

Rehabilitation

September 2022

Rehabilitation is a critical component of any resource project. Rehabilitation conditions are set by the State Government before construction can commence.

Project approvals and rehabilitation

The tenure and environmental approvals process defines a project's rehabilitation requirements.

Tenure grant	Tenure is issued by the State Government, through the Department of Resources.
Environmental Authority	Issued by the Department of Environment and Science, an environmental authority is required before petroleum activities can be undertaken on a petroleum tenure. It includes environmental conditions including rehabilitation conditions appropriate to the petroleum activities on the tenure.
Progressive rehabilitation	Construction work is undertaken and completed. The site is reduced to its operating size, with the excess area that was required during construction progressively rehabilitated so that it is non-polluting and stabilised. This area is then able to be reused by the landholder but may be required from time-to-time for maintenance activities.
Final rehabilitation	Once no longer required, infrastructure is decommissioned and above ground infrastructure is removed from the site, the landform reinstated and in un-farmed areas, ground cover established.

To meet environmental authority conditions for rehabilitation:

- the landholder must be satisfied with the rehabilitation
- Arrow must lodge a rehabilitation report with the Department of Environment and Science
- Department of Environment and Science must agree the rehabilitation is complete.

EA surrender

Once these steps have been achieved, the EA can be surrendered and the tenure relinquished.

Estimated Rehabilitation Cost

Under the Environmental Protection Act 1994 an environmental authority holder for a resource activity must not carry out resource activities under the environmental authority unless there is an ERC decision in effect and the holder has paid a contribution to the scheme fund or given a surety under the Mineral and Energy Resources (Financial Provisioning) Act 2018.

The estimated rehabilitation cost to rehabilitate or restore the environment in relation to all resource activities approved by an environmental authority is calculated using Department of Environment and Science's ERC calculator. The purpose of the contribution or surety is to provide the Queensland Government with a source of funds for costs and expenses relating to preventing or minimising environmental harm, or rehabilitating or restoring the environment, or securing compliance with an EA.

Environmental authority holders can apply to have the ERC amended or discharged once it can be demonstrated that rehabilitation has occurred in accordance with the environmental authority.

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