

May 2026

# Form WC2A

## Application for a mineral claim within the White Cliffs Mineral Claims District

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Use this form to apply for a mineral claim within the White Cliffs Mineral Claims District.

An application for a mineral claim is a two-stage process and this form is stage one.

Any reference to the 'department' in this form, refers to the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

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### Before you start

You will need to:

- check with the office if the proposed mineral claim area requires a Permit to Enter and complete Form SST4: Application for a permit to enter land for purposes of a small-scale title.
- mark out the proposed mineral claim area and complete Form WC31: Mark out diagram (note: instructions on how to mark out the mineral claim and complete the diagram are in the form).
- complete the Mineral Claim possession notice and install this notice (affixed to a wooden board or metal plate) on the northernmost post of the marked out claim, and take a photo of it.
- take photographs of the marked out proposed mineral claim area.
- complete and provide Form WC21: Notification of intention to apply for a mineral claim within the Lightning Ridge Mineral Claims District, along with a map of the proposed mineral claim area to the landholder(s). Keep a copy of the notification and map to provide to the department.
- complete a right-of-way map, following the route of existing roads or tracks wherever practical.
- complete Form SST28: Statement of corporate compliance, environmental performance history and financial capability.
- have proof of identity with name, date of birth, address, photograph and signature (e.g. driver's licence or photo ID card). The details in your proof of identity document must match the details in the form (e.g. name and address).

### Privacy statement

View the department's privacy statement on how information in this application will be used.

## How to submit this form

This application for the grant of a mineral claim can be lodged:

- **by email:** [whitecliffs@dpird.nsw.gov.au](mailto:whitecliffs@dpird.nsw.gov.au)
- **by mail:** Mail your form, including any attachments to, NSW Resources, PO Box 314, Lightning Ridge NSW 2834.
- **In-person:** at the department's office, 41 Opal Street, Lightning Ridge, NSW, between the hours of 9.30 am to 1pm and 2pm to 4pm on Monday to Thursday or 9:30am to 1pm on Friday.

Lodgement of your form in this manner is taken to be lodgement with the Secretary under the *Mining Act 1992*.

## Need assistance?

If you have any questions or need help lodging this application, get in touch with the NSW Resources Small-Scale Titles team via the contact details above or **phone:** 02 6820 5200.

## Next steps

Once you have submitted your application and paid the application fee, you will be required to give the landholder(s) notice of your intention to exercise rights under a mineral claim.

To do this, complete Form WC23

- include a map of the proposed claim area with Form WC23 and retain copies of both
- send the original Form WC23 and map to the landholder(s) via registered post and retain a copy of the receipt.

Submit the following to the Lightning Ridge office:

- the completed Form WC23B to declare that you have given notice of your intention to exercise rights under the mineral claim.
- a copy of Form WC23 and map you sent to the landholder(s)
- the registered post receipt.

The department will review your Form WC23B and finalise the assessment of your application for a mineral claim.

If you receive a delivery receipt confirming that Form WC23 has been delivered via registered post (proof of delivery with a signature), you may return with the delivery receipt in addition to the above documents before the 7 working days have elapsed.

# 1. Applicant(s) details

To be eligible to hold a small-scale title, you must be 18 years of age or older, or a company eligible to undertake business in NSW.

## 1.1. Individual applicant details

*Note: If there is more than one mineral claim applicant, the first applicant will be considered the preferred application contact. If the holder is a company, please go to Question 1.2.*

1 <sup>st</sup> Applicant details (preferred application contact)	
First name of titleholder	
Middle name of titleholder	
Last name of titleholder	

Residential address (as shown on ID provided)					
Street number		Street name			
Suburb		State		Postcode	
Proof of identity	Proof of identity (e.g. valid driver's licence) is attached, and address matches the details above.				

Contact details	
Contact phone	
Contact email	<i>(This email will be used by the department for all correspondence relating to the administration of the Mining Act 1992)</i>

Contact postal address (if different from registered / residential address)					
PO Box (if applicable)					
Street number		Street name			
Suburb		State		Postcode	

2nd Applicant details (if applicable)	
First name of second titleholder	

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Middle name of second titleholder	
Last name of second titleholder	

Residential address (as shown on ID provided)					
Street number		Street name			
Suburb		State		Postcode	
Proof of identity	<input type="checkbox"/> Proof of identity (e.g. valid driver's licence) is attached, and address matches the details above.				

Contact details	
Contact phone	
Contact email	(This email will be used by the department for all correspondence relating to the administration of the <i>Mining Act 1992</i> )

Contact postal address (if different from registered / residential address)					
PO Box (if applicable)					
Street number		Street name			
Suburb		State		Postcode	

### Additional individual mineral claim applicants

If there are more than two mineral claim applicants, please provide their details as required in Question 1.1 as an attachment to this application.

Company applicant details

Company details (if applicable)	
Company name	
Australian Company Number	
Name(s) of all company director(s)	
Company contact person	Proof of identity document (e.g. valid driver's licence) is attached

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Contact phone	
Contact email	(This email will be used by the department for all correspondence relating to the administration of the <i>Mining Act 1992</i> )

Company contact details (as registered with ASIC)					
Street number		Street name			
Suburb		State		Postcode	
<input type="checkbox"/> I have attached proof of company registration and current office holders e.g. Current Company Extract from ASIC					

### Additional mineral claim holders

If there are more than one company applicants, please provide their details as required in Question 1.2 as an attachment to this application.

## 2. Period of mineral claim

Please select the appropriate period of your mineral claim.

Period of mineral claim				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 years

### 2.1. Do you have any other mineral claims granted or applied for?

Note: You can only hold a maximum of 2 mineral claims (Gazette No. 71 of 20 May 1994 p2336-2337, clause 3). The only exception to this restriction is if you have involuntarily assumed ownership of a mineral claim due to the former owner's death, bankruptcy or insolvency under section 202 of the *Mining Act 1992*.

Yes, provide mineral claim numbers:

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No

## 3. Identification and mark out of the area

### 3.1. Has a permit to enter been used to enter the land to mark out the proposed mineral claim area?

**Note:** Check if the proposed mineral claim area is covered by a registered access management plan to determine if the property requires a Permit to Enter.

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Yes, and provide Permit to Enter number:

No, and provide reasons why a Permit to Enter was not used:

### 3.2. Size and shape restrictions

Note: There are size and shape restrictions for mineral claims located in Reserve No. 2684, Reserve No. 2685 and Gemville Opal Prospecting Area (Gazette No. 71 of 20 May 1994 p2336-2337, clause 1). The proposed mineral claim must be square in shape, no greater than 50 m by 50 m, except for where the external boundary of the land available makes such a shape impractical, in which case, the maximum area does not exceed 2,500 m<sup>2</sup>.

If the proposed mineral claim is within Reserve No 2684, 2685 or Gemville Opal Prospecting Area, does the shape and size comply with relevant restrictions?

Yes

### 3.3. Has the mineral claim area been marked out in accordance with clause 40 of the Mining Regulation 2016?

**Note:** Before lodging an application, you must mark out your proposed claim area. Under clause 40 of the Mining Regulation 2016, marking out your mineral claim includes the following:

- A claim is square or rectangular (as far as practicable) with no claim side exceeding 200 metres in length.
- Marker posts installed on the corners of the claim where the boundaries change direction.
- The boundary of the claim indicated for up to one (1) metre from each marker post through trenches at least 150 mm deep or, if the cutting of trenches is impracticable, stone walls at least 150 mm high extending along the boundaries for a distance of at least one metre from each marker post.
- A possession notice was installed on the northernmost corner of the claim; if they are more than 2 northernmost corners, then the easternmost of them.
- The possession notice is attached to a wooden board or metal plate.
- The possession notice has details of the proposed mineral claim written in by the applicant, including dimensions of the claim, date of mark out, as well as their name and address.

Please provide photographic evidence that demonstrates that you have marked out the mineral claim in accordance with clause 40 of the Mining Regulation 2016. These photographs must show each marker post used, the boundaries and the possession notice.

Yes, I have marked out the claim in accordance with clause 40 of the Mining Regulation 2016 and provided photographic evidence

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Please attach your photographs to this application and fill in the table below:

Photo reference number	Name, title or description of photo	Date photo taken

If requested, further photographs must be provided.

### 3.4. Is the marker post you are using marking out more than one mineral claim?

No

Yes, and I have attached written consent of all claim holders sharing the marker post whether the claim is granted, pending or proposed.

### 3.5. Time and date that the proposed mineral claim area was marked out as written on the possession notice

Time (specify am/pm)	Date

### 3.6. Has the proposed mineral claim area been identified on the mark out diagram?

An application for a mineral claim must include the department's Form WC31: Mineral claim mark out diagram for mineral claim applications in the White Cliffs Mineral Claims District. The mark-out diagram indicates the distance and bearing of each side of the claim and the distance and bearing to a survey mark. The mark-out diagram is also known as the compass rose.

Please tick below to confirm that you have attached a mark-out diagram to the application:

Yes, I have attached a mark-out diagram.

Note: This mineral claim application is made over the area marked out by the applicant pursuant to section 176 of the *Mining Act 1992*. The applicant has attempted to depict that area on the mark-out

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diagram provided with this application. The department will, in due course, review the map against what is marked out and reserves its right to accurately identify the mineral claim area described by the applicant in this application.

### 3.7. Has the right-of-way map been attached?

An application for a mineral claim must include a right-of-way map. The right-of-way must, wherever practical, follow the route of existing roads or tracks and must accord with the provisions of any registered access management plan applying to the land and identify the routes the applicant will take from the proposed claim area to a public road.

Note that any right of way will be subject to a requirement that the holder of the mineral claim must pay to the landholder an agreed amount of compensation (or, if not agreed, an amount determined by the Land and Environment Court (see clause 47(8)(a) Mining Regulation 2016).

Please tick below to confirm that you have attached a right-of-way map to the application:

Yes, I have attached a right-of-way map

## 4. Notice to landholders under section 177 of *Mining Act 1992*

### 4.1. Notice of application for a mineral claim

Prior to lodging this application you must:

1. Complete the notice of intention to apply for a mineral claim using form WC21: Notification of intention to apply for a mineral claim within the White Cliffs Mineral Claims District
2. Prepare a map which is of at least 1:100,000 scale and which clearly indicates the extent and location of the proposed mineral claim relative to property boundaries and man-made features such as fences and buildings.
3. Serve Form WC21 and the map on the landholder(s) and retain a copy of both.

A copy of Form WC21 and the map must be attached to this application.

Date of serving Form WC21 and map on landholder(s)
I served the section 177 notice on the landholder(s), in accordance with section 383 of the <i>Mining Act 1992</i> , on (dd/mm/yyyy):

How did you serve the notice on the landholder(s)?
<input type="checkbox"/> Post <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> In-person <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Confirm you have attached the following: <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of <u>Form WC21: Landholder notification of application for a mineral claim in the White Cliffs Mineral Claims District</u> served to landholder(s) <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the map served to landholder(s)

## 5. Dwelling-houses, gardens and significant improvements

### 5.1. Is the proposed mineral claim located within the prescribed distance of the following:

A mineral claim cannot be granted over any land if it is within the prescribed distance of a dwelling house, woolshed, shearing shed, garden or significant improvement without the owner and occupier’s consent.

If your claim is within the prescribed distance set out in the table below, you must provide the owner’s written consent. In the case of a dwelling-house, the occupier’s consent must also be provided (see section 188 of the *Mining Act 1992*).

Is the mineral claim within the prescribed distance of the following:	
Within 200 metres of a dwelling-house that is the principal place of residence of the person occupying it	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the consent of the owner and occupier is attached
Within 200 metres of a woolshed or shearing shed that is in use as such	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the consent of the owner is attached
Within 50 metres of a garden	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the consent of the owner is attached
Located on land with a significant improvement (including but not limited to dams and stock tanks) other than an improvement constructed or used for ancillary mining activities only	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the consent of the owner is attached

## 6. Mining operations

### 6.1. Describe the proposed method of mining on the mineral claim (i.e. shaft and tunnelling):

### 6.2. Is the proposed mineral claim going to be worked with other claims as part of a single mining operation?

Yes, provide mineral claim numbers:

No

### Information – Power operated equipment or machinery

Approval is required for the use of power-operated equipment or machinery and the use of a wet rumbler or other motorised revolving drum for the purpose of opal puddling. This is a requirement under Gazette No. 71 of 20 May 1994 page 2336-2337, clause 4.

To seek approval, please contact the Resources Regulator via [whitecliffs@dpird.nsw.gov.au](mailto:whitecliffs@dpird.nsw.gov.au).

Note: This is not a requirement before **application** for a mineral claim. This is provided for your information purposes only.

### Information – Safety training and opal mine operators

The Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2022 sets out safety training requirements for mineral claim holders and operators. The mineral claim holder and the operator must undergo safety training before mining operations. Safety training is required every 5 years and is facilitated by the Regulator.

The mineral claim holder must also notify the Regulator of the operator for an opal mine before mining operations commence. Fill in and submit form [LR15: Nomination of opal mine operator](#).

Note: This is not a requirement before application for a mineral claim. This is provided for your information purposes only.

## 7. Applicant statement of corporate compliance, environmental performance history and financial capability

Pursuant to clause 42(3)(e) of the Mining Regulation 2016, the applicant(s) must provide a statement of corporate compliance, environmental performance history and financial capability. Applicants must complete and lodge Form SST28: Applicant statement of corporate compliance, environmental performance history and financial capability for small-scale titles (SOCH) with this application.

Confirm you have completed the following:

Attached a copy of Form SST28: Applicant statement of corporate compliance, environmental performance history and financial capability for small-scale titles.

## 8. Landholder compensation

### 8.1. Do you have a private compensation agreement with the landholder?

**No.** I will pay the standard compensation for the term of the mineral claim (see 10.1).

**Yes.** I have a compensation agreement with the landholder(s) as an alternative to standard compensation, and I have attached documentary evidence.

If a compensation agreement is in force, please supply details below and attach a document signed by the landholder that identifies the mineral claim and makes it clear that an agreement has been entered into that excludes the need to pay standard compensation.

## 9. Application fee payment

The application fee is prescribed under Schedule 9 of the Mining Regulation 2016.

The application fee is collected when the form is lodged as shown in table below.

Payment item	Payment amount
Application fee	\$130

### 9.1. Fee payment

Select payment method	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>In-person using cash or credit card</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>By phone using credit card</b> We will contact you during business hours using the phone number provided in your contact details.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Authorise credit card payment with Form WC29</b> To authorise credit or debit card payments complete and attach form <u>WC29: Authorising credit or debit card payments for small-scale title matters in the White Cliffs Mineral Claims District.</u>

Additional fees and levies will be required **after** this application has been assessed. Further information can be found in the Next Steps section below.

## 10. Checklist of items to be included with this application

Note: The 2 checklists below are to be completed by the applicant prior to signing the declaration.

Mandatory items to be attached to application	Yes	Reference
Have you provided a copy your proof of identity document (e.g. valid driver's licence)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 1.1 or 1.2
Photographs of mark-out of mineral claim	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 3.3
Mineral claim mark out diagram (Form WC31)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 3.6
Right of way map	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 3.7
Copy of Form WC21: Landholder notification of application for a mineral claim in the White Cliffs Mineral Claims District served to the landholder(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 4.1 <b>Error! Reference source not found.</b>
Copy of the map served to the landholder(s) as part of the notice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 4.1
Form SST28: Applicant statement of corporate compliance, environmental performance history and financial capability for small-scale titles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 7

Items to be attached to application if applicable	Yes	N/A	Reference
Additional applicant details and proof of identity document (e.g. valid driver’s licence)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 0 or 1.2
For companies, ASIC certificate of registration and ASIC Current Company Extract if not already provided	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 1.2
Written consent of all claim holders sharing a marker post	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 3.4
Written consent of owner of any dwelling house, woolshed, shearing shed, garden or significant improvement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 5.1
Copy of private compensation agreement between the applicant and landholder, if relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 8.1
Form WC29: Authorising credit or debit card payments for small-scale title matters in the White Cliffs Mineral Claims District	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 9.1
Additional applicants' declaration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 11.2
For agents only, written evidence of appointment and proof of identity document (e.g. valid driver's licence)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Question 12

## 11. Declaration

### 11.1. Applicant(s) (individual or company)

Each applicant (or authorised representative of a company) must complete the declaration below and sign this form:

- I certify that the information provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand under the Crimes Act 1900 NSW Part 5A, that knowingly or recklessly giving false or misleading information is a serious offence, and under the Mining Act 1992 section 378C, any person who provides information that the person knows to be false or misleading is guilty of an offence, for which they may be subject to prosecution.
- I agree to notify the department immediately of any changes to the information in this form or the documents provided with this application.
- I acknowledge that failure to provide all required information and documents may result in delays in processing the application or refusal of the application.
- (For companies only) I declare that I am authorised to complete and lodge this application.

1 <sup>st</sup> applicant (individual) details	
Name	
Date	
Signature	

2 <sup>nd</sup> applicant (individual) details (if applicable)	
Name	
Date	
Signature	

Company director / secretary details (if applicable)			
Name of company			
Officer name		Position/title	
Date			
Signature			

### 11.2. Additional applicant(s)

If there are more than 2 proposed holders of the mineral claim, please provide their signed declaration as an attachment. The attachment must be a copy of the page that the additional proposed holders have filled with their name, date and signature.

## 12. Agent authorised to act for the applicant(s) (if applicable)

As the proposed mineral claim holder, you can appoint an agent if desired. An agent can lodge an application on your behalf. You will need to provide written notice that you have appointed a person as your agent.

The authorised agent must complete the declaration below and sign this form:

- I certify that the information provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand under the Crimes Act 1900 NSW Part 5A, that knowingly or recklessly giving false or misleading information is a serious offence, and under the Mining Act 1992 section 378C, any person who provides information that the person knows to be false or misleading is guilty of an offence, for which they may be subject to prosecution.
- I agree to notify the department immediately of any changes to the information in this form or the documents provided with this application.
- I acknowledge that failure to provide all required information and documents may result in delays in processing the application or refusal of the application.
- I declare that I am authorised to complete and lodge this application.

Agent details	
Full name	
Proof of identity	<input type="checkbox"/> Proof of identity document (e.g. valid driver’s licence) is attached

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Contact phone	
Contact email relevant to the agency arrangement	(This email will be used by the department for all correspondence relating to the administration of the <i>Mining Act 1992</i> )

Contact postal address					
PO Box (if applicable)					
Street number		Street name			
Suburb		State		Postcode	
Evidence of appointment as an agent	<input type="checkbox"/> I have attached a written notice by the holder of my appointment as their agent				
Date					
Signature					

### 13. Next steps

Once your application has been received and the application fee paid, you will be required to give the landholder(s) notice of your intention to exercise rights under a mineral claim.

To do this, you must post the WC23 notice (Form WC23: Notification of intention to exercise rights under a small-scale title within the White Cliffs District) and map to the landholder(s) by registered post.

You will need to submit the following to the department:

- Form WC23B: Evidence of notification of intention to exercise rights under a small-scale title within the White Cliffs District, confirming you have notified the landholder.
- The registered post receipt.
- A copy of Form WC23 you sent, including the map.

The department will review your Form WC23B and finalise the assessment of your application for a mineral claim.

Following assessment and observing any required notification periods, the department will issue a Notice of proposed decision for you to review. This will outline various amounts required to be paid to determine your mineral claim. This may include landholder compensation amounts, the minimum security required for a small-scale title, and other levies. The amounts required, and how to pay them, will be outlined in future correspondence following the lodgement of all required application documents.

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There are also additional levies collected when the mineral claim is granted, as shown in table below. The proposed term of the mineral claim determines the payment amount.

Payment item	Payment amount
Term administrative levy <sup>1</sup>	\$100/year of a mineral claim term

<sup>1</sup>Note: The term administrative levy is calculated under section 292M of the *Mining Act 1992*.

### Important notes

This form has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Part 9 and section 178 of the *Mining Act 1992* and the Mining Regulation 2016.

### Accompanying documentation

Applicants must provide proof of identity documentation, such as a valid driver's licence. The proof of identity document must include your name, date of birth, address, photograph and signature. If any details on your proof of identity document do not match the details provided in this form (e.g. address), you must explain why and further evidence may be requested.

If you do not have all the required information when you lodge the application, you should lodge the additional information **within 10 business days of the lodgement date**.

The department will only accept completed applications that include all required information and documents (see section 381B(1)(b) of the *Mining Act 1992*).

### Agents

If this application is lodged by an agent on behalf of the applicant(s), the department will require written confirmation of the authority under which the agent operates and any limits of that authority. The agent will need to complete the declaration in this form and supply written evidence of their appointment (clause 97 of the Mining Regulation 2016).

### Office use only

<b>Application received</b>
Date:
Officers name:

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© State of New South Wales through Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development 2026. The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing May 2026. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development 2026 or the user's independent adviser.