

Alberta Helium Functionality

Jurisdiction	Release/Revision Date	Location of Change in this Document	Comment
AB	September 30, 2021		Update: Shadow Billing period for the VME055 error has now ended
AB	April 8, 2021		Included link to AER Bulletin 2021-12
AB	April 7, 2021		Initial Release

Audience: All Alberta Stakeholders

Purpose: To notify stakeholders of the addition of helium reporting functionality now available in Petrinex for Alberta, along with revised editions of Directive 007: Volumetric and Infrastructure Requirements (Directive 007) and Manual 011: How to Submit Volumetric Data to the AER (Manual 011).

Updated: The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) would like to remind users that the noncompliance shadow billing period has now ended for VME055.

Operators will be invoiced \$100.00 for each VME0055 error still outstanding on the October 21st, 2021 AER Volumetric Data Reporting Deadline.

Background: The Alberta government introduced a helium royalty rate effective April 1, 2020, with requirements to submit monthly helium production volumes and sales information directly to the Department of Energy - refer to Alberta Energy Information Letter 2020-22 (<https://inform.energy.gov.ab.ca/Documents/Published/IL-2020-22.pdf>) for details. Petrinex now has the functionality to collect helium production and disposition volumes (similar to existing Saskatchewan helium Petrinex reporting functionality), which can be submitted retroactively. Updates to Directive 007 and Manual 011 have also been made to include helium reporting, as well as minor revisions to improve clarity.

Key Principles: With the inclusion of helium reporting requirements in the revised Directive 007, operators producing helium are now required to submit helium production and disposition activities and volumes in Petrinex. Helium sales information must continue to be submitted monthly to the Department of Energy's electronic mailbox, GasValuation.Energy@gov.ab.ca. Questions related to helium royalties can be submitted to Energy.Helium@gov.ab.ca.

A new error message (**VME0055**: Imbalance is other than 0.0) has been created to identify instances of helium imbalances and is subject to a \$100.00 penalty. Note that there will be a 6-month shadow billing period (ending August 2021 production month) where these errors will



TIP

appear on the volumetric non-compliance invoice but will not be charged. Upon expiration of the 6-months, if the errors have not been corrected then the operator will be charged for the outstanding imbalances.

Petrinex has created a job aid explaining the helium functionality changes in Petrinex and how to report helium in Alberta, which can be accessed under the Petrinex Learning Centre at <https://www.petrinex.ca/LC/Pages/Monthly.aspx>.

The AER has also published Bulletin 2021-12 highlighting the revisions to Directive 007 and Manual 011. The Bulletin, along with revised versions of Directive 007 and Manual 011 can be accessed on the AER website (www.aer.ca) under Regulating Development – Rules and Directives.

The Natural Gas Royalty Regulations 2009 & 2017 (under the Mines and Minerals Act) were also updated as of May 13th, 2020 to incorporate helium. Please click the links below to see these amended regulations:

https://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Regs/2008_221.pdf

https://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Regs/2016_211.pdf

All producers who recover Helium from a well within Alberta, or cause Helium to be produced by any other means from hydrocarbon recovered from the well, are required to report all sales of Helium to Alberta Energy each month. For information on reporting helium sales, please see the contact information for the [Alberta Energy Pricing & Analysis Team](#) in the contacts below.

More information:

AER Production Accounting Helpdesk

Phone: 403-297-8952, ext. 3

E-mail: PA.help@aer.ca

or

Alberta Energy

Helium Monthly Sales Reporting, Pricing & Analysis Team

Phone: 403-355-5884 or 403-297-5427

E-mail: GasValuation.Energy@gov.ab.ca

Helium Royalties and Other Inquiries:

E-mail: Energy.Helium@gov.ab.ca

or

Petrinex Business Desk

Phone: 403-297-6111; 1-800-992-1144 (Toll Free)



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E-mail: petrinexsupport@petrinex.ca