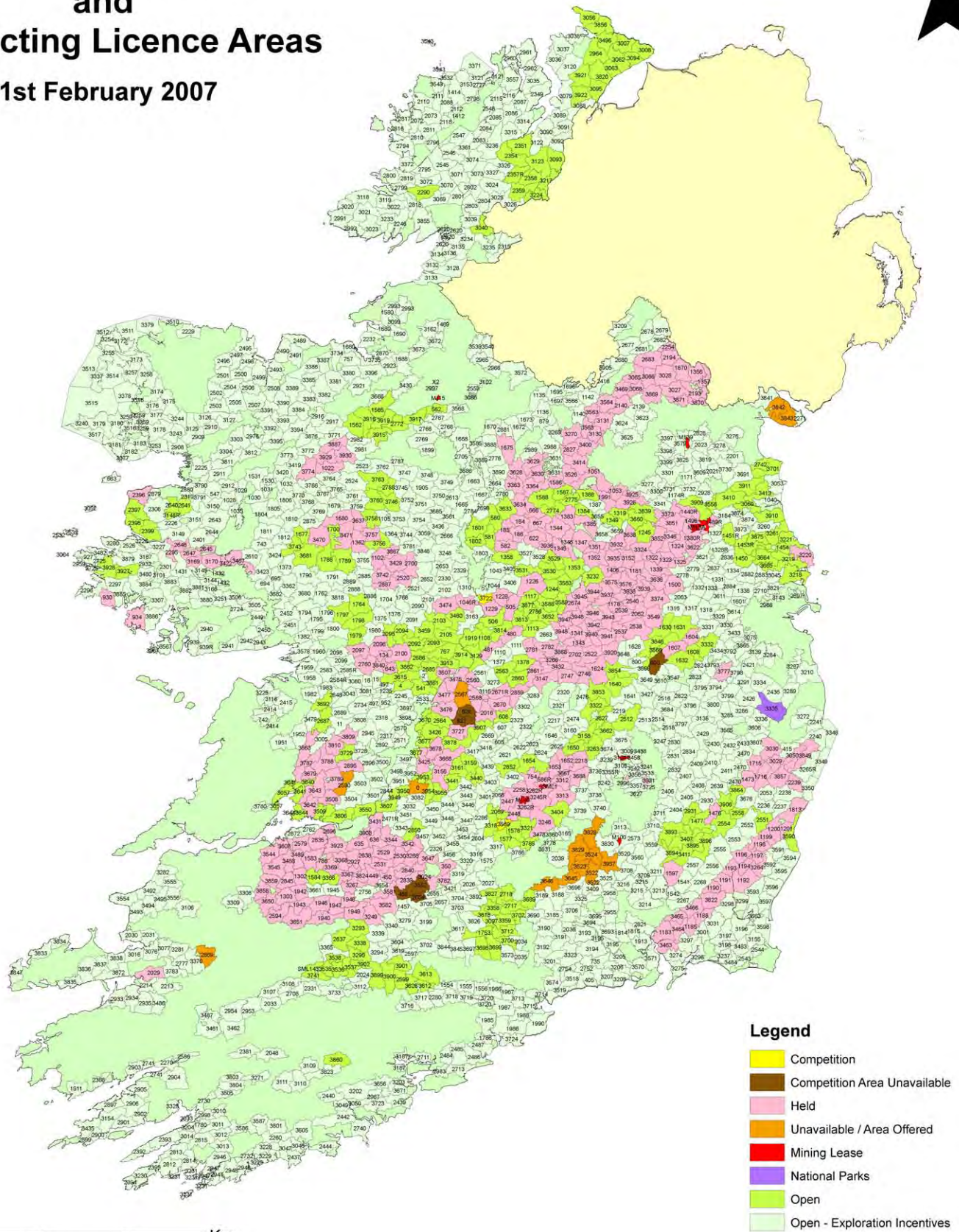


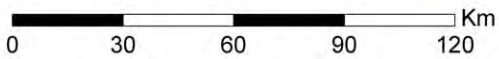
State Mining and Prospecting Licence Areas

1st February 2007



Legend

- Competition
- Competition Area Unavailable
- Held
- Unavailable / Area Offered
- Mining Lease
- National Parks
- Open
- Open - Exploration Incentives



EXPLORATION AND MINING DIVISION IRELAND

• CALCITE • MARBLE • SILICA SAND • ZINC • LEAD • COPPER • GOLD •

PROSPECTING LICENCE AREAS OPEN
FOR APPLICATION UNDER COMPETITION

1st FEBRUARY, 2007



Department of Communications,
Marine and Natural Resources.
*Roinn Cumarsáide, mara agus
Acmhainní Náúrtha*

**PROSPECTING LICENCE AREAS
OPEN FOR APPLICATION UNDER EQUAL COMPETITION
UNTIL 31st MARCH, 2007**

These include areas for which licences were current on 24th October, 2006 but have become available in the period to 26th January, 2007 and areas that were offered but were subsequently declined in the same period.

3569 Tipperary 3722 Westmeath

**THE ARRANGEMENT OF 'INTERIM'
PROSPECTING LICENCE COMPETITIONS**

Ground available for application under competition is offered every three months through publications that normally issue on 1st February, 1st May, 1st August and 1st November. The competition listed in publications that issue on 1st February and 1st August are termed 'interim' competitions. Such publications are limited to providing a list of competition areas and an update of the current prospecting licence situation, namely:-

- Prospecting Licence areas open for application under equal competition. **Interested parties have two months in which to apply for such areas**, with all applications received during that period deemed to have been received at the same time.
- A list of current prospecting licences that have been granted since the cut-off date of the previous competition publication.
- A list of all prospecting licences that have been offered and advertised, but not yet granted.

These 'interim' competition publications do not include a revised prospecting licence map, full list of current licences, details of restricted licences etc. **They should be used, therefore, in conjunction with the preceding publication, in this case the publication dated 1st November, 2006 (Minerals Publication MP 11/06)**. If required, copies of the latter publication can be obtained free of charge from the Exploration and Mining Division of the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All applications for prospecting licences must be made **directly by the applicant** to:-

The Secretary General, Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources
Exploration and Mining Division, Beggars Bush, Haddington Road, Dublin 4

on **Form No. 1**, accompanied by a **fee of €190 per prospecting licence area**. Copies of Form No.1 are available from the above address, or may be printed/downloaded from our website <http://www.minex.ie>. All payments must be in Euro, and cheques and bank drafts drawn on a bank branch located in the Republic of Ireland. All cheques and bank drafts should be made payable to "The Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources" and endorsed "Account payee only".

Prospecting Licences should be issued within four months of the application date (or the closing date of the competition, if the area sought is in competition), provided that the applicant complies fully with application requirements, responds rapidly to any queries, and causes no delay in supplying a satisfactory insurance policy.

STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

A company that has not reached the stage of making a formal application for a Prospecting Licence may establish its interest in an area with the Exploration and Mining Division by written submission of a "Statement of Interest" on the relevant form. A Statement of Interest will normally relate to open ground or areas open for application at any time and for which the company intends to make a formal application following a review of data.

The procedure for lodging Statements of Interest over areas is outlined in the 1st May and 1st November publications. Their period of validity extends up to a maximum of six months (unless there are exceptional circumstances), that is until the next edition of the map showing areas held under State Mining and Prospecting Facilities. A copy of the application form is available from our website <http://www.minex.ie>.

PROSPECTING LICENCE AREAS GRANTED SINCE 24th OCTOBER, 2006

The following prospecting licences, which were granted since 24th October 2006 are restricted to certain minerals. The licensed minerals are abbreviated as follows: Base metals (Bm); Barytes (B); Gold (G); Silver (S); Platinum Group Elements (PGE).

PL Area	Licensee	Start	County	Minerals
1102	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
1341	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
1343	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
1680	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	13/11/2006	Roscommon	Bm, B, S & G
2520	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
2522	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
2537	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
2538	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
3549	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Kildare	Bm, B, S & G
2560	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
2568	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Tipperary	Bm, B, S & G
2674	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
2700	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
2702	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
2747	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Laois	Bm, B, S & G
2748	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Laois	Bm, B, S & G
2781	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
2782	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
2861	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
2887	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
3432	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
3147	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Laois	Bm, B, S & G
3232	Teck Cominco Ireland Ltd	02/11/2006	Westmeath	Bm, B, S, G & PGE
3266	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
3429	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
3470	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	13/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
3471	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	13/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
3475	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
3507	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
3637	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	13/11/2006	Galway & Roscommon	Bm, B, S & G
3742	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
3757	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	13/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
3867	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Galway	Bm, B, S & G
3868	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
3940	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
3941	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
3942	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	01/11/2006	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
3943	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G
3944	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Westmeath	Bm, B, S & G
3945	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Westmeath	Bm, B, S & G
3946	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Westmeath	Bm, B, S & G
3947	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Westmeath	Bm, B, S & G
3948	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Westmeath	Bm, B, S & G
3956	Boliden Tara Mines Ltd	12/01/2007	Offaly	Bm, B, S & G

PROSPECTING LICENCE AREAS OFFERED AND ADVERTISED

PL Area No.	Licensee	County	PL Area No.	Licensee	County
3522	Teck Cominco Ireland Ltd	Kilkenny	3646	Teck Cominco Ireland Ltd	Waterford
3523	Teck Cominco Ireland Ltd	Kilkenny	3828	Teck Cominco Ireland Ltd	Kilkenny
3524	Teck Cominco Ireland Ltd	Kilkenny	3829	Teck Cominco Ireland Ltd	Kilkenny
3645	Teck Cominco Ireland Ltd	Waterford / Kilkenny	3957	Teck Cominco Ireland Ltd	Kilkenny