

Your file – Votre référence

Our file – Notre référence

File: N42002-1-2/C1-2-1-1

16 February 2006

Distribution List:

See list in Appendix 1

Letter to Stakeholders (General) – Invitation to participate in consultations -Proposed amendments to the *Frontier Land Petroleum Royalty Regulations* (FLPRR)

The Oil and Gas Management Directorate of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is initiating a series of consultations as part of a proposal to amend the *Frontier Lands Petroleum Royalty Regulations (FLPRR)*.

The attached discussion paper provides the background and context regarding the proposed FLPRR amendments. This letter invites you to review the enclosed material and to submit your views, either in writing or in person.

Background

In July of 2002, the Oil and Gas Management Directorate initiated a comprehensive review of the FLPRR. The review was motivated by the need to ensure that the regulations governing the royalty regime on frontier lands¹ are modernized to accommodate what is expected to be an exceptional period of growth in northern oil and gas activity associated with rising energy prices and the anticipated development of the Mackenzie Gas Pipeline. The intent of the review is not to change the fundamental policy and philosophy that guide CPRA and FLPRR.

This invitation is the next stage in the consultation process, which began with a letter informing stakeholders of the project and of its purpose. This was followed by a request for stakeholders to provide their comments on identified issues, which were subsequently summarized and circulated. A meeting was convened in 2003 to discuss these issues in more detail.

¹ "Frontier lands" means lands that belong to the Government of Canada that are situated in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Sable Island or beneath territorial internal waters or a territorial sea of Canada.



How do I submit my views?

You may submit your views either in writing or in person:

1. Written Submissions

Written submissions must be received by **April 30, 2006 to be considered**. Written submissions are to be addressed to:

Manager, Fiscal Policy & Royalty Administration Oil & Gas Management Directorate Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Les Terrasses de la Chaudière Room 635, 10 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H4

or emailed at NOGRegReview@inac.gc.ca

Filed documents can be accessed at INAC's Internet site at <u>http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/oil/roy/index_e.html</u>.

2. Regional Consultations

We will be available to conduct regional consultations during March 2006 in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Yukon, and Alberta. To participate in these consultations please contact John Touliopoulos at (819) 953-8790 or by email at NOGRegReview@inac.gc.ca.

Please confirm if you intend to participate in the regional consultations by informing us no later than **March 1, 2006** of your preferred consultation location and date(s). If you have any special needs, including specific language requirements, please let us know.

Based on feedback from all stakeholders, a schedule of consultations, including locations, dates, and times will be developed and distributed by March 10, 2006.

What happens after consultations have concluded?

During April, May and June 2006, **all** of the views presented will be reviewed and considered. Stakeholders will be subsequently informed in writing of the results of the consultations.

The proposed amendments to FLPRR will be pre-published in the Canada Gazette Part I during the latter part of 2006. This stage of the process will provide you with the opportunity to review and comment on the final draft of the proposed amendments to the regulations before they are passed into law.

Please consult Appendix II for a list of key dates of this process.

Contacts / Additional Information

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact either Claude Rousseau or John Touliopoulos directly at (819) 953-9488 or (819) 953-8790 respectively, or to visit our web-site at http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/oil/roy/index_e.html.

Yours truly,

George Green Director Oil and Gas Management Directorate Northern Oil and Gas Branch Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

Atts:

c.c. John Touliopoulos, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Claude Rousseau, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Mimi Fortier, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Alison Mortimer, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Richard Graw, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Andy Graw, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Mark Prystupa, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Ursula Beddoes, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Kyla McCandie Glustien, Indian & Northern Affairs Canada Phyllis Odenbach-Sutton, Natural Resources Canada Mike Hnetka, Natural Resources Canada Tim Gardner, Department of Finance Bharat Dixit, National Energy Board

Distribution List

Territorial Governments

Director, Minerals, Oil and Gas	Manager, Economic Development
Industry, Tourism & Investment	Oil and Gas Resources Branch
Government of the NWT	Government of Yukon
P.O. Box 1320,	P.O. Box 2703,
Yellowknife, NT,	Whitehorse, Yukon,
X1A 2L9	Y1A 2C6
Tel: (867) 920-3214	Tel: (867) 667-5026
Fax:(867) 873-0254	Fax: (867) 393-6262
Director, Minerals & Petroleum Department of Economic Development & Transportation Government of Nunavut P.O. Box 1000, Station 1500, Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0	
Tel: (867) 975-7822 Fax: (867) 975-7870	

Industry

Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Alta Gas Income Trust	Anadarko Canada Corporation	
1700, 355-4 th Avenue, S.W.	425 – 1st St. S.W.	
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 0J1	Calgary, Alberta, T2P 4V4	
Tel: 403 691-7575	Tel: (403) 231-0111	
Fax: 403 691-7576	Fax: (403) 231-0187	

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Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Apache Canada Ltd.	Bytex Enegy	
Suite 1000, 700 - 9th Avenue SW	Suite 2200, Bow Valley Square II	
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 3V4	205 - 5th Avenue S.W.	
	Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2V7	
Tel : (403) 261-1200		
Fax: (403) 266-5987	Tel: (403) 269-4282	
T ax. (403) 200-3907		
	Fax: (403) 205-3845	
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
BG Canada Exploration & Production Inc	BP Exploration (Alaska) inc.	
150 – 6 th Avenue. S.W., 7th Floor	PO Box 196612	
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 3Y7	900 E. Benson Boulevard	
	Anchorage, AK, 99519-6612	
Tel: (403) 538-7400	U , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Fax: (403) 538-7500	Tel: (907) 564-5537	
	Fax: (907) 564-4124	
	T ax. (907) 304-4124	
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Burlington Resources Canada Energy	Canadian Forest Oil Ltd.	
Ltd.	Suite 600, 800 - 6th Ave. S.W.	
Suite 2100, 250-6th Avenue S.W.	CALGARY, Alberta, T2P 3G3	
Canada, Alberta, T2P 3H7		
	Tel: (403) 292-8000	
Tel : (403) 260-8000	Fax: (403) 261-7665	
Fax: (403) 263-2708		
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Canadian Natural Resources	Canadian Superior Energy Inc.	
Suite 250, 855-2 St. S.W.	Suite 3300, 400-3 Avenue S.W.,	
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 4J8	Calgary, Alberta, T2P 4H2	
Tel: (403) 517-6700	Tel: (403) 294-1411	
Fax: (403) 517-7350	Fax: (403) 216-2374	
ax. (403) 517 - 7350	1 al. (403) 210-2314	
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Chamaelo Energy Inc.	Chevron Canada Resources	
Suite 700, 639-5 th Avenue S.W.	500-5 Avenue S.W.	
Alberta, Calgary, T2P 0M9	Calgary, Alberta, T2P 0L7	
Tel: (403) 232-8575	Tel: (403) 234-5000	
Fax: (403) 264-0061	Fax: (403) 234-5947	

Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
ConocoPhillips Canada	Devon Canada Corporation	
401-9 avenue S.W.	Suite 2000, 400-3 Avenue S.W.	
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2H7	Calgary, Alberta, T2P 4H2	
Tel: (403) 233-4000	Tel: (403) 232-7100	
Fax: (403) 233-5143	Fax: (403) 232 7678	
1 dx. (+03) 233-31+3	1 ax. (400) 232 1010	
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Devon Energy Corporation		
	Duvernay Oil Corporation	
20 North Broadway	Suite 1500, 202 – 6 Avenue S.W.	
Oklahoma City, OK, 73102-3611	Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2R9	
Tal. (405) 005 0044	Tal. (400) 574 0000	
Tel: (405) 235-3611	Tel: (403) 571-3600	
Fax: (405) 552-4667	Fax: (403) 269-6510	
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
EnCana Corporation	Enstar Natural Gas Company	
Suite 1800, 855-2 St. S.W.	P.O. Box 190288	
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 4Z5	Anchorage, AK 99519-0288	
Tel: (402) 645 2000	Tal: (007) 277 5554	
Tel: (403) 645-2000	Tel: (907) 277-5551	
Fax: (403) 645-3400	Fax: (907) 264-3671	
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
EOG Resources Canada Inc.	ExxonMobil Resources Ltd.	
1300, 700-9 Avenue. S.W.	1900, 330-5 th Avenue S.W.	
•		
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3V4	Calgary, Alberta, T2P 0L4	
125 374	Tol: (402) 517 2524	
Tal. (402) 207 0400	Tel: (403) 517-2524	
Tel: (403) 297-9100	Fax: (403) 517-2530	
Fax: (403) 297-9198		
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Husky Oil Company of Canada Inc.	Imperial Oil Resources Limited	
3100, 450-1 st Street. S.W.	237-4 th Avenue, S.W.	
Calgary, Alberta, T2P-5H1	Calgary, Alberta, T2P 0H6	
Tel: (403) 531-1530	Tel: (403) 237-3737	
Fax: (403) 531-1539	Fax: (403) 237-2197	

Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
International Frontier Resources	Murphy Oil Company Limited	
Corporation	2100, 555-4 Avenue S.W.	
100, 601-10 th Avenue, S.W. Box 10	Calgary, Alberta, T2P-3E7	
	Calgary, Alberta, 12F-3E7	
Calgary, Alberta, T2R 0B2	T L (400) 004 0000	
	Tel: (403) 294-8000	
Tel: (403) 215-2780	Fax: (403) 294-8851	
Fax: (403) 215-2788		
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Newmont Mining Corporation of Canada	Nexen Canada Ltd.	
a 1		
Limited	1777 Victoria Avenue, box 1550	
1900, 20 Eglinton Avenue West	Regina, SK S4P 3C4	
Calgary, Alberta, M4R 1K8		
	Tel: (306) 781-8200	
Tel: (416) 480-6492	Fax: (306) 781-8205	
Fax: (416) 488-6598		
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Northrock Resources Ltd.	Ocean Energy, Inc.	
3500, 700-2 St. S.W.	3 Wild Cherry,	
Calgary,Alberta,T2P 2W2	Midville, GA, USA, 30441	
Tel: (403) 213-7600	Tel: (478) 237 0988	
Fax: (403) 232-4650	Fax: (775) 306-4942	
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Pacific Rodera	Paramount Resources Ltd.	
240, 600 - 6th Ave. S.W.	4700, 888 3rd Street S.W.	
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 0S5	Calgary, Alberta, T2P 5C5	
	Tal. (400) 000 0000	
Tel: (403) 234-0501	Tel: (403) 290-3600	
Fax: (403) 234-0511	Fax (403) 262-7994	
Vice-President Finance	Vice-President Finance	
Petrobank Energy and Resources Ltd.	Petro-Canada	
2600, 240 -4 Avenue S.W.	150-6 Avenue S.W.	
Calgary, Alberta T2P 4H4	Calgary, Alberta	
	T2P-3E3 Box 2844	
Tel: (403) 750-4400		
	Tal: (402) 206 2000	
Fax: (403) 266-5794	Tel: (403) 296-8000	
	Fax: (403) 296-3030	

Shell Canada Limited	Suncor Energy Inc.
400-4 Avenue, S.W.	112-4 Avenue. S.W.
Calgary, Alberta, T2P-0J4	Calgary, Alberta, Box 38, T2P 2V5
Tel: (403) 691-3111	Tel: (403) 269-8100
Fax: (403) 691-3696	Fax: (403) 269-6200
Talisman Energy Inc. 3400, 888-3 St. S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P-5c5	
Tel: (403) 237-1234 Fax: (403) 237-1902	

Associations

Manager, Fiscal Policy Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers Suite 2100, 350 7th Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta, T2P 3N9
Tel: (403) 267-1100 Fax: (403) 261-4622

Proposed Amendments to Frontier Lands Petroleum Royalty Regulations Key Dates

Activity	Key Date
Deadline for stakeholders to indicate their interest to participate in regional consultations	March 1, 2006
Distribution of the schedule of regional consultations to participants	March 10, 2006
Regional consultations with stakeholders	March 2006
Deadline for written submission from stakeholders on the proposed amendments to FLPRR	April 30, 2006
Stakeholders to be informed of the results of consultations	August 31, 2006
Publication of the proposed amendments in the Canada Gazette Part I	December 31, 2006
Final review of written comments received by INAC following Canada Gazette Part I publication	2007
Publication of final amendments to the regulations in Canada Gazette Part II (amendments become law)	2007