1. The Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Bill 2014 is a significant step towards the modernisation of Queensland’s resources legislation. The Bill is a key component of the Modernising Queensland’s Resources Acts Program which will transform the legislative framework for mining, petroleum and gas, greenhouse gas storage and geothermal energy by implementing common processes. This harmonised system of resource tenures administration will implement an efficient framework for the regulation of the resources sector in Queensland.
2. This Bill consolidates and harmonises provisions across the five Resource Acts relating to dealings, caveats and associated agreements; private and public land access; and other minor provisions.
3. The Bill also contains a number of other amendments to the Resource Acts which will simplify regulation, reduce industry and government compliance costs and facilitate faster and more efficient delivery of service for industry. The Bill supports the government’s commitment to reduce red tape.
4. Some of the amendments in the Bill include:
* amendments to the land access framework relating to private land to give effect to the recommendations of the Land Access Implementation Committee.
* a consistent restricted land framework across all resource sectors.
* a new framework to address overlapping tenure issues between coal and coal seam gas industries which fulfils a commitment in the government’s Six Month Action Plan January-June 2014.
* a range of amendments that afford greater flexibility and reduction in time and costs for the small scale alluvial sector.
* a risk based and streamlined approach to notification and objections for mining lease proposals and environmental authorities for mining activities, and greater flexibility in dealing with restricted land.
* provisions to support remediation of legacy boreholes.
* removal of redundant requirements imposed on a holder of a mining tenement, an authority to prospect or a petroleum lease.
* expanding the uses which can be made of gas developed as a by-product of mining leases for coal, including commercialisation.
* restructure of reporting requirements and removal of obsolete environmental provisions in the *Mount Isa Mines Limited Agreement Act 1985*.
* repeal of the *Coal and Oil Shale Mine Workers’ Superannuation Act 1989*.
1. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Bill 2014 into the Legislative Assembly.
2. Cabinet approved the release of two Decision Regulatory Impact Statements (RIS): *Towards a standardised consent framework for restricted land across all resource types* and *Mining lease notification and objection initiative*.
3. *Attachments*
* [Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Bill 2014](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.pdf)
* Decision RIS: [*Towards a standardised consent framework for restricted land across all resource types*](Attachments/RIS%20consent%20framework.pdf)
* Decision RIS: [*Mining lease notification and objection initiative*](Attachments/RIS%20Mining%20lease.pdf)