



The Petroleum Registry of Alberta

Energizing the flow of information

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2nd Quarter 2003

INTRODUCING: WALLY GOERES

On April 1, 2003, Wally Goeres officially took over the duties of Registry Manager from John Finlaison. John retired after 26 years service with the Government of Alberta.

Wally Goeres' background is accounting and finance and he holds graduate degrees in these fields. Wally has been involved in managing a number of business process automation and re-engineering projects and new initiatives at the federal and provincial levels.

Before taking over the reins of the Registry, Wally spent the past 5 years with the Department of Energy as Executive Director of its Business Architecture Branch and Business Needs & Processes Business Unit. In this position, Wally and his staff were involved in the Registry since its inception.

As a member of the Registry's Industry/Crown Strategic Governance Team, Wally provided support in helping develop the governance framework for the Registry's operating phase and into the future.

"I see the Petroleum Registry of Alberta as an evolving example of successful collaboration between government and Industry" says Wally. "This system proves that Industry and government can work together to produce a mutually beneficial product that improves the efficiency of all stakeholders".

As Registry Manager, Wally splits his time between his offices in Edmonton and Calgary.

INDUSTRY RELATED ENHANCEMENTS APPROVED!

On June 18, the CAPP Board of Governors endorsed a number of key Industry initiated enhancements to the Registry, as well as the mechanics for Industry to fund the changes. On the same day, the Registry Steering Committee approved proceeding with the enhancements.

"The approvals represent very significant developments for Industry and the Registry", says Ross Weaver, Industry Registry Manager. "The changes will enhance the effectiveness of the Registry and pave the way for significant cost savings for Industry. The approvals signal that Industry can work together to identify, promote and fund Industry specific enhancements. They also demonstrate that the DOE/EUB/Industry cooperation that lead to the development of the Registry continues to be a driving force during this operating phase."

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REGISTRY PERFORMANCE

While users were exposed to start-up performance issues, the system is now performing at (and generally exceeding) performance standards set by Registry stakeholders.

This improved performance is a direct result of the effort put in by the Registry team to identify and address performance areas that needed to improve.

To date, the Registry team has addressed 43 of the most important performance initiatives. Below are highlighted some of the improvements seen in the Registry over the past three months.

Batch Submissions

Removal of the batch scheduler overhead (time to schedule jobs) by grouping jobs more efficiently resulted in improved performance. Each day EUB submits approximately 1,600 Infrastructure transaction files to the Registry. Each month DOE needs to submit approximately 16,000 Ministry Report files to the Registry

EUB Infrastructure

Before:

- On average the Registry Batch Scheduler would only process 100 EUB transaction files per hour.

After:

- EUB transaction files were grouped into batches of 100 and submitted to the Registry Batch Scheduler every 15 minutes.
- Registry process is keeping pace and turn-around time improved by 400%.

Ministry Reports

Before:

- On average the Registry Batch Scheduler would only process 200 Ministry Reports and 100 EUB transaction files per hour.

After:

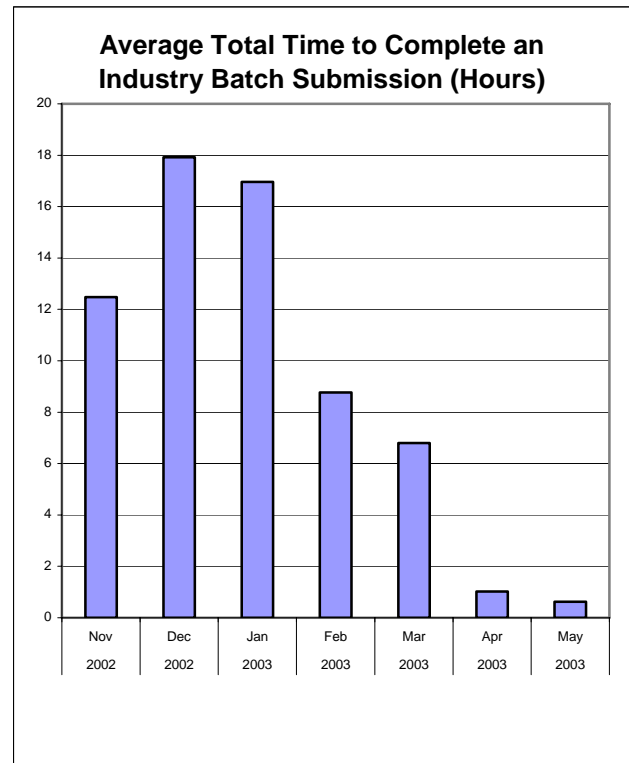
- Ministry Reports were grouped into batches of 1,000 and submitted to the Registry Batch Scheduler every 15 minutes.
- Registry process kept pace and was completed within 15 minutes of last submission.

Processing of Monthly Submissions improved by 50%-80% during online period. Efficient processing of EUB Infrastructure and Ministry Report jobs created more opportunities to run more Monthly Submissions during the day.

Results of this improvement are illustrated in the improved times it takes to complete batch submissions (see following graph).

Other Observed Improvements

- Registry team focused on screens that were taking more than 10 seconds to respond. Tuning has seen the number of pages that exceed 10 seconds drop by 500%.
- 5 second response times jumped from 85% in January to 98% in May.
- Tuning of the Volumetric Facility Activity Report improved by 1132%. From 10+ minutes to 53 seconds.



Additional information about current and future work being done to enhance Registry performance will be released in a "special" newsletter sometime this summer.

THIS IS A BUSY SYSTEM!

Since the Petroleum Registry of Alberta went live in October 2002, it has been an integral part of the oil and gas industry in Alberta. It has also been a very busy system. Below are some statistics (as of June 20, 2003).

- Over 8,000 User IDs established
- Almost 24 million hits since go-live

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BUSY SYSTEM – con't from page 2

- Most hits in one day – 381,983 (April 21/03)
- On average, over 65,000 individual “batch” transaction files are processed per month
- Service Desk calls (to date) – 25,000+
- Average calls/day 88 (June 03)
- Registry Communications
 - Broadcast Messages 200+
 - Tips 40+
 - Alerts 70+
 - Industry & Gov't Presentations 200+

To learn more about the Registry, please visit their web site at: www.petroleumregistry.gov.ab.ca

CHANGES AT DOE GAS ROYALTY CLIENT SERVICES HELP DESK

The DOE Gas Royalty Client Services Help Desk has changed how it serves stakeholders. It now works via a portfolio system where the portfolios are divided by company name, not by BA ID. Each portfolio has a phone number clients should use to contact the DOE Gas Royalty Client Services Help Desk. These are listed below:

- Numbered companies, and companies starting with the letters A, B, and L (780) 644-1201
- Companies starting with the letters C to G (780) 644-1202
- Companies starting with the letters H to P (excluding L) (780) 644-1203
- Companies starting with the letters O to Z (780) 644-1204

For example, if the name of a client's company were “The Gas Company”, they would call the C-G number with any DOE gas royalty queries. The change over to the new portfolio system came into effect March 1, 2003.

The previous Gas Royalty Helpdesk number of (780) 427-2962 will now be directed to the Gas Royalty Reception Desk. As this number has been in place for many years, clients are urged to memorize their new Gas Royalty support phone number.

ENHANCEMENTS – con't from page 1

What's changing?

The enhancement items fall into three categories:

1. Base Functionality Enhancements and Analysis Tools: These include a number of changes to the Inbox/Notification process that will allow for easier identification, analysis and distribution of messages. They also include a new CSV version of the EUB non-compliance report. Having a CSV version will allow users to better analyze and react to the content of the report.
2. Final Partner Reporting Components: Allows operators to communicate “net-after-royalty” data to partners, “security blanket” modifications, the ability to “save and re-use” report request parameters, and “server-to-server” functionality.
3. Additional Pipeline Split Components: While the base pipeline split capability exists and is being used currently, a number of important change requirements have been identified to meet the full needs of industry and pipeline stakeholders.

When will the changes be in place?

Detailed design and development work has already started for some elements, but other elements will not be introduced until well into 2004. For example, you may have already noticed that the CSV version for the summary of the non-compliance report has been introduced to the Registry. On the other hand, pipeline split changes require final design confirmation and will not be fully in place until next year. Importantly, the enhancements will be timed such that the use of Registry development and testing resources are optimized, and changes are introduced at a pace that works well for Industry. The IBC will play a key role in confirming the approach to implementation timing.

How will the changes be funded?

These enhancements were initiated by Industry and are of primary benefit to Industry stakeholders. As such, Industry has agreed to provide the funding. Funding for items 1 and 2 (above) will be provided by a billing to the producers operating over 200 Alberta wells. The billing amount will vary by company size and category (in a similar way as the billing for Registry training). [Change Leaders wanting advance billing information can contact Ross Weaver at ross.weaver@gov.ab.ca.]

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ENHANCEMENTS – con't from page 3

The CAPP Board has approved bringing funding for item 3 to the Broad Industry Initiative panel in November.

More information will be provided in coming weeks and months on these enhancements, and how they will affect your company.

WHAT IS THE IBC?

Over the past year, the Industry Benefits Committee (IBC) has performed an extremely important role within the Petroleum Registry of Alberta.

Key Functions: The IBC is a sub-committee of the CAPP Accounting Committee. It was established during the Project Phase of the Registry and promotes Industry cooperation in achieving all the benefits available for industry with implementation of the Registry.

The IBC also acts as a “user group” providing a two-way flow of information between the Registry team and the companies represented by the IBC. The committee itself provides input rather than operational direction to the Registry team. The IBC is a key source for identifying, validating and prioritizing enhancement and extension opportunities for the Registry. The IBC provides industry consensus enhancement recommendations to the Industry Manager, Registry Manager and the Registry Advisory Group for further consideration before being forwarded to the Registry’s governing body, the Registry Steering Committee.

Membership: Is open to CAPP and non-CAPP producing companies (SEPAC and unaligned producers) as well as midstream operators and pipeline representatives. Approximately 20 of the largest Registry client companies are represented. Smaller company interests are effectively represented by Rosemary Gillanders, acting on behalf of SEPAC. Jim Barr of the Crude Oil Logistics Committee represents liquids pipeline interests.

Information: For more information about the IBC, or how to join the committee, please contact Registry Industry Manager Ross Weaver at: ross.weaver@gov.ab.ca. Alternately you may contact one of the IBC Co-Chairs:

Cam Coulthart: cam.w.coulthart@esso.ca
Andrea Havinga: andrea.c.havinga@conoco.com
Gary Semeniuk: gary.semeniuk@shell.ca

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO EUB NON-COMPLIANCE PROCESS

In response to discussions with the Registry Team and Industry representatives the EUB has agreed to make some changes to its non-compliance process.

One of the first areas these agreed to changes will impact is the shadow billing period of EUB non-compliance fees. The shadow-billing period has now been extended to the September 2003 production month (October 2003 reporting deadline). It should be noted that any errors that still exist at the end of the shadow billing period will be subject to non-compliance fees.

The EUB also agreed to some suggested changes in metering differences in the areas of Gas, Oil and Water. To find out more details about these changes, go to the *Tips/Alerts/FAQs – Alerts – Alerts Current – Important changes to EUB Non-compliance process* on the Registry web site.

SECURITY AND BA USAs

Since implementation of the Registry, a number of companies have named their Production Accounting Service Provider (PASP) as their User Security Administrator (USA). While this offers a low level of security risk for BAs, it is not considered the optimum process to allow a PASP to act as a company’s USA.

Instead of a BA appointing their PASP as their USA, it is recommended the PASP be set up as the BAs designate USA. This allows the BA executive to unilaterally discontinue the designate status any time they wish. If the PASP is set up as the USA, the BA must request the PASP to relinquish the USA role.

Although there is little chance a PASP would refuse to relinquish the USA role, setting up the PASP as the designate USA keeps control of this vital Registry role with the BA. If you have any questions about assigning the USA or designate USA role, please contact the Registry Service Desk at (403) 297-6111 (Calgary), 1-800-992-1144 (other locations) or e-mail: petroleumregistry.energy@gov.ab.ca.