

December 14, 2010

INFORMATION LETTER 2010-43

Subject: Oil Sands Tenure Regulation, 2010 (AR 196/2010)

On December 1, 2010 the *Oil Sands Tenure Regulation* was set to expire. As per Section 28 of the *Oil Sands Tenure Regulation* (AR50/2000) a review was completed in 2009/2010 for ongoing relevancy and necessity.

On November 24, 2010 the *Oil Sands Tenure Regulation, 2010* (AR 196/2010) was approved by Order in Council 413/2010 and replaces the *Oil Sands Tenure Regulation* (AR50/2000). This amendment was required to address issues related to:

1. Clarifying the:
 - Minimum Level of Evaluation (MLE) requirements.
 - Process for issuing a primary lease from a permit.
 - Process for continuation of primary leases.
 - Process for a partial location transfer of a lease. (surface mineable oil sands area only)
2. Improving the audit provisions of costs, including:
 - Requirements for research cost (advance filing of documents for approval).
 - Types of allowable costs.
 - Calculation process for escalating rental and potential recalculation through audit.
3. Updating definitions for clarity and for consistency within the *Oil Sands Tenure Regulation* and the *Mines and Minerals Act*.

The Order in Council for the *Oil Sands Tenure Regulation, 2010* can be viewed on the Queen's Printer website at: <http://www.qp.alberta.ca> under Legislative Publications, Orders in Council, Energy, *then Mines and Minerals Act (10413)*.

The Oil Sands Tenure Guidelines will be updated to reflect the new regulation.

For further information please contact:

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