

LEGACY OF DATUM SHIFT IMPLICATIONS TO EL APPLICATIONS

19 August 2010

On the 1st January 2000, the Northern Territory Government changed from using the AGD 66 datum to the new GDA 94 datum for all spatial data representation of mineral tenure.

A legacy of this datum change is that some titles still maintain the old AGD 66 graticular block boundaries. This can, and often does, lead to title conflict with adjacent titles plotted to the new GDA 94 grid.

New mining legislation, (the Minerals Titles Act) to be introduced shortly will not cater for such grid anomalies. As such, we are now working towards eradicating the old historic AGD 66 datum grid boundaries by ensuring all new EL applications comply with the full intent of the *Mining Act*.

As per the current *Mining Act*, all EL applications must consist of whole blocks and conform to the new GDA 94 grid. This includes applications for substitute exploration licences. The only exception to this is when geographical features or cadastre boundaries dictate.

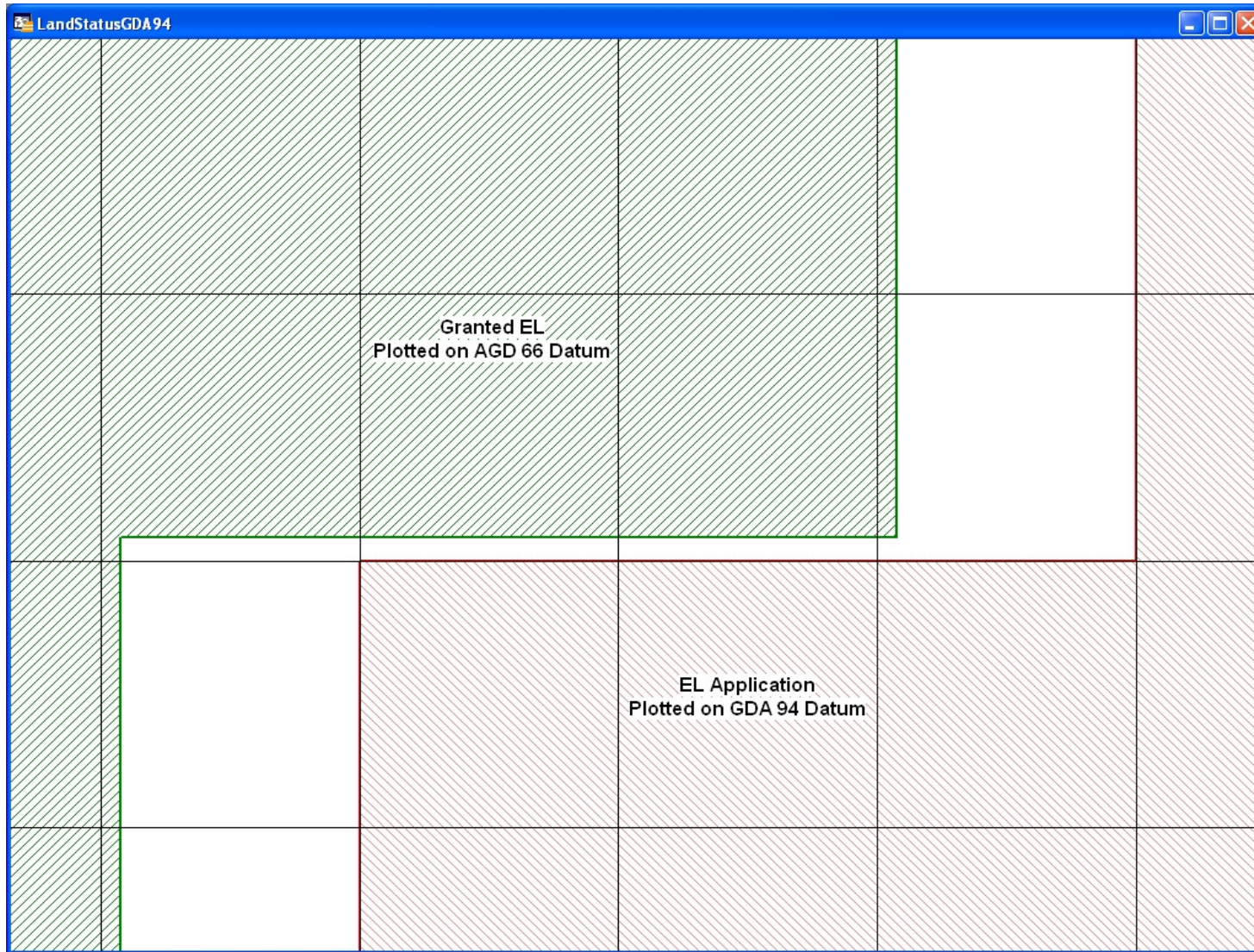
Special mention is made here in respect of EL applications which are adjacent to titles that still maintain the old AGD 66 grid boundaries. In such instances, applications must not include any block or part thereof where a portion of that block has been granted to another title.

Where blocks presently contain exploration licences granted on the AGD 66 grid, these blocks will become available for application after the expiry of the s18(b) *Mining Act* moratorium period.

Holders of exploration licences granted on the AGD 66 grid will be required to relinquish the affected partial blocks on annual review or renewal applications.

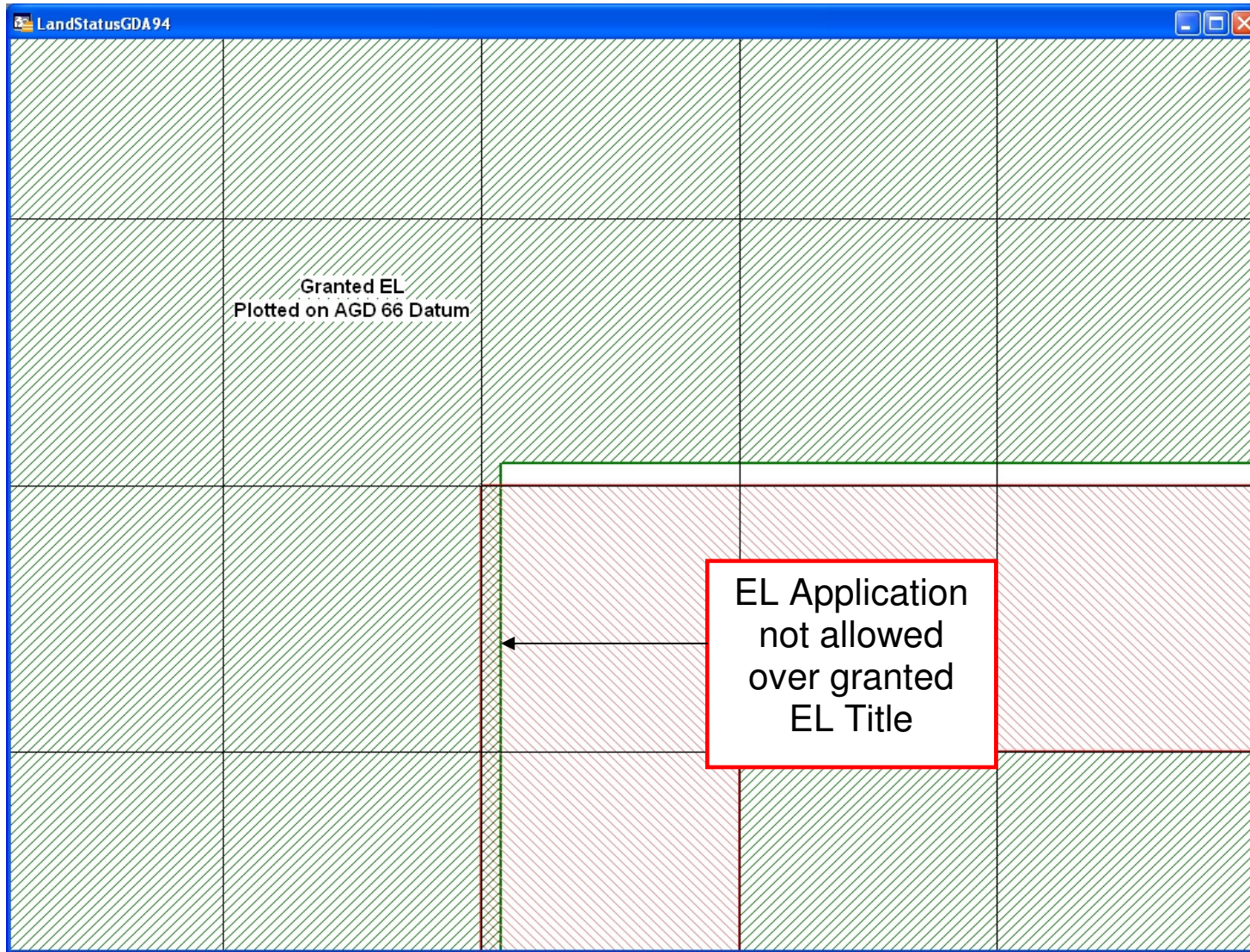
Examples are provided below to illustrate correct & incorrect plotting of EL applications areas which are adjacent to titles that still maintain the old AGD 66 grid boundaries.

CORRECT plotting of EL Applications



This diagram is an example of a correctly plotted EL application that conforms to the intent of the Mining Act

INCORRECT plotting of EL Applications



INCORRECT plotting of EL Applications

