

National Energy Board



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**Frontier
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**Frontier
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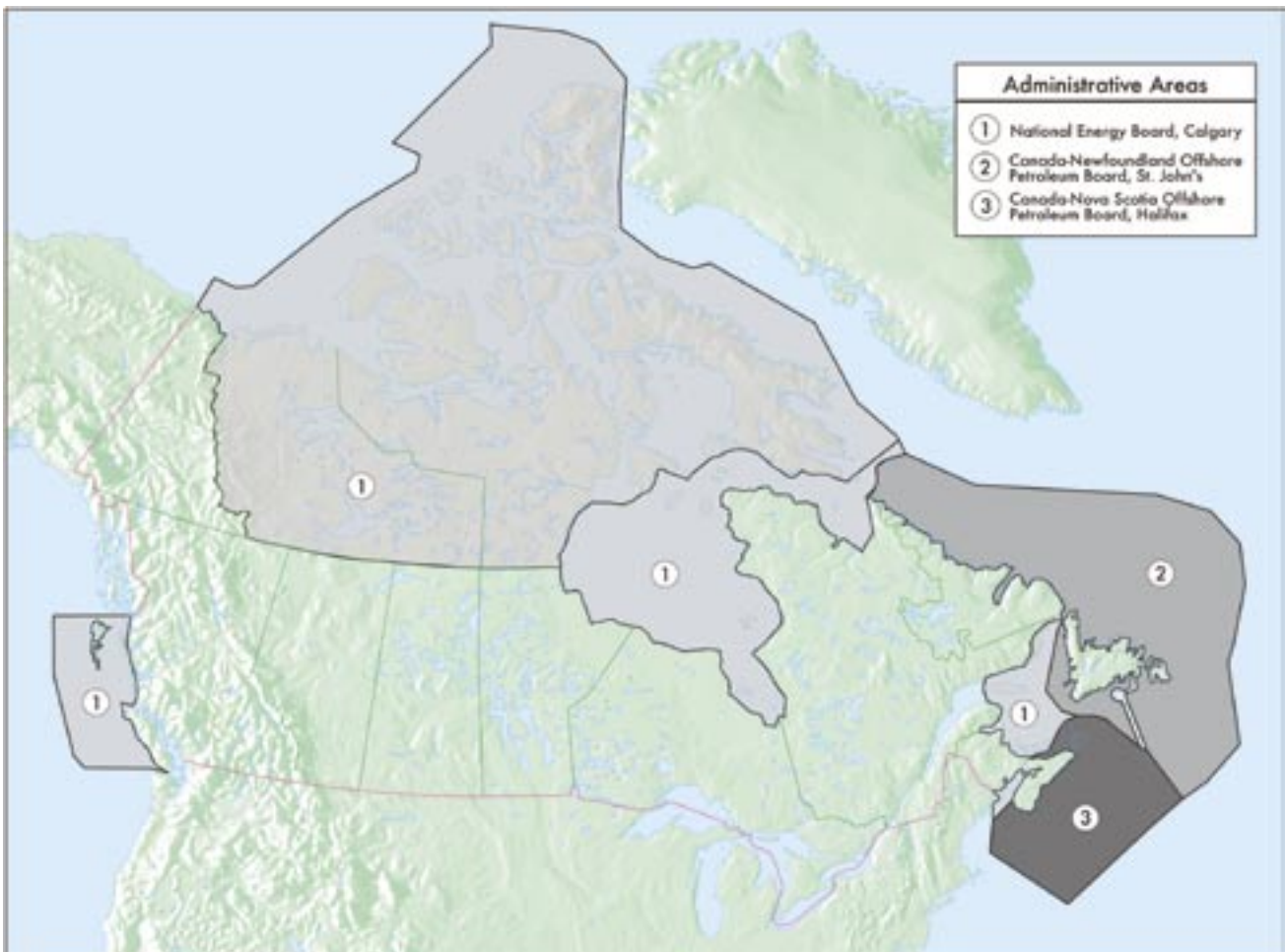
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National Energy Board Frontier Information Office

The National Energy Board and frontier exploration

On May 12, 1994 the NEB was given responsibility for regulating operational aspects of oil and gas activities on frontier lands in the North and in offshore areas not subject to a federal/provincial shared management agreement (see Figure 1).

Figure 1 - Frontier Lands Regulated by the NEB



Oil and gas operations in the frontier areas regulated by the NEB are authorized under the *Canada Oil and Gas Operations Act* and its regulations. These authorizations are required before work or activity related to the exploration and production of oil and gas can be carried out. Approval of specific operations may also be required from other federal and territorial departments and agencies as well as from certain aboriginal organizations. Frontier Information Office staff can provide information and assistance on the regulatory and administrative processes.

The Frontier Information Office

The Frontier Information Office was established to provide a service to the public and the oil and gas industry. Companies or individuals seeking technical information about oil and gas activities on frontier lands regulated by the NEB can contact our Frontier Information Office in Calgary at (403) 299-3111, or toll-free at 1-800-899-1265. For publications and information about other aspects of the NEB's activities you should contact the NEB's Publications Office in Calgary at (403) 299-3562, or toll-free at 1-800-899-1265 (ask for the publications coordinator).

Services

Services available through the Frontier Information Office include:

- Referrals to appropriate organizations for authorizations related to oil and gas exploration operations on frontier lands
- Access to a reference collection of oil and gas technical reports submitted by industry
- A private viewing room available by appointment, for researching reports
- Self-serve printing of paper copies from microfilm
- Information packages for oil and gas rights issuance (land sales) from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Yukon Government

Technical reports

Companies conducting oil and gas related operations on frontier lands are required to submit copies of technical reports about these operations, including analyses and interpretation of results, to the NEB. When first submitted, the information contained in the technical reports is privileged as stated in the *Canada Petroleum Resources Act*. After a period of time (dependant upon the information contained in the report) these reports may become available for public viewing. For the time of release of a specific report, contact the Frontier Information Office. The collection of reports is comprehensive for all geophysical, geological, geochemical and drilling operations on frontier lands from 1921 to the present.

Geophysical reports

Geophysical reports generally include a discussion of the operation, seismic processing parameters and, when appropriate, an interpretation of the results and interpretative maps. Mylar copies of location maps and seismic sections may be available for reproduction. Reports about seismic operations conducted after 1973 include processed seismic sections. Prior to that, companies were not required to submit seismic sections.

Since April 1988, companies have been required to submit shotpoint location data in digital form. From this data, seismic line locations and geophysical program outlines are derived and may be plotted. Shotpoint location coordinates are only used for plotting maps and are not available for distribution in digital form.

Geological and geochemical reports

Geological and geochemical reports include a discussion of the operation, any analyses that were done on collected samples, location and interpretative maps, and when appropriate, cross-sections.

Well history reports (drilling operations)

Well history reports include basic operational information, wire-line logs, test results, geological descriptions of samples and the results of any analyses. Cores, cuttings and fluid samples are stored on behalf of the NEB at the Geological Survey of Canada in Calgary, Alberta and the Canada - Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board Core Storage and Laboratory in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. These samples may be viewed after they are released from privileged status.

In addition to the reports for frontier areas under the NEB's jurisdiction, the Frontier Information Office maintains a copy of oil and gas technical reports for the offshore Nova Scotia region and the Yukon. We make these copies available for viewing on behalf of the Canada - Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board and the Government of the Yukon. For information on wells in Newfoundland, please contact the Canada-Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board at (709) 778-1400.

Frontier publications

The NEB also produces several publications relating to frontier oil and gas activity. These include:

- Schedules of Wells, North of 60° and Offshore
- Frontier Lands Released Information
- Geophysical/Geological Operations on Frontier Lands Regulated by the National Energy Board: Information for the Public (October 1996)
- Guidelines for Drilling Regulations
- Studying and Sampling Well Materials from Frontier Wells Regulated by the National Energy Board: Information for the Public (February 2000)

Production data from oil and gas fields in the frontier areas is available electronically from the Frontier Information Office.

Additional services

Maps

The Frontier Information Office staff will provide you with assistance to locate well-history reports, geological and geophysical reports, shotpoint location maps and seismic lines within a given area of interest. Computer-generated maps and lists of programs and wells within given geographic coordinates can be produced. The information that can be depicted on these maps includes:

- Cultural/geographical (political boundaries, rivers, lakes, shorelines) information
- Boundaries of existing oil and gas rights holdings
- Outlines of current Call for Nominations or Call for Bids blocks
- Boundaries of areas covered by native claim agreements and settlement parcels
- Well locations, status and total depth
- Seismic program outlines, seismic line locations, and/or shotpoint locations

The accuracy and completeness of the information is limited by its source and availability to the NEB. You are cautioned against using any of the displayed information as a reliable indication of its completeness or geographic location. Large scale maps, source information and/or legal descriptions should be consulted for that purpose.

Microfilm reproduction

A 105 mm microfilm reader-printer is available in the Frontier Information Office for producing paper prints from microfilmed maps and seismic sections. There is a charge for copies. A 16 mm microfilm reader-printer is also available for producing paper prints from microfilmed text. There is no charge for a reasonable number of copies from this machine.

Indian & Northern Affairs information

As a service to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, the Yukon Government and the oil and gas industry, the Information Office also has copies of any current Call for Nominations, Call for Bids or related publications. At this time, our office is also the designated delivery point for any Nominations or Bids resulting from a call for bids by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

Contacts

Technical information and access to well-history, geophysical and geological reports, information and maps.

**Data Coordinator, Frontier Information Office
Operations Business Unit/Exploration and Production
National Energy Board
444 Seventh Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0X8
Phone: in Calgary (403) 299-3111 or (403)299-3192
1-800-899-1265 (toll-free)
Fax: (403) 292-5876**

Access to cores, cuttings and fluid samples:

**Core and Sample Repository
Geological Survey of Canada, Calgary
3303 - 33rd Street N.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2L 2A7
Phone: (403) 292-7000
Fax: (403) 292-5377**

General NEB publications and information:

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E-mail: publications@neb-one.gc.ca**

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