




Earth Resources Regulator Extractive Performance Report

2023-24 Q4



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 FY2023-24 (1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024)



Work Authorities
/ Work Plans

9

new work authorities

16

workplan variations approved

54

pending work plan
applications

87%

of decisions made within
statutory timeframes



Estimated
Resource

~243

million tonnes approved
(greenfield/variations/admin
updates)



Bonds

\$121.5

million bonds held

63

bond assessments completed



Compliance

192

compliance activities

163

compliance actions

12

incidents

45

complaints received

Extractive Summary – decision timeframes

What we promised

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

What we delivered

- Increased end-to-end decision timeframe in FY23/24 due to five larger work authorities being granted with extended planning permit periods
- Approved nine new quarries in FY23/24 representing 110 million tonnes of resource
- Work plan variations (16) and Administrative Update (14) approval for FY23/24 equates to 134 million tonnes of additional resources.
- Increased work plan approval pipeline tonnage increased to 1,136 Mt at the end of FY23/24.
- Assessed 56 work plans/variations (with 129 separate decisions made on these work plans during the year, compared to 94 decisions in FY22/23)

What the numbers show

- WP and WPV returned to applicant an average of 3 times for changes – improvements to the quality of WP/WPVs would be likely to reduce end-to-end timeframes

Work Authority end-to-end approval

Stage	FY23/24 Median Days	FY22/23 Median Days	FY21/22 Median Days	FY20/21 Median Days
WA Granted	5	5	12	1
With ERR	154	131	115	139
With Applicant	44	60	68	60
Seek Permit	655	201	274	153
Plan Appr to Bond Received	157	275	121	275
Bond Received to Grant	28	22	29	18
End to End	1189	507	626	849
COP WA Granted	4	5	3	2
COP Submitted to WA Grant	703	479	727	325

Work Plan Variations end-to-end approval

Stage	FY23/24 Median Days	FY22/23 Median Days	FY21/22 Median Days	FY20/21 Median Days
Variations Approved	11	6	2	12
With ERR	147	150	161	130
With Applicant	95	269	112	80
Seek Permit	182	254	232	255
Plan Submitted to Approval	615	734	535	632

Extractives summary – rehabilitation liabilities

What we promised

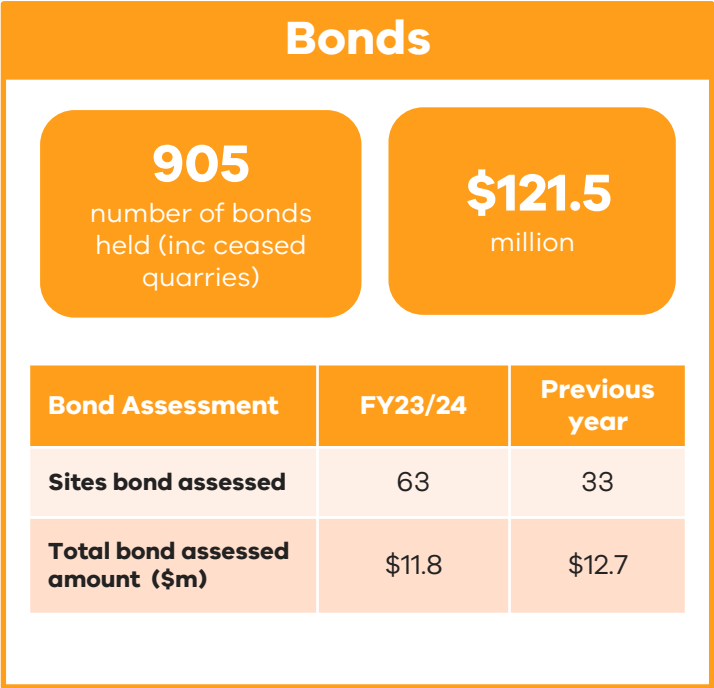
- Ensure adequate rehabilitation bonds are in place to reduce liability of earth resources sites to government ([Towards 2030: Resources Victoria Strategy](#))
- Continue to deliver on our commitments in the [Regulatory Practice Strategy for the Rehabilitation of Earth Resources Sites](#)

What we delivered

- Increased number of sites bond assessed

What the numbers tell us

- Increases in bonds was mainly due to transfer of ownership, work plan variation and extending the work authority area.
- In FY23/24 Q4 there were 10 bond increases totalling \$4.5M. The increase was attributed, in part, to the Quarry Approvals Program finalising variations to provide access to additional resources, and subsequent bond reviews undertaken.
- Progressive rehabilitation and more frequent self-assessment can reduce bond amounts (see [resources.vic.gov.au/community-and-land-use/rehabilitation](#) for more information)



17 years
Median years since previous bond increase

\$117,000
Median Increased amount

Annual Summary - Bond Assessment Increases

Bond Increase	FY 2023-24 Q1		FY 2023-24 Q2		FY 2023-24 Q3		FY 2023-24 Q4		FY Total	
Reasons	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount
Transfer	5	\$923,700	1	\$57,000	2	\$707,000	3	\$198,500	11	\$1,886,200
Work Authority Area Extension	3	\$419,500			3	\$671,500	1	\$1,506,000	7	\$2,597,000
Work Plan Variation	2	\$656,000	4	\$819,200	1	\$31,500	6	\$2,836,250	13	\$4,342,950
Total Increases	10	\$1,999,200	5	\$876,200	6	\$1,410,000	10	\$4,540,750	31	\$8,826,150

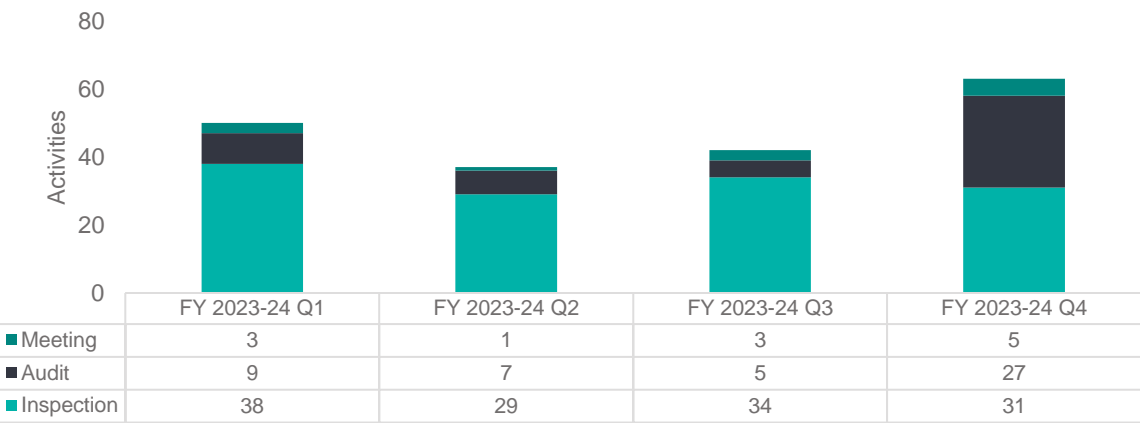
Extractives summary – compliance

What we promised

- Compliance actions that protect the environment, members of the public, land, property and infrastructure ([Towards 2030: Resources Victoria Strategy](#))

What we delivered

- Increased number of audits, inspections and enforcement actions
- Increased transparency of compliance activity – more communications on actions including [regulatory actions webpage](#)
- New compliance team members and increased capacity in Q4 FY23/24



Compliance activities

192
Compliance
Activities

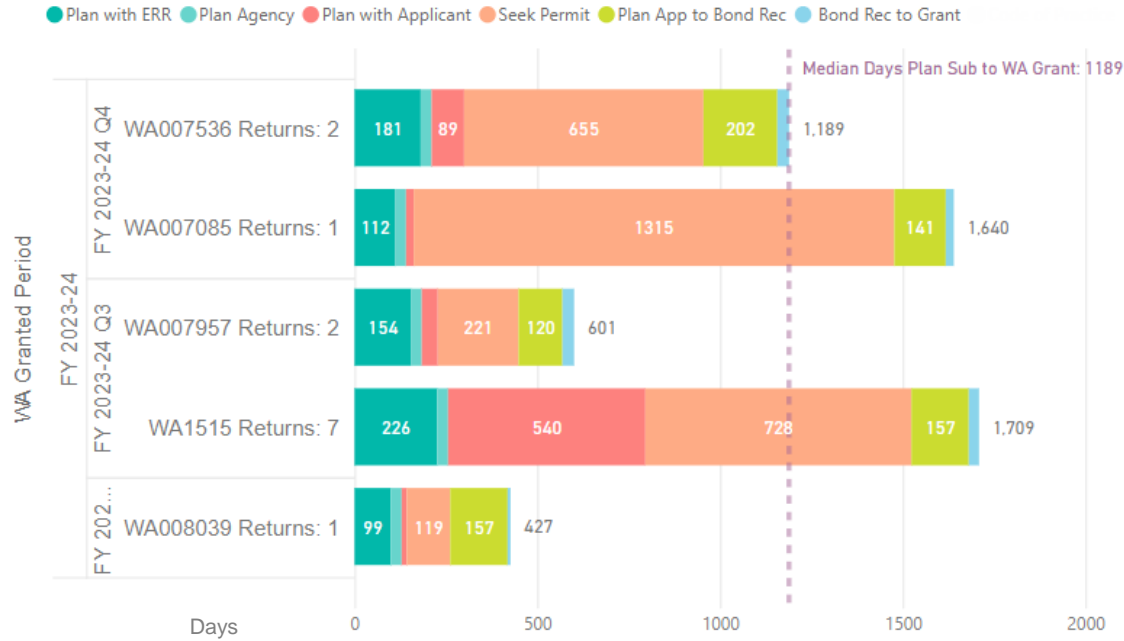
142
Unique Work
Authorities

What the numbers tell us

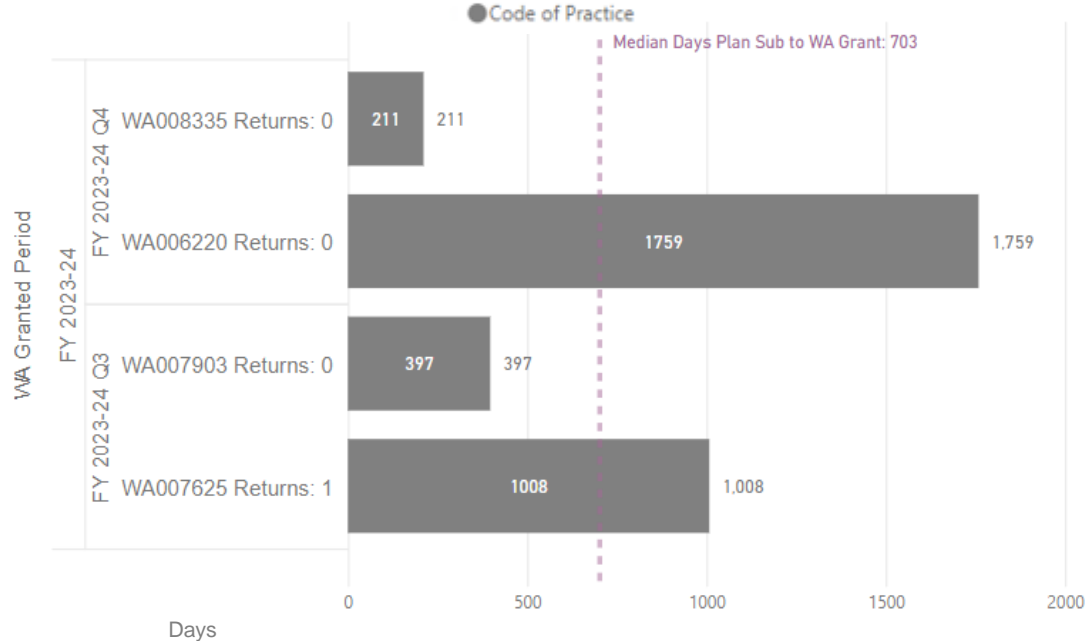
- Marked improvement in annual returns/reports compliance.
 - 40 infringement notices and 14 official warning letters in FY 23/24 compared to around 570 in FY 22/23.
- Some ongoing site compliance issues.
 - Increased audit numbers related to over-extraction and rehabilitation.
 - Observations regarding ongoing compliance issues with slimes management, over-extraction, progressive rehabilitation and community engagement contributed to the selection of the [2024-25 compliance priorities](#)
- Proactive community engagement needed by all sites
 - 48 community complaints received in FY23/24 were related to 19 unique tenements.
 - Lack of industry community engagement increases likelihood of repeated complaints

Extractive Work Authorities Granted in FY2023-24 (01 Jul 2023 to 30 June 2024)

Work Authority End to End Approval



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



9
Work
Authorities
Granted

110.1 Million
Tonnes
Resources
Estimate

Stage	FY23/24 Median Days	FY22/23 Median Days	FY21/22 Median Days	FY20/21 Median Days
WA Granted	5	5	12	1
With ERR	154	131	115	139
With Applicant	44	60	68	60
Seek Permit	655	201	274	153
Plan Appr to Bond Received	157	275	121	275
Bond Received to Grant	28	22	29	18
End to End	1189	507	626	849
COP WA Granted	4	5	3	2
COP Submitted to WA Grant	703	479	727	325

Geographic location

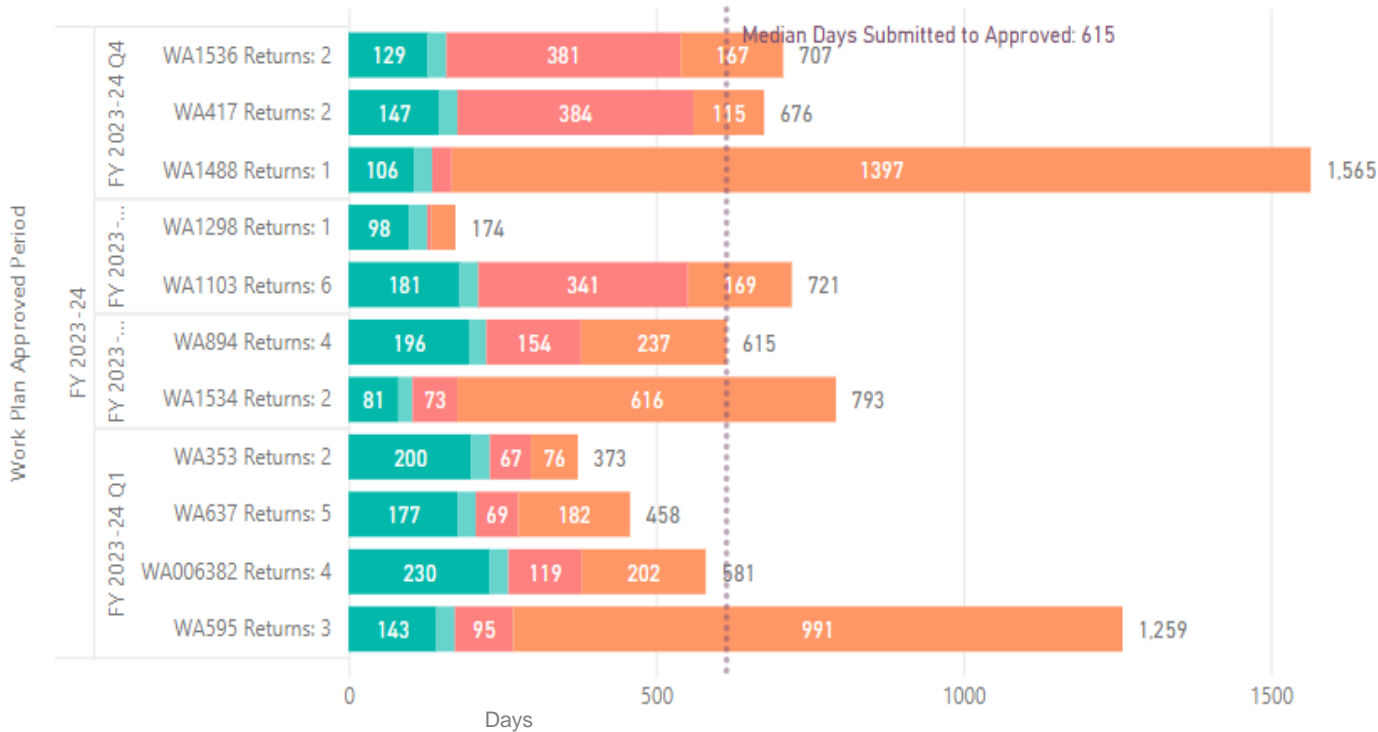
Tenement	Area Ha	Km from GPO	RV Region	Primary LGA
WA006220	5	81.2	North	Mitchell
WA007536	30.2	85.2	North	Murrindindi
WA1515	156.24	138.4	East	Latrobe
WA007085	42.9	204.2	West	Moyne
WA007903	4.7	324.5	North	Yarriambiack
WA007625	5	340.4	North	Swan Hill
WA008335	4.95	383.2	North	Mildura
WA008039	292.6	480.6	North	Mildura
WA007957	811.3	511.2	North	Mildura

- Average no. of returns to applicant: 3
- Four new work authorities were granted in Q4.
- The median days for approval were:
 - 1189 days (five larger work authorities granted in FY23/24)
 - 703 days for Codes of Practice work authorities

Work Plan Variations Approved in FY 2023-24 – Planning Permit Required

Work Plan Variations Submitted to Approved – Planning Permit Required

Stage ● Plan with ERR ● Plan with Agency ● Plan with Applicant ● Seek Permit



Stage	FY23/24 Median Days	FY22/23 Median Days	FY21/22 Median Days	FY20/21 Median Days
Variations Approved	11	6	2	12
With ERR	147	150	161	130
With Applicant	95	269	112	80
Seek Permit	182	254	232	255
Plan Submitted to Approval	615	734	535	632

11 Work Plans Variations
Approved

56.4 Million Tonnes
Resources Estimate

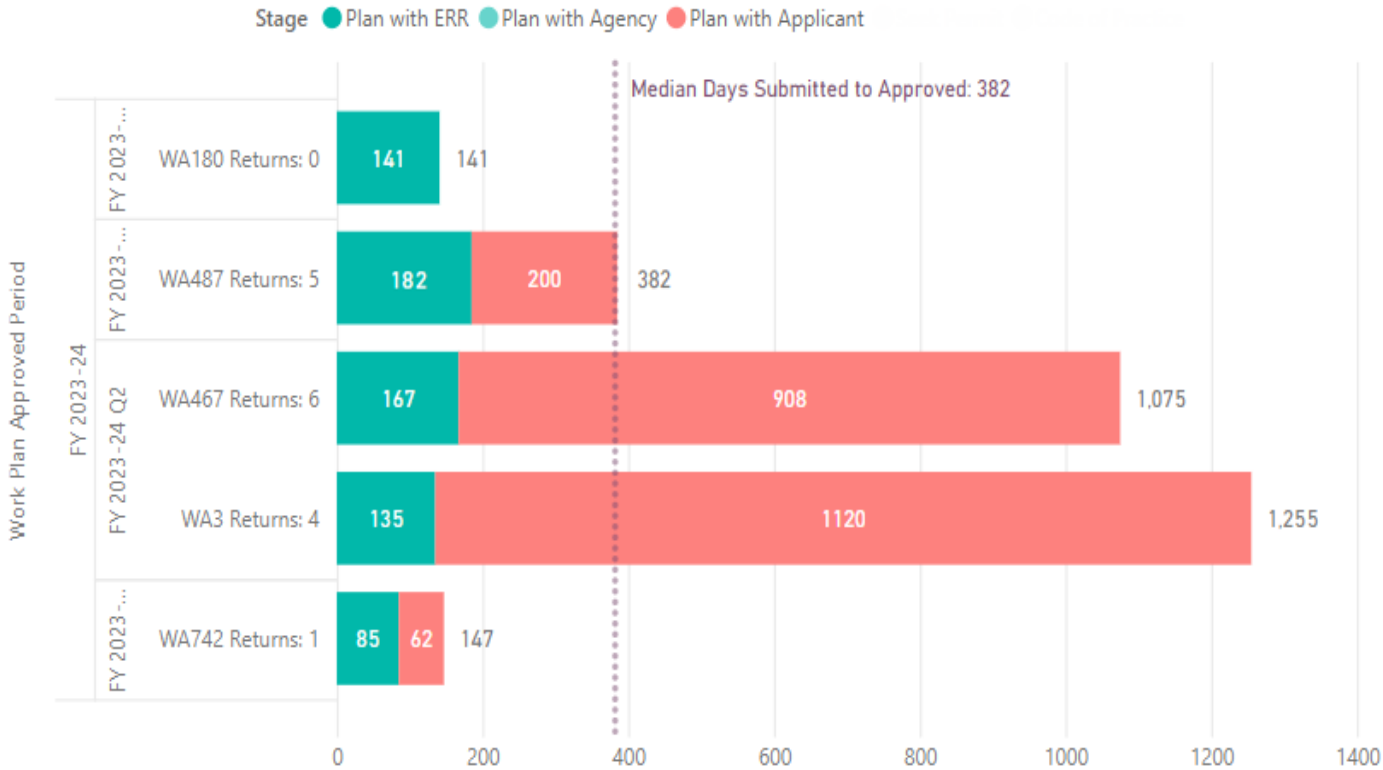
Geographic location

Tenement	Area Ha	Km from GPO	RV Region	Primary LGA
WA894	13.5	256.9	North	Indigo
WA637	111.0	208.2	West	Northern Grampians
WA595	26.6	253.2	West	Horsham
WA417	5.1	177.8	West	Corangamite
WA353	44.9	279.4	West	Glenelg
WA1536	23.6	217.2	West	Ararat
WA1534	79.0	337.0	North	Swan Hill
WA1488	156.1	83.1	East	Bass Coast
WA1298	9.0	281.5	West	Horsham
WA1103	25.4	192.3	North	Wangaratta
WA006382	66.7	199.3	West	Corangamite

- Average no. of returns to applicant: 3
- Three work plan variations requiring planning permits were approved in Q4, bringing the total to 11 for FY23/24.
- Of all the work plan variations approved, 1 is located within the Melbourne Supply Area.
- The median days from submission to approval was 615 days.
- The time taken to seek a planning permit and notify ERR following statutory endorsement was 182 days (median).

Work Plan Variations Approved in FY 2023-24 – Planning Permit Not Required

Work Plan Variations Submitted to Approved – Planning Permit Not Required



5 Work Plans Variations Approved

60.2 Million Tonnes Resources Estimate

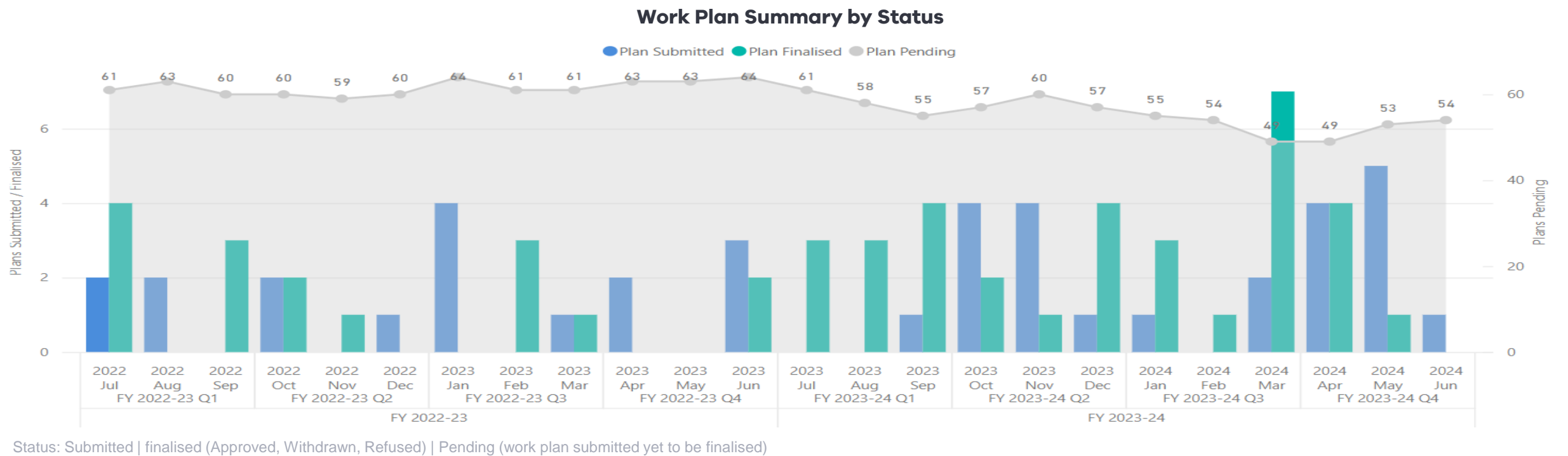
Geographic location

Tenement	Area Ha	Km from GPO	RV Region	Primary LGA
WA742	3.0	274.0	North	Towong
WA487	27.0	254.1	North	Wodonga
WA467	102.4	188.7	West	Corangamite
WA3	442.2	67.0	West	Greater Geelong
WA180	89.6	243.9	West	Moyne

Stage	FY23/24 Median Days	FY22/23 Median Days	FY21/22 Median Days	FY20/21 Median Days
Variations Approved	5	2	3	2
With ERR	141	106	89	22
With Applicant	200	432	127	1
Plan Submitted to Approval	382	734	190	29

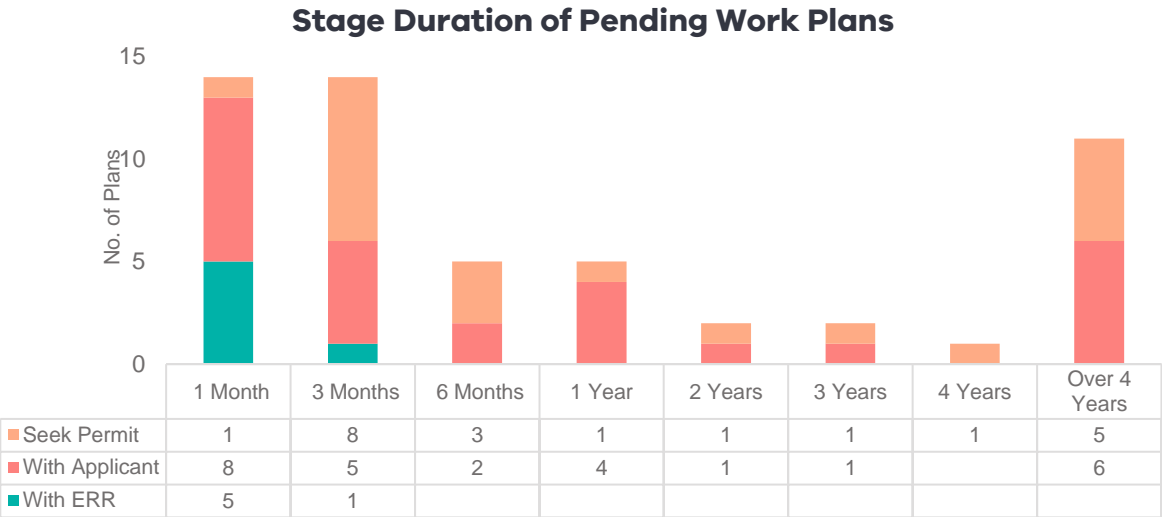
- Average no. of returns to applicant: 3
- One work plan variation not requiring a planning permit was approved in Q4 and a total of five for FY23/24.
- The median days submission to approval was 382 days.

Extractive Work Plans Pending In the System (30 June 2024)



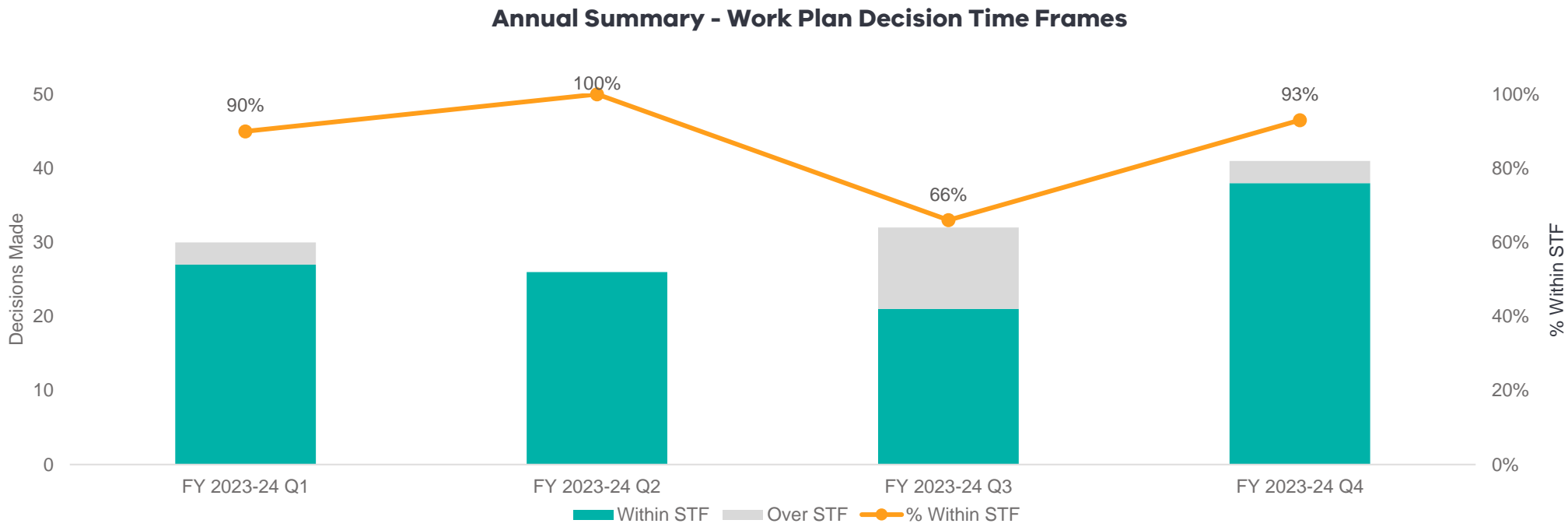
Pending Work Plan Stage

Stage	No. Plans
With Applicant	27
Seeking Planning Permit	21
With ERR for Assessment	6
Pending Work Plans	54



At the end of FY23/24 there were 54 work plans pending of which 16 work plans have been with the applicant or in the process to seek a planning permit for over 1 year.

Work Plan Decisions Made Within Statutory Time Frame (STF)



Annual Summary - Work Plan Decision Time Frames

Decisions Time frame	FY 2023-24 Q1	FY 2023-24 Q2	FY 2023-24 Q3	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY Total
Within STF	27	26	21	38	112
Over STF	3	0	11	3	17
Total	30	26	32	41	129
% Within STF	90%	100%	66%	93%	87%

FY23/24 Decision Outcomes

Outcomes	Within STF	Over STF	FYTotal
Return to Applicant	12	1	13
Work Plan Endorsed	11	0	11
Agency Referral Outcome	10	0	10
Work Plan Approved	4	1	5
Agency Referral	1	1	2
Total Outcomes	38	3	41

- In Q4, 93% of decisions were made within statutory time frame (38 out of 41) from 27 unique work plans.
- For FY23/24 87% of decisions were made within statutory time frame.
- A majority of the exceedances occurred in Q3 and early in Q4 following a surge of applications, and large number of complex proposals.

Work Plan Administrative Updates by Notification

Annual Summary - Work Plan Updates by Stage

Extractive Industries	FY 2023-24 Q1	FY 2023-24 Q2	FY 2023-24 Q3	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY Total
Notifications Received	9	6	4	6	26
Notifications Acknowledged	3	2	3	6	14
Notifications Rejected / Withdrawn	2	3	4	1	9

- In Q4 there were 7 administrative updates completed, 6 acknowledged and 1 rejected.
- In FY23/24, 14 administrative updates were acknowledged unlocking an estimated 17 million tonnes of resources.

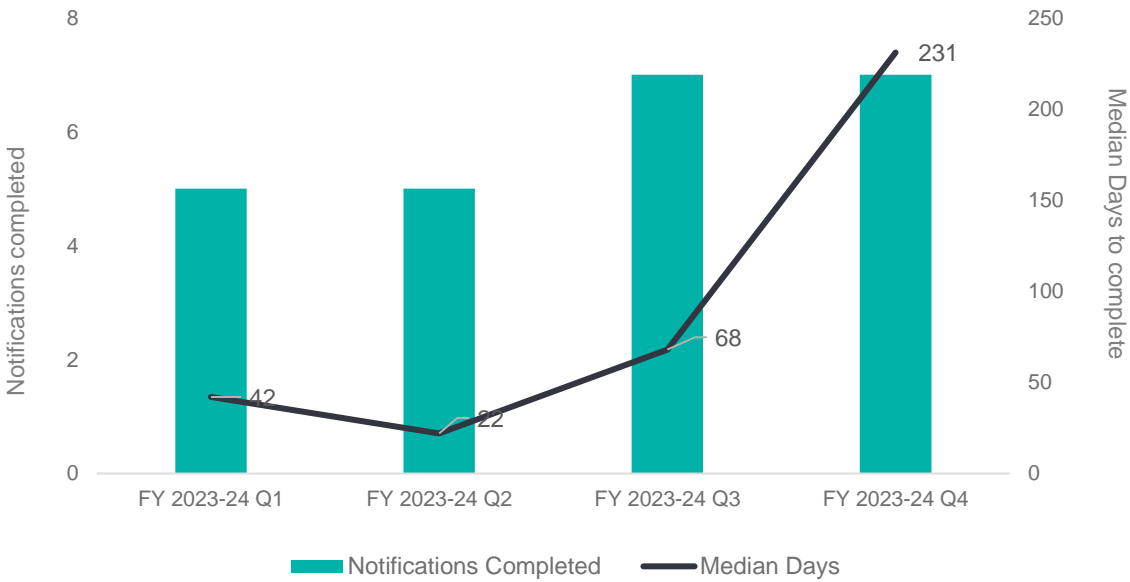
14 Administrative Updates Acknowledged

17 Million Tonnes Resources Estimate

Administrative Updates by Notification



Notifications Completed and Median Days



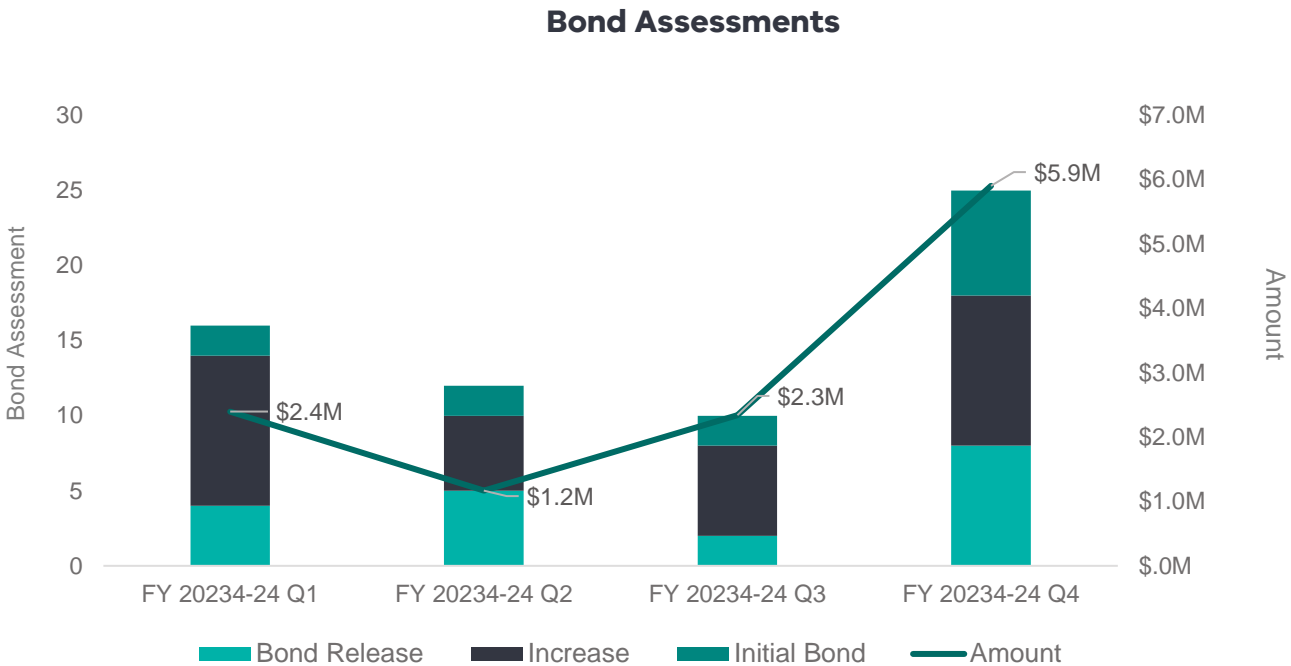
Work Authority Bond Assessments

905
total bonds held

\$121.5 million
Value of bonds
(at 30 June 2024)

- In Q4, 25 bond assessments were conducted totalling ~\$5.9M.
 - \$5.86M – Increased/Initial
 - \$0.04M – Bond released
- In the past financial year, a total of 63 bond assessments were conducted totalling ~\$11.8M.
 - \$11.4M – Increased/Initial
 - \$0.4M – Bond released

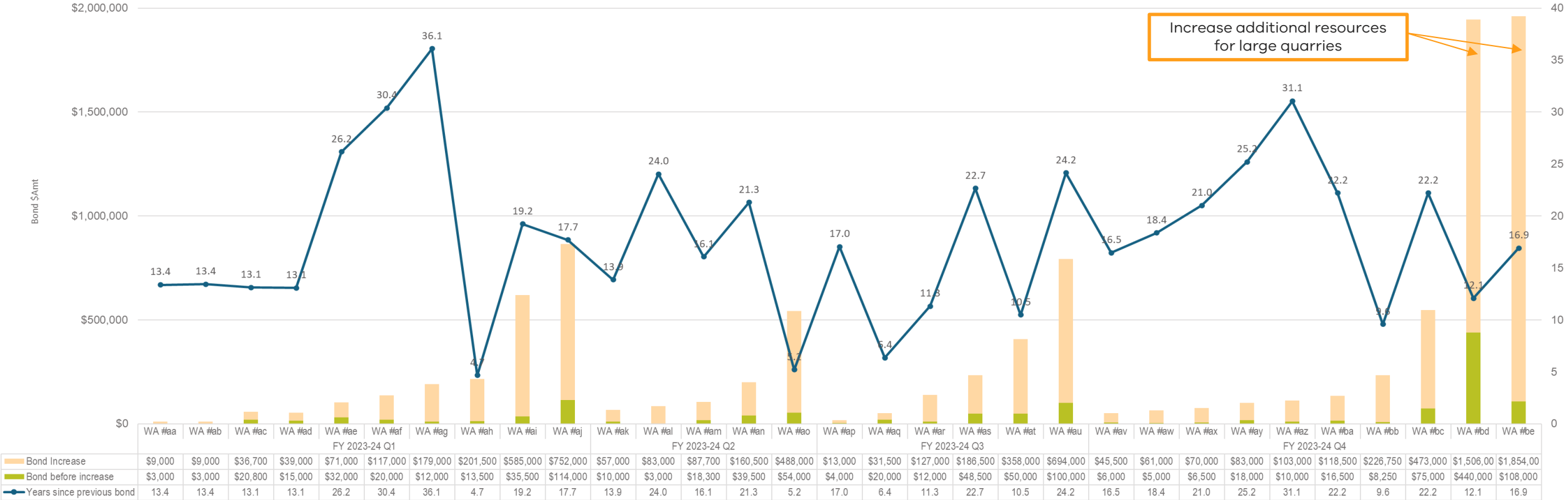
Link to website bond information and public bonds dashboard:
[Rehabilitation – Resources Victoria](#)



Annual Summary - Bond Assessments

Bond Assessment	FY 2023-24 Q1		FY 2023-24 Q2		FY 2023-24 Q3		FY 2023-24 Q4		FY Total	
	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount	Assessed	Amount
Bond Increase	10	\$1,999,200	5	\$876,200	6	\$1,410,000	10	\$4,540,750	31	\$8,826,150
Initial Bond	2	\$222,000	2	\$80,500	2	\$923,000	7	\$1,320,500	13	\$2,546,000
Bond Release	4	\$176,500	5	\$212,500	2	\$8,500	8	\$43,500	19	\$441,000
Total Value of Assessments	16	\$2,397,700	12	\$1,169,200	10	\$2,341,500	25	\$5,904,750	63	\$11,813,150

Work Authority Bond Increase



Note: Work Authorities have been deidentified.

\$117,000

Median Increased amount

17 years

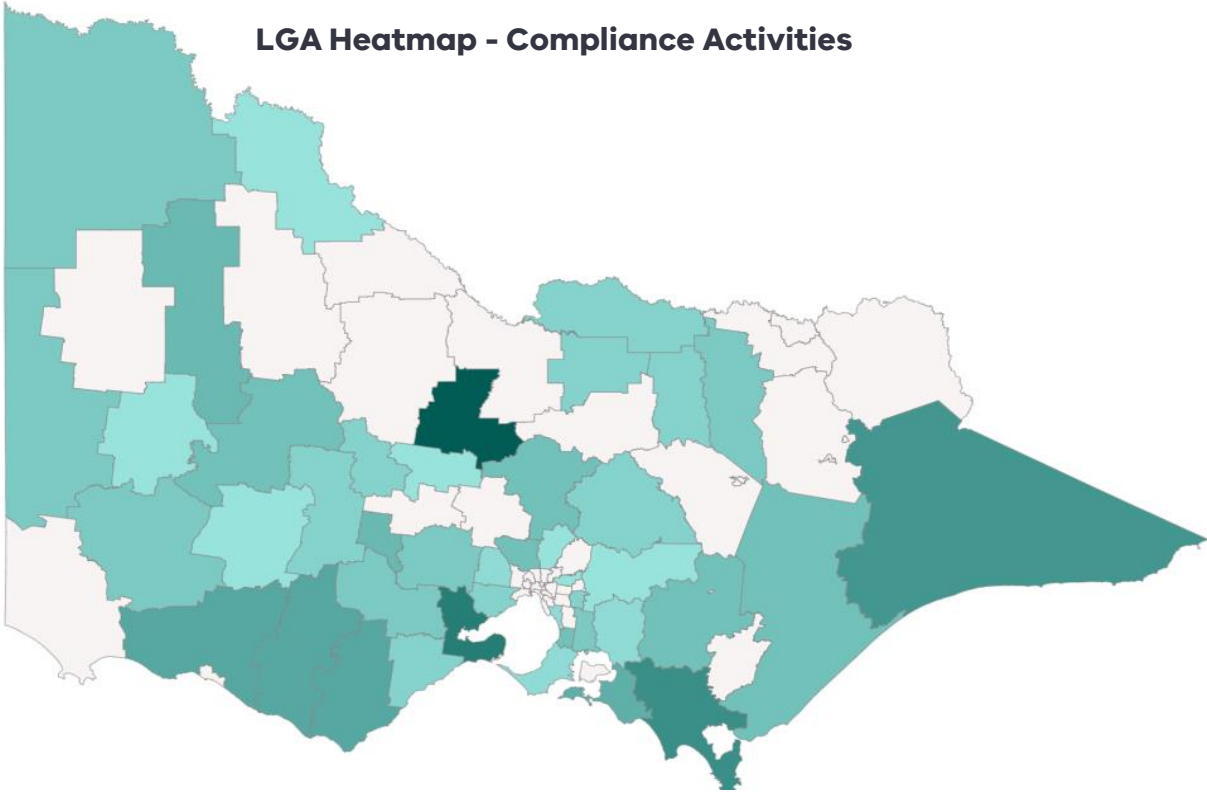
Median years since previous bond increase

Bond Increase	FY 2023-24 Q1		FY 2023-24 Q2		FY 2023-24 Q3		FY 2023-24 Q4		FY Total	
Reasons	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount	No. bond Assessed	Amount
Transfer	5	\$923,700	1	\$57,000	2	\$707,000	3	\$198,500	11	\$1,886,200
Work Authority Area Extension	3	\$419,500			3	\$671,500	1	\$1,506,000	7	\$2,597,000
Work Plan Variation	2	\$656,000	4	\$819,200	1	\$31,500	6	\$2,836,250	13	\$4,342,950
Total Increases	10	\$1,999,200	5	\$876,200	6	\$1,410,000	10	\$4,540,750	31	\$8,826,150

- Increases in bonds was mainly due to transfer of ownership, work plan variation and extending the work authority area.
- In FY23/24 Q4 there were 10 bond increases totalling \$4.5M. The increase was attributed, in part, to the Quarry Approvals Program finalising variations to provide access to additional resources, and subsequent bond reviews undertaken.

Compliance Activities FY2023-24

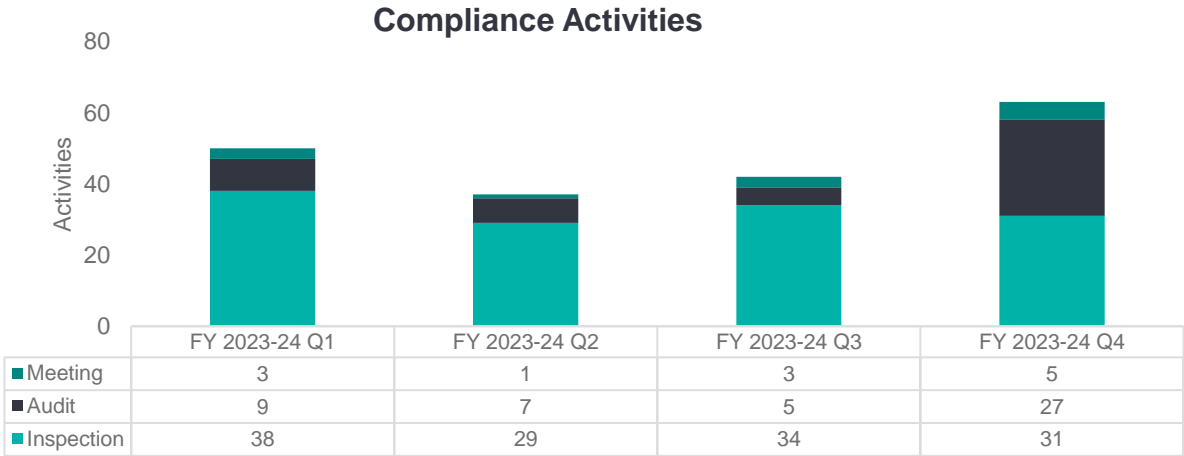
LGA	Audit	Inspection	Meeting	FY Total
Greater Bendigo		15	2	17
Greater Geelong	6	5	2	13
South Gippsland	2	8		10
East Gippsland	3	7		10
Moyne	2	6		8
Corangamite	2	6		8
Colac Otway	1	7		8
Bass Coast	2	5		7
Yarriambiack	6			6
Ballarat		6		6
Frankston	1	4		5
Wellington	2	3		5
Northern Grampians	1	4		5
Baw Baw		5		5
Mitchell	2	2	1	5
Golden Plains	1	3		4
Casey	1	2	1	4
Southern Grampians	2	2		4
Mildura	3	1		4
Wangaratta	2	1	1	4
West Wimmera	1	3		4
Moorabool	1	2	1	4
Hume		4		4
Moir		2	1	3
Central Goldfields	2	1		3
Pyrenees		3		3
Wyndham		3		3
Surf Coast		2	1	3
Murrindindi	1	2		3
Greater Shepparton		2	1	3
Benalla		3		3
Knox	1	1	1	3
Cardinia		2		2
Mornington Peninsula		2		2
Kingston		2		2
Melton		2		2
Mount Alexander		1		1
Yarra Ranges		1		1
Manningham		1		1
Ararat	1			1
Swan Hill	1			1
Horsham		1		1
Whittlesea	1			1
Total Activities	48	132	12	192



192
Compliance Activities

142
Unique Work Authorities

- In Q4 63 compliance activities were conducted on 56 sites.
- For FY23/24 a total of 192 compliance activities were conducted on 142 sites.



Compliance Actions

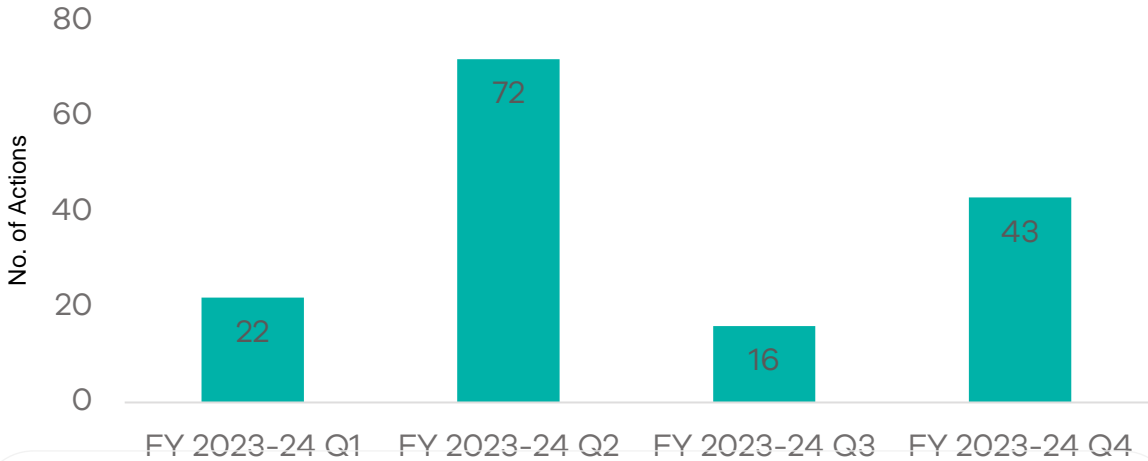
S110 / S110A Notices

Reasons for notice	FY 2023-24 Q1	FY 2023-24 Q2	FY 2023-24 Q3	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY Total
Waste and Redundant Plan	5	1	2	2	10
Work Without Licence or Consents	2	1	5	2	10
Authorised Activity Compliance	1	1		7	9
Hazardous Materials Management	4	1		1	6
Buffer Zones		1	3	1	5
Rehabilitation of Site	1	2	2		5
Other	2	2		1	5
Drainage, Erosion and Discharge	1	1		1	3
Tailings and Slime Management				3	3
Slope Stability		1		2	3
Noise Emissions	1	1			2
Ground Disturbance	1	1			2
Tenement Boundaries		2			2
Working Hours		1			1
Water Dams		1			1
Explosives				1	1
Dust Emissions			1		1
Reporting; Monitoring and Auditing				1	1
Documentation and Records	1				1
Groundwater Impacts		1			1
Top-Soil Management				1	1
Total notices issued	19	18	13	23	73

Infringements and Education

Compliance Actions	FY 2023-24 Q1	FY 2023-24 Q2	FY 2023-24 Q3	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY Total
Infringement Notice	0	39	0	0	39
Official Warning Letter	0	12	1	1	14
Written Instruction / Education	13	3	2	17	35
Direction	0	0	0	2	2
Total Actions	13	54	3	20	90

Quarterly Summary – Compliance Actions



- There were 43 compliance actions taken in Q4. 23 were remedial or stop work actions (S110/S110A notices).
- Total enforcement actions for FY2023-24 was 164.
- The most common reason for an infringement notice or official warnings in Q2 was failure to submit an annual return or royalty return.

More information on regulatory actions can be found here [Regulatory actions - Resources Victoria](#)

Compliance Incidents

Incidents	FY 2023-24 Q1	FY 2023-24 Q2	FY 2023-24 Q3	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY Total
Environmental Incident Notification			2		2
Explosives Air & Ground Vibration	2			2	4
Slope Stability		1			1
Fire Precautions & Risk Control				1	1
Dust Emissions	1				1
Waterway Quality & Aquatic Habitat		1			1
Drainage, Erosion & Discharge			1		1
Public Safety & Site Security		1			1
Total Incidents	3	3	3	3	12
Unique sites	3	3	3	3	10 (Unique)

- In Q4 there were three incidents reported relating to a small fire and vibration issues from blasting.
- For FY23/24 a total of 12 incidents were reported from 10 unique sites

Community Complaints

Complaints	FY 2023-24 Q1	FY 2023-24 Q2	FY 2023-24 Q3	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY Total
Explosives Air & Ground Vibration	2	1	5	6	14
Impacts Outside Tenement Site	2	1	2	2	7
Noise Emissions	3			3	6
Work without License or Consents	1		2	1	4
Dust Emissions	1	1	2		4
Working Hours	1			2	3
Other (Not Specified Above)		2			2
Internal Roads & Tracks	1				1
Waterway Quality & Aquatic Habitat		1			1
Tenement Boundaries	1				1
Community Engagement				1	1
Drainage, Erosion & Discharge		1			1
Public Safety & Site Security		1			1
Authorized Activity Compliance		1			1
Tailings & Slimes Management		1			1
Total Complaints Received	12	10	11	15	48
Unique Tenements	12	5	6	8	19 (unique)
Unique Informants	10	8	8	13	32 (unique)

- In FY23/24 Q4, 15 complaints were received for 8 tenements.
- In FY23/24 the most common complaints related to blasting, air & ground vibration, impacts outside the tenement site and noise emissions.
- The 48 complaints received in FY23/24 were related to 19 unique tenements.

Compliance Community Reference Group Attendance

Tenement	Tenement Holder	LGA	FY 2023-24 Q1	FY 2023-24 Q2	FY 2023-24 Q3	FY 2023-24 Q4	FY Total
WA1546	Birregurra Resources Pty Ltd	Colac Otway	1				1
WA158	Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd	Colac Otway	1		1		2
WA174	Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd	Cardinia				1	1
WA188	Davegale Pty Ltd	Greater Geelong		1			1
WA41	Barro Group Pty Ltd	Greater Geelong			1		1
WA82	Boral Resources (Vic) Pty Ltd	Moorabool		1			1
	Total Attendance		2	2	2	1	7

• In FY23/24 Q4 there was one community reference group attendance, bringing the total attendance for the FY23/24 to seven.

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Earth Resources Regulator

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Melbourne VIC 3000
Telephone: 1300 366 356

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Earth Resources Regulation performance reporting site:
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