

Surveying Alert



Department name, Barcodes, PM numbers, eLodgement of plans, CSR review, Cadastral working group, Marking, Endorsed plans

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Issue 42

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Departmental name change

Following the state election in October 2020 the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME) was renamed the Department of Resources.

The certificates used on cadastral survey plans that are compiled (Forms 18) and compilation statements on other cadastral plans require the department's name as the source of compiled information. Section 33 of the Acts Interpretation Act 1954 enables a reference to a specified department of government that no longer exists to be a reference to the department specified by notification by the Governor in Council, ie the new department's name. Therefore, survey plans that refer to the old department (DNRME) are still valid.

Surveyors are advised that the new departmental name (Department of Resources) can be used on all survey plans signed on or after 12 November 2020.

The need for referencing the departmental name in the Form 18 certificate and compilation statement is being reviewed, and any changes will be reflected in the next release of the Cadastral Survey Requirements.

Barcodes – moving from physical labels to electronic images

The department is introducing a new system for survey plan barcodes, to be effective from the beginning of 2021.

From 1 January 2021, the department will provide an image of the survey plan barcode, rather than produce a hard-copy stick-on label. The barcode image can be embedded in the plan drawing or image file prior to printing the plan or producing the plan image where a paper plan is not produced.

To obtain the new barcodes, surveyors will need to register their name and email address [here](#).

Once registered, barcode images will be obtained through the surveying section of [department's website](#) and the barcodes will be supplied to your registered email address in both pdf and png formats. The two formats enable the barcode image to be embedded using either drafting software or pdf editing software.

Where a surveyor still has a need for a hard-copy stick-on label, these can

still be purchased from SIBA.

PM numbers

From 1 January 2021, surveyors will also be able to request PM numbers through the department's website.

To obtain PM numbers, surveyors will need to register their name and email address [here](#).

Once registered, PM numbers will be obtained through the surveying section of the [department's website](#) and the numbers will be supplied to your registered email address.

Pre-stamped brass plaques will continue to be available for purchase from SIBA.

Survey plans lodged by eLodgement

The Titles Registry has recently made changes that enable eLodgers to lodge basic subdivision plans, secondary interest survey plans and plans relating to Community Titles Schemes (and associated documents). Details of these changes are in [Titles Registry Alert 168](#), [Titles Registry Alert 170](#) and [Titles Registry Alert 178](#). Further details relating to eLodgement of survey plans are:

- Plans can be supplied to an eLodger by providing a printed plan or by providing a tif image file.
(300dpi resolution, 1:1 scale, A3 size, portrait orientation, black & white colour mode)
- PDF files are not able to be supplied to eLodgers.
- If a tif image file is provided, there is no requirement to produce a printed plan.
- Where an Act requires a wet signature on a document, then that document must be provided to the eLodger as a printed document.
- If a survey plan has been approved by the owner, the local government or other approval body on the printed plan, then the printed plan must be provided to the eLodger.
- If these approvals have been executed by way of Form 18, Form 18A or Form 18B, these forms may be provided to the eLodger in tif format.

For further information on Titles Registry matters, contact the Titles Registry on 1300 255 750 or email titlesinfo@dnrme.qld.gov.au. For surveying related matters, contact the appropriate surveying workgroup as shown in [Surveying Alert 32](#).

CSR review update

In [Surveying Alert 41](#) we advised that a formal consultation draft of the next version of the Cadastral Survey Requirements was likely to be released before the end of this year. Given the proximity to Christmas closures of many businesses, the department now intends to release the consultation draft in the new year to enable the profession a more suitable period in which to review the draft.

Cadastral working group

Whilst the CSR review is focused on matters that directly relate to current surveying practices, it is also examining whether there are any changes required to capitalise on the further advances in GNSS technologies, the introduction of eLodgement of survey plans into the Titles Registry, and to support other digital projects, such as 3dQld.

This has led the department to examine whether different surveys require different standards, and whether the use of the Large Scale Land Development Surveys methodology can be expanded.

It has become clear that a rigorous investigation needs to be undertaken

into these matters. This level of examination requires the involvement of industry practitioners and academia. Therefore, the department will be approaching the industry bodies and USQ in early 2021 to establish a cadastral working group to examine these issues in detail.

Marking of corners

Section 9 of the *Surveying and Mapping Infrastructure Regulation 2014* requires that "a boundary of land must be marked on the land in a way that a person on the land can identify the boundary". CSR standard 3.23 expands on the Regulation to state that "recognisable survey marks must be placed at each new corner unless it is physically impractical to do so".

Physically impractical means instances where it is not possible to place a mark because the corner is situated under water or within an excavation or structure. Situations where a corner is located on the other side of a fence does not meet the physical impracticability test and is required to be marked.

If access to the property on which the corner mark needs to be placed is restricted (e.g. inside a secure facility), then exemption from marking that corner must be sought from the department in accordance with CSR 1.7. If the exemption is granted, the method for referencing the unmarked corner will be advised with the exemption.

Endorsed plans

Accredited surveyors are reminded of standard 3.3 of the Cadastral Survey Requirements, which states:

"Accredited surveyors must send a copy of endorsed plans to the department as soon as the plan is endorsed. This will ensure that plans lodged for registration will not be delayed by administrative actions such as entry into the CISP database. Where survey records are to be lodged, these must accompany the copy of the plan.

Surveyors who continuously fail to lodge copies of their endorsed plans in a timely way will be asked to show cause why their accreditation should not be withdrawn."