



The Petroleum Registry of Alberta

Energizing the flow of information

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Third Quarter 2004

REGISTRY: 2ND ANNIVERSARY

October marks the second anniversary of the Petroleum Registry of Alberta.

Over the past two years, positive strides have been made to continually improve Registry performance through the implementation of an extensive set of performance tuning initiatives. We are pleased to report that the performance expectations as defined by the Registry's stakeholders are being met as per a recent Registry performance review and analysis presented to and endorsed by the Registry Steering Committee.

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. The recently developed Registry External Communications Protocol process acts to ensure a consistent approach by the Registry team when dealing with outside interested parties. This includes a process to ensure protection around the release of proprietary Registry system specifications and other information.

Over the past two 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.

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NEW ALLOCATION - WIO REPORT

In late July 2004, the Registry introduced the new Allocation – Working Interest Owner (WIO) report. The new WIO report is designed to improve partner reporting in the Registry by combining the data found in the Volumetric Facility Activity and Owner Allocation reports.

The WIO report provides gross and net owner share of volumes and/or energy, by facility, stream, and production month for each applicable product and activity.

For this report to work correctly, allocations must be submitted by the facility operator for all products/activities, not just royalty triggers.

It's believed that this new report will allow WIO's greater access to the data they need to complete their reporting.

For more information on how to run this report, refer to Registry Training Module 6.4b "Request Reports and Queries" under the "Working Interest Owner Report" folder within the training module. Additional information can also be found on the Registry website under: Tips/Alerts/FAQs – Tips – Monthly Reporting Allocations - Partner Reporting: New Allocation - WIO Report.

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The future looks positive for the Registry as we continue to successfully address stakeholder barriers to future value. However, this could not have been possible without the hard work, cooperation and dedication our stakeholders have shown in helping to ensure that the Registry evolves as a success. I would like to thank all of you who continue to assist us in making the Registry the dynamic, evolving system it is today.

Wally Goeres, Registry Manager

GAS ROYALTY PROVISIONAL ASSESSMENTS

Over the past year, Provisional Assessments reached record low levels. Both the Department of Energy and the Registry staff are pleased with the progress in ensuring data is correct the first time.

Continually driving down current month Provisional Assessment reflects the focus industry has placed on this issue and is just one example of royalty clients using the multiple tools available in the Registry to not only submit data, but also to analyze, manipulate and ensure it is meeting the needs of all who need to use it.

Current month Provisional Assessment is now averaging about 1/10th of what it was prior to Registry implementation - an indication that the Registry is a strong contributor to doing things right the first time, and spending less time on reworks.

EUB REVIEWING WATER REPORTING GUIDELINES

The Energy and Utilities Board (EUB) is reviewing its May 2003 agreement with the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers to not impose non-compliance fees for watering differences. At that time, the EUB had indicated that the agreement was subject to review if there were concerns about water reporting in the future.

Concerns arose when a recent review found an unacceptable level of water balancing errors. The report showed that the total number of water errors was close to the total number of chargeable errors.

It also indicated a trend towards fewer of these errors being corrected by operators.

Operators are reminded that:

- Water volumes are to be submitted to the Registry by the 18th of each production month.
- Water should be balanced at a facility.
- Operators are encouraged to review processes for water reporting.
- All past errors, not just recent errors must be corrected.

Water reporting errors will be monitored over the next few months. If the situation does not change, the EUB will consider establishing non-compliance fees for water reporting errors.

NEW STATUSES FOR COAL BED METHANE

As of October 6, 2004, new well statuses for Coal Bed Methane (CBM) wells were incorporated in the Registry.

These new statuses are the result of the public, industry, government, and EUB stakeholders requesting a complete and systematic tracking of CBM activity and production be implemented by the EUB.

In the past, the EUB required that wells intended to be completed in coal(s) be identified as CBM wells on the well licence. This allowed wells with CBM intent to be identified, but it does not allow for the effective tracking of CBM production. This issue is addressed via the two new statuses available on the Registry's Edit Well Status Screen.

Licensees must use the new well statuses instead of a gas well status for reporting production from coals in the Registry. This will allow the EUB to track CBM production on a go-forward basis.

To learn more about the two new statuses and how they impact the reporting of CBM, please go the Registry website – Tips/Alerts/FAQs – Alerts - New Well Status for Coal Bed Methane to be added to Registry.

More detailed information about this change can also be found in the EUB web site in [Bulletin 20](#) and [Bulletin 21](#)

PIPELINE SHADOW BILLING

The EUB will be starting shadow billing for pipeline reporting beginning with the November 19, 2004 filing deadline. Shadow billing will be in place for six months prior to payable invoices being issued to pipeline operators.

Since October 2003, pipeline operators have been exempt from non-compliance fees due to concerns surrounding reporting pipeline volumetric data to the Registry. Changes to the Registry to address these issues were implemented in May 2004.

Changes to remove incorrect error messages from the EUB Non-compliance report will be implemented November 3, 2004.

Over the next few months, the Industry Registry team will be contacting pipeline operators to offer assistance in preparing for shadow billing.

INDUSTRY REGISTRY TEAM OFFERS ADVANCED TRAINING

The Industry Benefits Committee (IBC) and the Industry Registry Team (IRT) are completing their annual exercise of identifying Industry priorities for:

- A. Registry Enhancements
- B. IBC/IRT focus areas for the coming year.

High on the list of Industry's priorities is the need for more advanced Registry user training. A first response to this was the September 27, 2004 Training Session. The IRT is willing to go beyond this however, and is offering (subject to resource availability) to provide company-specific training sessions...in company offices.

There are two provisos to this offer: First, supervisor/managers must take the time to identify their specific areas of training needs, and discuss these with the IRT. Second, for smaller groups, it may be time and cost effective to hold joint sessions where there are similar needs.

For further information on this training opportunity, contact Ross Weaver (297-4411).

CONTACT US

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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The Registry web site also provides various means for clients to directly offer comments and ideas:

- At the bottom of each web page is a "Contact Us" and "Feedback" button.
- Under Tips/Alerts/FAQs, there is a "Tips/Alerts Template" for clients to send in suggested workarounds.
- And, under "Service Desk" clients can "Send us your Registry Enhancement Suggestions" regarding functionality that they believe would improve the Registry's performance.

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