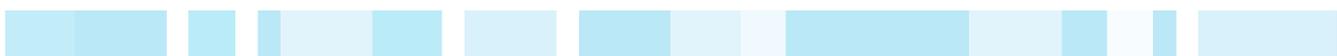




Trade &
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Resources & Energy

Land Access Arrangement Information for Mineral Exploration

A guide to negotiating land access arrangements
for mineral exploration in NSW



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Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (June 2013). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information on which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with NSW Trade & Investment, or the user's independent advisor.

Foreword

The Land Access Arrangement for Mineral Exploration (the template) and supporting Land Access Arrangement Information have been published by the Director General of the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services under section 141(1A) of the *Mining Act 1992*

The aim is to assist both landholders and mineral exploration companies operating in NSW to negotiate an access agreement. Please note this document is not intended to address access for the purposes of opal prospecting or petroleum (including coal seam gas) exploration.

The template is provided as a guide covering the legislative requirements but its use is not mandatory. This document and the template do not constitute legal advice and users should seek independent legal advice to ensure that any legal agreement they enter into meets their own individual circumstances.

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Exploration Explained

What is Exploration?

The purpose of exploration (also referred to as prospecting) is to locate areas where mineral and energy resources may be present, to establish the quality and quantity of those resources and to investigate the viability of extracting the resource.

Before exploring for minerals in NSW, an explorer must first obtain an exploration licence or an assessment lease under the *Mining Act 1992*. These licences or leases are approved and regulated by NSW Trade & Investment.

An exploration licence gives the licence holder the exclusive right to explore for specific groups of minerals within a designated area, but does not permit mining, nor does it guarantee that a mining lease will be granted. Only a very small percentage of land that is subject to exploration licences ever proceeds to a mine.

How long is an exploration licence granted for?

The term of an exploration licence depends on what type of mineral is being explored. An exploration licence for non-coal minerals is generally granted and renewed for terms of up to three years, while exploration licences for coal are generally granted and renewed for terms up to five years. Provided an explorer meets its obligations under the *Mining Act 1992* an explorer can expect the government to renew an exploration licence.

Regulation of Approved Exploration Activities

Exploration licences are granted subject to standard and/or special conditions, including strict environmental management conditions to protect native vegetation, fauna, land, water resources, heritage and community values.

These conditions regulate the type of exploration that can be carried out and where these activities may occur. Under the current category system, exploration activities identified as having minimal environmental impact can be carried out without further approval (e.g. rock chip sampling). Routine exploration activities in non-sensitive areas generally have a low impact and any impacts are of a temporary nature.

Higher intensity activities, activities in sensitive areas or activities that have the potential to affect threatened species or ecological communities require further approval. There are stringent assessment processes in place for the approval of these types of activities. Proponents are required to prepare and submit a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) that addresses all potential impacts of the proposed activity, including potential impacts on the environment and the community. For projects falling under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, NSW Trade & Investment must examine and take into account all matters that will or are likely to affect the environment. Any exploration that is likely to have an unacceptable impact on the environment will not be approved.

Licence holders are also required to rehabilitate areas disturbed by exploration activities and must provide security sufficient to cover the likely rehabilitation costs in the event that they default on this obligation.

These processes allow for all environmental issues, including impacts to natural features and water resources, to be addressed and managed.

Exploration is not Mining

An exploration licence gives the licence holder exclusive rights to explore for specific minerals within a designated area but it does not permit mining, nor does it guarantee a mining lease will be granted.

If a viable resource is located during exploration, a mining lease cannot be granted by the Minister for Resources and Energy without a development consent under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). Explorers should keep landholders abreast of any developments arising from their activities.

For most large mining projects, the proponent must submit an application for development consent with the Department of Planning & Infrastructure and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS is a comprehensive document that covers issues such as air quality, noise, transport, flora and fauna, surface and ground-water management, methods of mining, landscape management, rehabilitation and socio-economic issues. Extensive public consultation requirements are also associated with this process, with community members encouraged to make submissions on the application. NSW Trade & Investment is one of a number of key government agencies that is consulted as part of the assessment process for new coal and mineral developments.

Guide to Negotiating an Access Arrangement

Land Access Arrangement Template

The NSW Government has developed a standard template to assist landholders and explorers negotiate land access arrangements.

It has been written in plain English and has a number of practical conditions, with options to allow the arrangement to reflect the individual needs of the landholder and explorer.

The Template is comprised of two parts. The 'base agreement' comprises all the key issues for agreement between the landholder and explorer including access, compliance and conditions as well as compensation. The additional Deed of Entry necessitates negotiation for each exploration activity and access period. Some explorers and landholders may prefer to have a Deed of Entry for each and every program and others may want to negotiate access for multiple exploration activities at the outset. There are clear conditions that ensure that the Deed of Entry and the base agreement are combined to form an 'access arrangement' for the purposes of the *Mining Act 1992* if arbitration is ever required.

It should be noted, however, that while the template reflects current legislative requirements its use is not mandatory. Users are strongly advised to seek independent legal advice to ensure that any arrangement they enter into meets their own individual circumstances.

The Land Access Arrangement Information for Mineral Exploration as well as further information is available from www.resources.nsw.gov.au or by phoning 1300 736 122.

Requirements of an Access Arrangement

An access arrangement must be between the holder or holders of the prospecting title and the landholder, as defined in the *Mining Act 1992*.

Section 141 of the *Mining Act 1992* states that an access arrangement may make provision for or with respect to the following matters:

- the periods during which the holder of the prospecting title is to be permitted access to the land,
- the parts of the land in or on which the holder of the prospecting title may prospect and the means by which the holder may gain access to those parts of the land,
- the kinds of prospecting operations that may be carried out in or on the land,
- the conditions to be observed by the holder of the prospecting title when prospecting in or on the land,
- the compensation to be paid to any landholder of the land as a consequence of the holder of the prospecting title carrying out prospecting operations in or on the land,
- the manner of resolving any dispute arising in connection with the arrangement,
- the manner of varying the arrangement,
- the notification to the holder of the prospecting title of particulars of any person who becomes an additional landholder.

Please note: prospecting titles include exploration licences and assessment leases.

Obligations of the Licence Holder

An exploration licence holder is not permitted to enter land covered by the licence unless they have negotiated an access arrangement with the landholder.

Exploration activities are also unable to commence on land claimable under the provisions of the Commonwealth's *Native Title Act 1993* until the Right to Negotiate process has been completed; or, in the case of a Low Impact Exploration Licence, until an appropriate land access arrangement has been negotiated with any registered native title body corporate or registered native title claimant.

Exploration companies should establish long-term relationships with landholders based on courtesy and respect. For this reason, access arrangements should be based on the understanding that explorers are visitors on private land.

Prior to the negotiation of an access arrangement, the licence holder or applicant for a licence must notify the landholder of their intention to seek an arrangement. The notice must contain a description of the area of land over which access is sought and the exploration methods intended to be used.

Once an exploration licence has been granted and access arrangements are in place, a licence holder can commence exploration. The licence contains strict conditions designed to minimise the effects of exploration on the environment and to ensure rehabilitation of disturbed areas. Exploration activities which are considered to have a medium or high level environmental impact require specific notices and approvals from NSW Trade & Investment - Division of Resources & Energy.

A security deposit is held by NSW Trade & Investment - Division of Resources & Energy to ensure that all conditions are complied with.

It is the licence holder's responsibility to keep in contact with the landholder and advise them if there are any changes to the proposed exploration activity.

If the licence holder contravenes an access arrangement, a landholder may deny them access to the land until the holder ceases the contravention or it is remedied to the reasonable satisfaction of, or in the manner directed by, an arbitrator appointed by the Director General.

Obligations of the Landholder

While licence holders must respect the rights of landholders, landholders should also appreciate the needs and rights of explorers.

While the licence holder has a right to carry out exploration activities, landholders are entitled to know what they are doing and be compensated for these activities.

It is within everyone's best interest to work together and develop workable solutions that, wherever possible, minimise any adverse impacts on both the landholder's operations and the exploration program. This may require that both parties consider making reasonable compromises.

Prior to commencing formal negotiations landholders should consider:

- how to negotiate the location and timing of any activities to achieve an acceptable outcome for all parties
- any potential safety issues

- any conditions that should apply to anyone entering or carrying out activities on the land (such as traffic, gates, animals, disease and weed control etc)
- any steps that could be taken to minimise potential impacts (such as visual, noise, dust, disturbance to operations, disturbance to animals, damage to roads etc)
- any activities that landholders may be able to benefit from (such as grading of a road)
- the cost of any legal, or other, advice you may incur as part of the negotiation process

If a licence holder has met all its legal obligations it is a breach for anyone, without a reasonable excuse, to obstruct them from entering or crossing land to carry out authorised activities or to prevent them from carrying out authorised activities.

Landholders are also responsible for informing exploration licence holders if there is a change in land ownership or management.

Definition of a 'Landholder'

The *Mining Act 1992* describes a 'landholder' as:

- (a) *the owner of an estate in fee simple in the land, or*
 - (b) *a native title holder of the land, or*
 - (c) *the holder of a lease or licence granted under the Crown Lands Act 1989 over the land, or*
 - (d) *the holder of a tenure referred to in Part 1 or 2 of Schedule 1 to the Crown Lands (Continued Tenures) Act 1989 in the land, or*
 - (e) *the holder of a permissive occupancy granted over the land, or*
 - (f) *the holder of a lease granted under the Western Lands Act 1901 over the land, or*
 - (g) *a person identified in any register or record kept by the Registrar-General as a person having an interest in the land, being:*
 - (i) *a mortgagee in possession of the land, or*
 - (ii) *a lessee of the land or other person entitled to an exclusive right of occupation of the land, or*
 - (iii) *a Minister or public authority having the benefit of a covenant affecting the land that is imposed by a Minister on behalf of the Crown under the Crown Lands Act 1989, or*
 - (iv) *a Minister or public authority having an interest in the land under a conservation, natural heritage or biobanking agreement, or*
 - (v) *a person prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this paragraph, or*
 - (g1) *a person identified in any register or record kept by the Registrar-General as a person having an interest in the land, other than a person to whom paragraph (g) applies, but only in a provision of this Act in which a reference to a landholder is expressed to include a **secondary landholder**, or*
- Note.** See s 255A, Part 13, s 383C.
- (h) *a person of a class prescribed by or determined in accordance with the regulations to be landholders for the purposes of this definition, but does not include a person of a class prescribed as outside the scope of this definition.*

In order to ensure the relevant landholders are identified, licence holders wishing to enter into access arrangements will require the results of a property title search of the records of NSW Land and Property Information (www.lpi.nsw.gov.au).

Protection of Houses, Gardens, Significant Improvements and Water

Under the *Mining Act 1992*, licence holders are prohibited from carrying out activities within:

- 200 metres of a house that is the principal place of residence of the person occupying it,
- 50 metres of a garden or
- over any significant improvements

unless they have the written consent of the owner (and in the case of a house the written consent of the occupant).

A 'significant improvement' refers to any substantial building, dam, reservoir, contour bank, graded bank, levee, water disposal area, soil conservation work or other valuable work or structure.

Some exploration activities, such as deep drilling for coal, may come into contact with water sources. Where exploration will make contact with a water source, the parties may agree to obtain independent water testing which may be paid for by the licence holder. An estimate of fees should be provided to the licence holder for written approval, and payment made following an itemised bill. Where independent water testing is to occur, a special condition should be included in Annexure D of the template. The following wording is suggested:

- Prior to accessing the Prospecting Area pursuant to a Deed of Entry for the purpose of conducting activities which have a high probability of intersecting with a water source, the Licence Holder must give the Landholder 28 days to commission tests of the flow and quality of any existing water sources within the Prospecting Area.
- The nature of the testing conducted should be decided by the Landholder on the advice of the suitably qualified specialist commissioned to undertake the testing.
- The results of any testing conducted under this clause will remain the property of the Landholder. A copy of any testing under this clause and any related reports must be provided to the Licence Holder within 14 days of receipt of these results and/or reports by the Landholder. The Licence Holder is permitted to use the test results and reports in any manner considered necessary for the purposes of carrying out the Prospecting activities in the Prospecting Area.

Compensation

Landholders are entitled to compensation for 'compensable loss' suffered or likely to be suffered as a result of the exploration activities on their land.

Compensable loss should be negotiated on an individual basis but with due consideration of fairness for neighbouring properties. It should be dependent on, amongst other things, the value of the land, improvement of the land, time of land deprivation and the area of land disturbed.

"Compensable loss" is defined in section 262 of the *Mining Act 1992* as follows:

"compensable loss" means loss caused, or likely to be caused, by:

- (a) damage to the surface of land, to crops, trees, grasses or other vegetation (including fruit and vegetables) or to buildings, structures or works, being damage which has been caused by or which may arise from prospecting or mining operations, or*
- (b) deprivation of the possession or of the use of the surface of land or any part of the surface, or*
- (c) severance of land from other land of the landholder, or*
- (d) surface rights of way and easements, or*
- (e) destruction or loss of, or injury to, disturbance of or interference with, stock, or*

(f) damage consequential on any matter referred to in paragraph (a)-(e),

but does not include loss that is compensable under the Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961.’

Annexure E of the template provides a guide as to what specific activities may attract compensation. As an alternative to compensation for individual activities, landholders and explorers may agree to a daily access rate instead.

If situations arise that are not included in the access arrangement, landholders are entitled to seek further compensation.

Compensation need not always be monetary in nature. Often what is provided in-kind by the explorer may be worth more than the actual monetary compensation. For example, the explorer might agree to upgrade a farm road, renew a fence or replace a gate with a cattle grid.

Reimbursement of Legal Fees in Making an Access Arrangement

Given that the requirements for the landholder to become involved in negotiating an access arrangement is not of their making, they should also be compensated for reasonable costs associated with their legal advice.

The *Mining and Petroleum Legislation Amendment (Land Access) Act 2010* introduced the provision for the setting of a maximum amount for legal costs for a licence holder to pay when a landholder is obtaining initial advice regarding an access arrangement for exploration.

It is considered that up to \$1,100 (inclusive of GST) is a reasonable figure for obtaining initial legal advice in most cases, however nothing prevents the parties from agreeing to another amount. An estimate of fees must be provided to the explorer for written approval prior to charges being initiated. Payment is to be made following the provision of an itemised legal bill.

For further information regarding legal costs disclosure, please refer to the Law Society of NSW (www.lawsociety.com.au) or the NSW Office of the Legal Services Commissioner (www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/olsc).

When an Arrangement Cannot be Reached

It is within everyone’s best interest to work together and develop workable solutions that, wherever possible, minimise any adverse impacts on both the landholder’s operations and the exploration program. This may require that both parties consider making reasonable compromises.

Section 143 – 156 of the *Mining Act 1992* provides that if an access arrangement cannot be agreed to within 28 days after the licence holder has notified the landholder of its intention to obtain an arrangement, the licence holder may request the landholder to appoint a mutually agreeable arbitrator. If after 28 days from the request to appoint a mutually agreeable arbitrator the parties have been unable to agree on an appointment, either party can apply to the Director General to appoint an arbitrator from the Minister’s panel of arbitrators.

Arbitration generally takes place over 1-2 days at the time and place most suitable for both parties (generally nearby to the land in question). Under the *Mining Act 1992* parties can only have legal representation at arbitration where this is agreed by both sides.

An access arrangement that is determined by an arbitrator must specify the compensation to which a landholder is entitled.

Parties who are dissatisfied with an arbitrator's determination are able to appeal to the Land and Environment Court. Parties should seek legal advice on how to lodge an appeal.

For further information on the arbitration process please refer to www.resources.nsw.gov.au .

Types of Exploration Activities

There are a range of activities that may be undertaken as part of an exploration program. These activities are dependent on a number of factors, including the nature of the mineral being sought and the geology of the area. Exploration generally progresses from the low impact activities, to determine whether signs of minerals are evident, before progressing to more intense and costly activities like drilling and bulk sampling.

Exploration activities may include, but are not limited to:

Geological mapping

Geological mapping is typically undertaken by walking over the ground of interest. Geologists observe the location, orientation and characteristics of rocks or sediments exposed at the land's surface. This information can then be used to prepare a geological map of the exploration area, recording the rock types and structures.

Geochemical surveys

Geochemical surveys are undertaken to target areas for further exploration. The surveys usually involve the collection of samples of soils, rock and/or sediments. These samples are sent for laboratory analysis to identify areas of potential mineralisation. The surveys may comprise:

- **Soil sampling** – is undertaken usually using hand-held tools such as shovels, picks and hand augers to collect samples of soil and subsoil. Samples are typically collected on a regular grid pattern and involve collection of small (approximately one kilogram) samples of soil. Power augers, either hand operated or vehicle-mounted, may be used. Sampling programs undertaken using hand tools are supported by a four-wheel motorbike or 4WD vehicle. Holes excavated during the program are typically back-filled and vegetation replaced immediately following sampling.
- **Stream sediment sampling** – involves collection of approximately two kilogram samples of sediment within drainage lines. Three samples are usually taken at the junction of two creeks: one downstream of the junction and two upstream of the junction (in each of the merging drainage lines). Samples are typically extracted using hand tools and may be sieved during collection.
- **Rock chip sampling** – typically involves collecting up to a few kilograms of rock material using hand-held tools. Rock chip samples will usually be collected during geological mapping programs.
- **Channel sampling** – involves collection of a series of samples of soil or rock along a line. This may be a road cutting, the face of an open-cut or underground mine, a costean or similar.
- **Costean or trench sampling** – involves digging a costean or trench using a backhoe, 'Ditch Witch' or similar equipment. The costean or trench may range from 20cm wide to more than a metre and from a few centimetres deep (where hard rock is near the surface) to metres deep. The edges of the trench are typically mapped geologically and channel samples collected.

Geophysical surveys

Geophysical surveys assist in mapping different rock types and can help identify resources without the need for direct observation. Different geophysical surveys measure various physical properties of the Earth and have different applications and equipment. Geophysical surveys can be conducted from the air, on the ground or down drill holes.

Airborne surveys

- **Airborne geophysical surveys** - may comprise magnetic, radiometric, gravity or electromagnetic surveys. These surveys provide general geological information for an area and are often used in the initial stages of exploration. These surveys are typically undertaken using low flying helicopters or light aircraft which fly in a grid pattern. The instruments may be either mounted on the aircraft or towed underneath a helicopter. Depending on the type of survey, the aircraft may fly between 25 and 60 metres above the ground, with flight lines spaced between 25 and 200 metres apart. In ordinary circumstances, landholders will be notified when the survey will be taking place. This notification may be by advertisement in a local newspaper.

Ground based surveys

- **Seismic surveys** - measure variation in reflected ground vibration as it passes through the Earth. The surveys use an energy source to create the high frequency vibrations, which can be truck-mounted vibrating weights or a simple hammer hit depending on the scale of the survey. Small sensors are linked by cables and spread either side of the source to detect and relay the vibrations as they return to the surface. Seismic surveys provide information about rocks down to depths of several kilometres and are particularly suited to flat-lying sedimentary basins.
- **Magnetic surveys** - measure the variations of the Earth's magnetic field due to the presence of magnetic minerals. Subtle variations in the abundance of magnetic minerals are used to interpret rock types and can assist in identifying resources. These surveys are typically undertaken by a geophysical technician on foot carrying a magnetometer and a sensor on a pole. They are most often used in metallic mineral exploration.
- **Radiometric surveys** - measure gamma rays which are continuously being emitted from the earth by natural decomposition of some common radiogenic minerals. The surveys focus on recording the isotopes of potassium, thorium and uranium. Generally most gamma rays emanate from the top 30 centimetres of rock or soil which can be detected by airborne surveys or on surface rocks using a hand-held spectrometer. They are most often used in metallic and industrial mineral exploration
- **Gravity surveys** - the gravity field is measured with a gravimeter to determine variations in rock density in the Earth's crust. Ground gravity surveys require a geophysical technician to take gravity measurements at set intervals of distance and record the precise height at each location. Access to the recording sites can be by vehicle or helicopter, depending upon remoteness. They are used in mineral and energy exploration.
- **Induced Polarisation (IP) surveys** - induce an electric field in the ground and measure the chargeability and resistivity of the subsurface. The technique can identify differences in resistivity arising from aquifers, metallic minerals and stratigraphy. Readings are taken by a small crew who shift a ground array of transmission and receiver cables. They are most often used in metallic mineral exploration.
- **Electromagnetic (EM) surveys** - induce an electromagnetic field and measure the three dimensional variations in conductivity within the near-surface soil and rock. Conductive units can be studied to locate metallic minerals, and to understand groundwater and salinity. Ground readings are taken by a small crew who shift a ground array of transmission and receiver cables.

Down hole surveys

- **Down hole geophysical surveys** - utilise completed or partially completed drill holes to allow access for geophysical tools. These tools may be used to detect variations in the magnetic, radiometric or electrical character of the rocks adjacent to the drill hole. The

surveys may also be used to determine the exact path of the drill hole. They typically require a small truck and a range of down hole tools. Occasionally tools with a small radiometric source may be used and a detailed risk assessment is required to ensure that the tool is not lost down hole.

Drilling

Drilling is often conducted as part of an exploration program to obtain detailed information about the rock below the ground surface. The drilling method and size of the drilling rig used depends on the type of rock and information sought. The degree of disturbance around the hole varies with each method, however, strict environmental safeguards ensure all drill sites are rehabilitated after the completion of drilling.

Shallow drilling

- **Auger Drilling** - uses either a hand-held power auger or one mounted on a small vehicle. It is not dissimilar to a post hole digger used by farmers when fencing.
- **Air Drilling** - there are two main shallow air drilling methods, aircore and rotary air blast (RAB). These methods usually involve a utility or small truck mounted rig with an air compressor carried onboard or towed separately. This type of drilling creates rock fragments (chips). These are removed from the drill hole by compressed air, which is forced down the hole and lifts the rock chips to the surface. This type of drilling requires minimal site preparation.

Deep Drilling

- **Air Drilling** - there are two main types of air drilling used to drill deeper holes, namely open hole percussion and reverse circulation (RC). These drilling techniques involve the use of compressed air to drive a slowly rotating percussion drill bit, which operates in a similar manner to a jack hammer. The drill bit is typically fitted with numerous hardened protrusions that crush the rock at the bottom of the hole. It produces rock chips that are lifted to the surface by compressed air. This drilling method is relatively fast, can penetrate hard rock and is capable of drilling holes in excess of 250 metres deep. These methods do not necessarily require significant site preparation and rehabilitation. They usually involve truck mounted rigs with one or two support vehicles to carry drill rods and air compressor capacity.
- **Diamond Drilling** – uses a truck mounted rig with support vehicles to extract a continuous cylinder of rock. It involves the use of a rapidly rotating drill bit that utilises water and drilling fluids, contained in either in-ground sumps or above ground tanks, to cool and lubricate the drill bit. As the drill rods advance, the cylinder of remaining rock gradually becomes enveloped by the drill rods. Ground up rock material is transported to the surface by the returning drilling fluids and is separated from the fluids, typically in drill sumps. This drilling method is the most costly and is capable of drilling holes many kilometres in depth. Depending on the duration of the drilling program, additional equipment such as portable shelters, storage containers and portable lighting plants may be required. This method requires significant site preparation and rehabilitation. Most advanced exploration for coal and minerals uses a combination of diamond and reverse circulation drilling.
- **Rotary Mud Drilling** - is most often used for deep stratigraphic drilling. This method produces fine rock fragments and uses water and drilling fluids to lubricate the drill bit and return the rock fragments to the surface. The drilling fluids are contained in either in-ground sumps or above ground tanks. The drilling rigs are usually larger than for other methods and require more support vehicles and site preparation.

Bulk Sampling Operations

Prior to making a decision to apply to develop a mine, an explorer may extract a bulk sample of the material to be mined to allow further testing and refinement of the proposed mining procedures. Extraction of a bulk sample may typically involve excavation of a small open cut or development of a small underground operation. The nature of disturbance associated with a bulk sample will vary depending on the nature and location of the mineralisation to be sampled.

Extraction of a bulk sample in NSW requires approval from NSW Trade & Investment and applications for such approvals are typically supported by a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) or similar document. Large samples may also require approval from the Department of Planning & Infrastructure.

Please note: These descriptions are primarily provided for those who may not be familiar with exploration operations. As a result they are, by their nature, general.

These descriptions are referenced from the NSW Minerals Council (2010) NSW Minerals Council Mineral Exploration Handbook: Towards Environmental Excellence.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please refer to:

NSW Trade & Investment – Division of Resources & Energy website:
www.resources.nsw.gov.au

NSW Farmers' website:
www.nswfarmers.org.au

NSW Minerals Council website:
www.nswmin.com.au

NSW Minerals Council (2010) *NSW Minerals Council Mineral Exploration Handbook: Towards Environmental Excellence*

NSW Minerals Council (2012) *Exploration and You Fact sheet*

NSW Minerals Council (2012) *Overview of Exploration Methods*

NSW Minerals Council (2012) *Exploration Methods Explained: Geological Mapping and Geochemical Surveys*

NSW Minerals Council (2012) *Exploration Methods Explained: Geophysical Surveys*

NSW Minerals Council (2012) *Exploration Methods Explained: Drilling*

NSW Minerals Council (2012) *Exploration Methods Explained: Costeaming*

NSW Minerals Council (2012) *Exploration Methods Explained: Bulk Sampling*

Law Society of NSW website: www.lawsociety.com.au

NSW Office of the Legal Services Commissioner website: www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/olsc