

Overview of fees for coordinated projects

1 July 2023

Introduction

The following information explains the fees associated with the environmental coordination process for 'coordinated projects' under Part 4 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (Qld) (the Act).

Schedule 3, Part 2 of the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Regulation 2020* (the Regulation) sets out the amount of the fees and when they are payable. If any information provided in this document is inconsistent with the Regulation, the Regulation prevails.

New fees apply to all coordinated projects from 1 July 2023. These fees are payable at particular stages of the environmental impact statement (EIS) or impact assessment report (IAR) processes.

Interpretation of the fees table

Fees are dependent on the project scope. For example, an application for declaration of a resource project for which significant off-tenure approval would be required (e.g. infrastructure supporting a resource project such as a railway) would attract a fee of $\$21,638 + \$4,499 = \$26,137$ (refer to Table 1).

If the project described above is also a 'controlled action' under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity*

Conservation Act 1999 and will be assessed under the assessment bilateral agreement between the State of Queensland and the Commonwealth (or another process determined by the Commonwealth Environment Minister), an additional fee applies. The fee payable at the finalisation of a terms of reference for an EIS would be $\$64,912 + \$31,474 + \$13,490 = \$109,876$ (refer to row 1 of Table 2).

Column 2 of tables 1–5 shows when each fee is payable. The fee payable is the amount applicable at the time each payment event occurs, not the amount that applied when the project was declared a 'coordinated project'.

Annual adjustment of fees

Adjustments to the fee schedule will occur on 1 July each year to reflect movements in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the previous 12 months ending in the March quarter of each year. The CPI is based on the all-groups index for Brisbane published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. On 1 July 2023, the relevant CPI rate applied to increase fees was 7.4%.

Goods and Services Tax does not apply to these fees.

Fees for applications to the Coordinator-General

The relevant fee must accompany:

- an application to the Coordinator-General to either declare a project 'coordinated' or evaluate a proposed change to a project
- a request to the Coordinator-General to state a later time for a declaration to lapse or to fix a later time for the Coordinator-General's report to lapse.

The Coordinator-General must not accept an application or request, unless the fee has been paid or waived.

Coordinator-General's obligations suspended

The Coordinator-General's obligations during the EIS or IAR process are suspended until the relevant fee has been paid.

For example, an invoice for a fee will be issued to the proponent when the Coordinator-General has determined that the draft EIS/IAR has been satisfactorily prepared. The Coordinator-General's obligations to consider submissions are suspended until the proponent pays the relevant fee.

Recovery of the cost of advice or services

When deciding an application or taking action, the Coordinator-General may consider it necessary to obtain the advice or services of another entity. The Coordinator-General may recover from the proponent the reasonable cost of obtaining the advice or services. For example, the Coordinator-General may seek to recover from the proponent the costs associated with

commissioning an independent expert report into a particular technical aspect of the project that the Coordinator-General considers is necessary to evaluate the project's EIS or IAR.

How to pay

The fee amounts are provided in Tables 1 to 5.

When fees are accompanying applications or requests, payment is to be made to the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning by direct bank deposit to the following account:

Account name:	Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
BSB:	064-013
Account No:	10007096
Reference:	Name of the project, as declared by the Coordinator-General, and the stage of the process that the payment relates to (e.g. 'XYZ Clean Energy Project: Application for declaration of coordinated project')
ABN:	29 230 178 530

Upon receipt of the application/request, the department will issue a tax invoice.

For matters other than applications or requests, the department will issue a tax invoice for the respective amount as outlined in Tables 2 to 5.

More Information

For further information, visit www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/coordinator-general or telephone **13 QGOV** (13 74 68).

Schedule 3, Part 2 of the Regulation - fees for Part 4 of the Act

Table 1: Coordinated project declaration

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of general fee (up to 1 July 2024)	Amount of fee if under EPBC Act assessment* (up to 1 July 2024)	Amount of fee if a resource project with a significant off-tenure project component (up to 1 July 2024)
Considering an application for declaration of coordinated project	Making the application	\$21,638	Nil	\$4,499

* For controlling provisions assessed under either an assessment bilateral agreement or another process accredited by the Commonwealth Environment Minister.

Table 2: Coordinated project EIS process

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of general fee (up to 1 July 2024)	Amount of fee if under EPBC Act assessment* (up to 1 July 2024)	Amount of fee if a resource project with a significant off-tenure project component (up to 1 July 2024)
Notice of requirement for EIS, finalising the terms of reference for the EIS and considering advice from other entities	Giving the proponent a copy of the finalised terms of reference	\$64,912	\$31,474	\$13,490
Considering the draft EIS and submissions on the draft EIS (other than a revised draft EIS) up until the 18-month declaration lapse date, and preparing a report evaluating the EIS	The Coordinator-General decides that the proponent has prepared a draft EIS to his/her satisfaction	\$110,152	\$40,057	\$22,891
If decision is that the draft EIS is not a final EIS—instructing the proponent on additional information required, considering a revised draft EIS and any submissions and advice on a revised draft EIS	Giving the proponent notice of the decision not to accept the draft EIS	\$57,478	—	—

* For controlling provisions assessed under either an assessment bilateral agreement or another process accredited by the Commonwealth Environment Minister.

Table 3: Coordinated project IAR process

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of general fee (up to 1 July 2024)	Amount of fee if under EPBC Act assessment* (up to 1 July 2024)	Amount of fee if a resource project with a significant off-tenure project component (up to 1 July 2024)
For a draft IAR requiring public notification —considering the draft IAR (other than a revised draft IAR) and submissions and advice on the draft IAR, and preparing a report evaluating the IAR	The Coordinator-General decides that the proponent has prepared a draft IAR to his/her satisfaction	\$107,291	\$21,402	\$9,174
For a draft IAR that does not require public notification —considering the draft IAR (other than a revised draft IAR) and any advice on the draft IAR, and preparing a report evaluating the IAR	The Coordinator-General receives the draft IAR	\$89,409	\$17,104	\$7,331
Considering a revised draft IAR and any submissions or advice on the revised draft IAR	Giving the proponent notice of a decision not to accept the draft IAR as the final IAR	\$43,173	—	—

* For controlling provisions assessed under either an assessment bilateral agreement or another process accredited by the Commonwealth Environment Minister.

Table 4: Evaluation of change to a coordinated project

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of fee (up to 1 July 2024)
Application for evaluation of environmental effects of proposed change to a project or because of a Coordinator-General's decision that the project has changed	Making of the application	\$13,030
If the Coordinator-General decides that public notification is not required , and the decision notice does not accompany the Coordinator-General's change report—considering advice from any entity or additional information from the proponent requested by the Coordinator-General, and preparing the change request evaluation report (change report)	Giving the decision notice that no public notification is required	\$27,974
If the Coordinator-General decides that public notification is required —the matters described above, as well as considering any submissions on the change application	Giving the decision notice that public notification is required	\$60,288

Table 5: Request for extension of lapse date

Matter for which fee is payable	Event when payment is required	Amount of fee (up to 1 July 2024)
Considering a request to state a later time for the declaration to lapse	Making of the request	\$5,366
Continuing administration of the EIS assessment process after the superseded lapse date	Giving notice stating a later time for the declaration to lapse	\$17,627
Continuing administration of the IAR assessment process after the superseded lapse date	Giving notice stating a later time for the declaration to lapse	\$11,635
Evaluating a request to fix a later time for the Coordinator-General's report to lapse	Making of the request	\$8,944