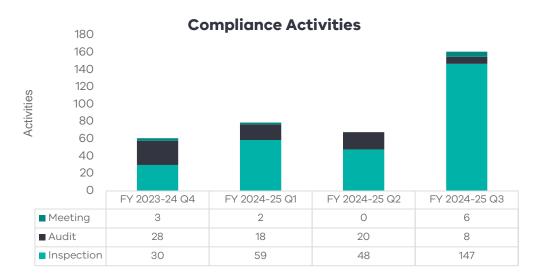
LGA	Audit	Meeting	Inspection	Q3 Total
Glenelg			23	23
Moira			13	13
Mount Alexander			10	10
Wangaratta	4	2	4	10
Golden Plains			10	10
Greater Shepparton			9	9
Ballarat			9	9
Cardinia	1		8	9
Hepburn			8	8
Moorabool			7	7
Frankston			5	5
Greater Bendigo		2	3	5
Buloke			3	3
Greater Geelong			3	3
Ararat			3	3
Mansfield			3	3
Latrobe	1		2	3
Melton			3	3
South Gippsland			2	2
Indigo			2	2
Southern Grampians			2	2
Bass Coast	1		1	2
Wodonga			2	2
Moyne			2	2
Hindmarsh			2	2
Whittlesea		1		1
Horsham		1		1
Wyndham			1	1
Hume			1	1
Wellington			1	1
East Gippsland			1	1
Colac Otway			1	1
Baw Baw			1	1
Yarriambiack			1	1
Gannawarra			1	1
Benalla	1			1
Activities	8	6	147	161

#### **LGA Heatmap - Compliance Activities**



**161**Compliance
Activities

**159**Unique Work
Authorities



- In Q3 161 compliance activities were conducted on 159 sites.
- Rapid risk inspections introduced this quarter.

# **Compliance Actions**

#### **Education**

Compliance Actions	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY 2024-25 Q1	FY 2024-25 Q2	FY 2024-25 Q3
Written Instruction/Education	16	12	11	11
Official Warning Letter	1	1		
Total Actions	17	13	11	11

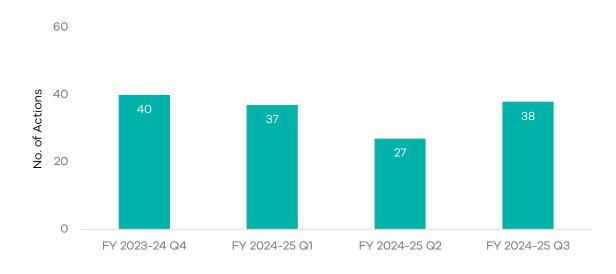
#### S110 / S110A Notices

Reasons for notice	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY 2024-25 Q1	FY 2024-25 Q2	FY 2024-25 Q3
Authorised Activity Compliance	7	4	2	
Buffer Zones	1			
Drainage, Erosion and Discharge	1			
Explosives	1			
Ground Disturbance		1		
Hazardous Materials Management	1			2
Noise Emissions		1		
Other	1			
Rehabilitation of Site		2		
Reporting; Monitoring and Auditing	1			
Slope Stability	1		1	
Tailings and Slime Management	1	1	1	1
Tenement Boundaries		4		
Top Soil Management	1			
Waste and Redundant Plan	2	2	2	1
Water Dams			2	
Work Without Licence or Consents	2	4	4	
Total notices issued	20	19	12	4

#### **Enforcement**

Compliance Actions	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY 2024-25 Q1	FY 2024-25 Q2	FY 2024-25 Q3
Infringement Notice		4		
Direction	2	1		
Total Actions	2	5	0	0

#### **Quarterly Summary – Compliance Actions**



More information on regulatory actions can be found here Regulatory actions Regulatory actions - Resources Victoria

# **Compliance Incidents**

Incidents	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY 2024-25 Q1	FY 2024-25 Q2	FY 2024-25 Q3
Explosives Air & Ground Vibration	2	2	1	
Other (Not Specified Above)		1	2	
Fire Precautions & Risk Control	1	1		1
Slope Stability		1	1	
Environmental Incident Notification				1
Rehabilitation of Site		1		
Buffer Zones		1		
Complaints Management				1
Groundwater Impacts				1
Total Incidents	3	7	4	4
Unique sites	2	5	3	4

# **Community Complaints**

Complaints	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY 2024-25 Q1	FY 2024-25 Q2	FY 2024-25 Q3
Dust Emissions		2	3	5
Noise Emissions	3	3		2
Explosives Air & Ground Vibration	5			1
Work without License or Consents	2	1	1	1
Working Hours	2		2	
Impacts Outside Tenement Site	2	2		
Native Vegetation & Fauna			1	1
Other (Not Specified Above)		1		1
Drainage, Erosion & Discharge		1		
Community Engagement	1			
Waterway Quality & Aquatic Habitat				1
Public Safety & Site Security	1			
Buffer Zones			1	
Waste & Redundant Plant		1		
Water Dams		1		
Total Complaints Received	16	12	8	12
Unique Tenements	8	9	5	12
Unique Informants	13	10	8	12

# **Compliance Community Reference Group Attendance**

Tenement	Tenement Holder	LGA	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY 2024-25 Q1	FY 2024-25 Q2	FY 2024-25 Q3
WA102	Boral Resources (Vic) Pty Ltd	Whittlesea			1	
WA104	Bourke Pty Ltd	Corangamite	1			
WA158	Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd	Colac Otway		1		1
WA174	Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd	Cardinia	1			
WA188	Davegale Pty Ltd	Greater Geelong			1	
WA385	Heidelberg Materials Australia Pty Ltd	Knox		2		
WA41	Barro Group Pty Ltd	Greater Geelong			1	
WA532	Sand Supplies Pty Ltd	Bass Coast		1		
WA82	Boral Resources (Vic) Pty Ltd	Moorabool	1	1	1	
	Total Attendance		3	5	4	1

# Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

# **Earth Resources Regulator**

8 Nicholson Street East Melbourne VIC 3002 Telephone: 1300 366 356

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