



The Petroleum Registry of Alberta

Energizing the flow of information

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Second Half 2005

THE PETROLEUM REGISTRY OF ALBERTA 3RD ANNIVERSARY

In October 2005, the Petroleum Registry of Alberta celebrated its third year of operations and continues to operate in a dynamic, evolving, ever-changing environment.

Over the past three years our stakeholders have continued to look to the Registry as an opportunity to improve business processes, as Industry, the Energy and Utilities Board, and the Department of Energy continue to develop and take forward business case based enhancement initiatives to the Registry in accordance with the Registry Governance model.

During this period, the Registry has continued to attract interest from a number of outside jurisdictions and organizations both within and outside of our provincial and Canadian borders, most noticeably the government of British Columbia and its oil and gas industry. Our Registry External Communications Protocol process continues to ensure a consistent approach by the Registry team when dealing with outside interested parties.

The Registry continues to manage the ever increasing volume of transactions processed (over 1.2 million transactions per month) and an active Industry Business Associate base which has now surpassed 15,000 industry users.

ANNUAL ALLOWABLE COSTS IN THE REGISTRY – PHASE II

Effective February 7, 2006 the filing method for all annual allowable cost forms will be via the Petroleum Registry of Alberta (the Registry). The change completes the process of phasing the Alberta Energy (DOE) gas royalty annual cost allowance (AC) filings to a Registry-based process.

AC2-5:

AC2 - Capital Cost Allowance

AC3 - Capital Cost and Custom Processing Volume
Reallocations

AC4 - Operating Costs

AC5 - Custom Processing Fees Paid

With the February implementation, the current paper process will cease to exist and operators will have to use the Registry to submit/retrieve AC2-5 data. **As of January 15, 2006, the DOE will no longer accept paper versions of the AC2-5 documents from operators.**

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Also, as of January 15, 2006, the DOE Electronic Transfer System (ETS) will no longer accept submissions for AC2s and AC4s. This will enable the DOE to process those documents received prior to the cut-off date and to prepare for transition to the Registry.

While use of the Registry to file AC2-5 data is mandatory for operators, it remains voluntary for non-operators (those who only file an AC3 or AC5). However, non-operators are strongly encouraged to use the Registry to electronically submit and retrieve their oil and gas data.

The Registry team continues to work closely with Industry to ensure the new AC functionality meets their needs. Production accounting software vendors have received final AC 2-5 documentation that allowed them to make the necessary changes in their systems. The new AC 2-5 related training modules will have a staggered release and be available to users from mid-January to January 30th, 2006.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding AC2-5 filings or the January cut off, please contact the DOE's Tracy Wadson at (780) 422-9240.

NOTE: The facility cost centre set-up/change (AC1) successfully went live in the Registry on October 11, 2005.

CHANGES TO THE FILING PROCEDURES FOR AC1 INFORMATION ON THE REGISTRY

With the recent implementation of the facility cost centre set-up/change information (AC1) into the Registry, there are a number of changes users should be aware of.

For example, new FCC set-ups submitted through batch or on-line will be processed by the Department of Energy within a half-day turnaround time and these requests will not be delayed due to an invoice cycle. All other FCC changes will be processed overnight and will not occur during an invoice cycle.

Also, the process of issuing an AC1 turnaround letter, which contains the AC1 set-up information, has been discontinued. This is because all the information is filed directly on the Registry and the only information that has been changed by the department is the addition of an FCC number.

For more information about this issue, please read the DOE [November 2005 Information Bulletin](#).

Any questions regarding the Registry AC training modules can be directed to the Petroleum Registry Service Desk at (403) 297-6111 (in Calgary) or toll free at 1-800-992-1144.

ALLOWABLE COST TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

While the business rules do not change with the new Allowable Cost filing practices in the Registry, over the next few months the DOE and Registry team will focus on raising awareness of this new way to file AC 2-5 data.

DOE Training Session

The DOE Gas Royalty Calculation Unit will be holding an AC training and information session on January 19, 2006, in the Rosebud Room at the McDougall Centre (455 – 6th Street SW, Calgary). The session will provide an overview on the reporting and submission of allowable costs within the Petroleum Registry environment.

Two training sessions will be held on that day, one in the morning from 9:30 – 11:30 and another in the afternoon from 1:00 – 3:00.

As space is limited, your early registration should be forwarded by e-mail to: todd.atwood@gov.ab.ca.

Registry Information Session

The next Petroleum Registry of Alberta Information Session will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2006. The session will be held from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. at the Conoco Conference Centre, located on the third floor of Gulf Canada Square.

The main focus of the session will be a hands-on step-by-step "walk through" of the new AC 2-5 reporting process.

Any questions regarding this topic should be sent in advance to the Registry offices C/O Sheryl Moody at sheryl.moody@gov.ab.ca. Please indicate if your question has already been logged with the Registry Service Desk.

Space for this meeting is limited, so attendance will be capped at the first 250 individuals. To register, please contact Sheryl Moody as per the above e-mail address.

INDUSTRY LOOKS AHEAD

Industry committees have completed their annual planning process, which defines Industry's Registry priorities for the coming year. These translate to focus activities for the Industry-funded Industry Registry Team (IRT). 2006 priorities include:

Continued Evolution of the Registry: Specific priorities identified include promotion of inclusion of BC and Saskatchewan in the Registry; support and input to the DOE sponsored Gas Cost Allowance project, assessment of pipeline split opportunities; promotion of the EUB Audit Matrix, Forecast and Current Month Crown Oil Royalty Estimators, Production Entities, RMF 2, and Condensate Royalty statement distribution through the Registry.

Contributions to Registry Operations: The IRT will continue to provide an Industry voice on the Registry management team, and subject matter expertise in areas such as change management, training, testing, user support and Industry benefits realization.

The CAPP Board and SEPAC Finance Committee have endorsed these priorities as well as a voluntary billing mechanism to fund the IRT for 2006. Invoices have now been issued to all Alberta operators, with billings based on the number of wells operated by each company. This same approach was successfully implemented in 2005.

DOE OIL BUSINESS UNIT (APMC) REPORT ENHANCEMENTS COMPLETED

The DOE Oil Business Unit project to implement a series of new reports that provide additional well and royalty related data through the Registry has been completed. These report enhancements are the result of consultation with industry representatives on ways to improve the content, format and timeliness of reporting and to make available comprehensive lists of wells in various programs, etc.

These changes include notification through the Registry of certification statements and royalty program letters (approvals, terminations). The enhancements also include providing a number of existing reports in CSV format.

To learn more about these report enhancements, please go to the Registry website: Tips & Alerts—Alerts: Current - DOE Oil Business Unit (Oil/APMC) Report Enhancements.

EUB ENFORCEMENT OF LOW RISK NON-COMPLIANCE

Effective January 1, 2006 Directive 019, *EUB Compliance Assurance-Enforcement*, will replace "Information Collection and Dissemination Enforcement Policy (Ladder) for Production, Injection and Disposition Volumetric Reporting".

The new EUB Compliance Assurance Enforcement will supersede the enforcement ladders of all other EUB directives and guides.

Enforcement actions begun under the current enforcement ladder, and for which compliance has not been achieved by December 31, 2005, will be continued under the new EUB Compliance Assurance Enforcement.

Additional information about this topic is on the Registry website at: Tips & Alerts – Tips: Current.

Inquiries regarding EUB invoices, appeals or enforcement actions should be directed to the EUB PA help line @ (403)297-8952 or e-mail at pa.help@gov.ab.ca.

CHANGES TO THE REGISTRY WEBSITE

Over the past few months, the Registry team has been working on revamping the look and content of the Registry website. These changes are designed to ensure ease of use for users and will be implemented by the end of the year.

The look of the Registry website has not been dramatically altered, however, several new features have been added. To ensure users of the site know when important events are taking place, the top of each page now contains a link to the Broadcast Message area of the website and a "posted by" date, so users know if a new message has been posted.

Users can also find out the latest Registry moves by visiting the "What's New" area of the site, which has been given more prominence by moving it from the Bulletin Board area and established it as its own section of the new website.

Since the previous Registry website was designed before implementation in 2002, it is believed that these changes will better reflect the information and communication needs of clients at this stage in the Registry operations.

Registry users are invited to offer their input regarding the website's ease of use and areas that may be improved.

REGISTRY HOLIDAY HOURS

Registry/Service Desk regular hours of operation will be altered over the holiday season. Listed below are the days affected by the holiday season.

Saturday, December 24/05	Regular Hours
Sunday, December 25/05	Closed
Monday, December 26/05	Closed
Tuesday, December 27/05	Closed
December 29-31/04	Regular Hours
Monday, January 2/06	Closed
Tuesday January 3/06	Regular Hours

For more information regarding the December 2005 and/or the January 2006 Registry Calendars, visit the Registry website: Bulletin Board – Registry Hours & Reporting Calendars.

The Petroleum Registry of Alberta is a strategic initiative of the Alberta Ministry of Energy and the oil and gas industry of Alberta.

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To submit comments or questions about the Petroleum Registry of Alberta check out our web site at: www.petroleumregistry.gov.ab.ca

Or call our information lines at:

(403) 297-6111 (Calgary)
1-800-992-1144 (other locations)

The material in the *Petroleum Registry of Alberta News* may be reprinted with acknowledgement.

The Registry team would like to wish you a happy holiday season!