

Quarry material—EIS information guideline

Introduction

This guideline advises proponents in relation to quarry material when preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS).

What is quarry material?

Quarry material includes guano, stone, gravel, sand, rock, clay, earth and soil. It does not include minerals within the meaning of the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*, nor does it include topsoil on a freeholding lease or topsoil if quarry material is reserved in a deed of grant. The holder of a mining lease may be entitled to use sand, gravel or rock extracted on their mining lease, and furthermore, that sand, gravel or rock may be deemed to be a mineral rather than a quarry material (see section 236 of the *Mineral Resources Act*).

Quarry material is the property of the Crown (i.e. the State of Queensland), except on some older freehold leases where quarry material may be owned by the landowner.

Quarry material that is owned by the state is regulated under the *Forestry Act 1959*, which is administered by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

What should be addressed in an EIS?

When preparing an EIS, the following matters should be addressed:

- whether quarry materials are needed for the delivery of the project or its associated infrastructure
- whether sand, rock or gravel to be extracted on a mining lease is deemed to be a mineral rather than quarry material
- the ownership of the quarry material by either the freehold landowner or the state
- the types and quantities of quarry materials required for the project
- the authorisations held, or required to be held, to obtain the required quarry material from the proposed locations
- whether quarry materials would be sourced on or off the project site
- if quarry material is to be sourced off-site:
 - the proposed source locations of the quarry material
 - haulage routes
 - any processing or handling facilities
- the use of the quarry material
- if a new quarry is proposed for the project, whether the new quarry would have the capacity to service more users than the project alone
- the potential impacts on environmental values of extracting, processing and handling the quarry material, and how the impacts may be mitigated
- impacts the project and secured areas for proposed environmental offsets may have on future access to significant quarry material (e.g. would access to other quarry material be blocked?).

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries guideline [Environment impact assessment companion guide](#) (DAFF 2014) provides additional advice on what should be addressed in an EIS.

References

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry 2014, *DAFF environmental impact assessment companion guide*, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Brisbane, Queensland, viewed April 2020, <<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/running-business/environment/eia-guide>>.