



**Saskatchewan  
Economic and  
Co-operative  
Development**

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# Information Bulletin

Originated: March 2001  
Updated: September 2001

**RE: APPLICABLE ACTS AND REGULATIONS FOR OIL AND GAS  
EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN SASKATCHEWAN**

This bulletin is intended to provide a summary of some of the applicable acts and regulations relating to petroleum and natural gas drilling and seismic exploration in Saskatchewan, and to identify the responsible provincial regulator. This bulletin is not a complete summary of acts and regulations applicable to oil and gas developments in Saskatchewan, and is not a substitute for the full text of the listed acts and regulations. It is the proponent's responsibility to ensure that all requirements have been met before initiating any project.

This bulletin was prepared by Saskatchewan Economic and Co-operative Development in cooperation with the four main provincial agencies involved with regulating oil and gas exploration and development. Those regulators are: Municipal Affairs and Housing; Saskatchewan Energy and Mines (SEM); Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management (SERM); and Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF).

Department	Acts/Regulations	Purpose
<b>Municipal Affairs and Housing</b>	<p><i>The Rural Municipality Act, 1989 (Ref:# R-26.1)</i>  - <i>The Rural Municipalities Oil Well and Gas Well Drilling Fee Schedule Regulations (Ref.# Reg 8)</i></p> <p><i>The Heritage Property Act (Ref:# H-2.2)</i></p> <p><i>The Planning and Development Act, 1983 (Ref. #-13.1)</i>  - <i>The Subdivision Regulations ((Ref. # Reg 1)</i></p> <p><i>The Urban Municipality Act, 1984 (Ref# U-11)</i></p>	<p>Pertains to the authority of rural municipalities.</p> <p>Preservation, Interpretation and Development of certain aspects of Heritage property.</p> <p>Applies to planning and development in rural, urban and northern municipalities.</p> <p>Pertains to the authority of all urban municipalities.</p>
<b>SEM</b>	<p><i>The Crown Minerals Act (Ref:# C50.2)</i></p> <p><i>The Mineral Resources Act, 1985 (Ref:# M-16.1)</i>  - <i>The Seismic Exploration Regulations, 1999 (Ref:# Reg 2)</i></p> <p><i>The Oil and Gas Conservation Act (Ref:# O-2)</i>  - <i>The Oil and Gas Conservation Regulations, 1985 (Ref.# Reg 1)</i></p>	<p>Applies to the granting and acquiring of rights to, and interests in, Crown minerals, and Crown mineral lands in Saskatchewan.</p> <p>Pertains to the exploration, development, conservation, and management of mineral resources. The regulations provide rules and regulations that will provide safety to the public from seismic operations.</p> <p>Applies to the conservation of oil and gas resources. The regulations pertain to well licensing; the Oil and Gas Environmental Fund; prohibited drilling areas; approval of drilling; and completion of operations.</p>

Department	Act/Regulations	Purpose
<b>ERM</b>	<p><i>The Environmental Assessment Act (Ref.# E-10.1)</i></p> <p><i>The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act (WHPA) (Ref.# W-13.2)</i>  - <i>The Wildlife Habitat Lands Disposition and Alteration Regulations (Ref.# Reg 1)</i></p> <p><i>The Environmental Management and Protection Act (EMPA) (Ref.# E-10.2)</i></p> <p><i>The Provincial Lands Act (Ref.# P-31)</i>  <i>The Resource Lands Regulations (Ref.# Reg 3)</i></p> <p><i>The Fisheries Act, 1994 (Ref. # F-16.1)</i></p> <p><i>The Forest Resources Management Act (Ref. # F-19.1)</i></p> <p><i>The Wildlife Act</i>  - <i>Wild Species at Risk Regulations</i></p>	<p>To assess the impact of new developments on the environment.</p> <p>Provides for the management of some Crown agriculture lands for wildlife.</p> <p>The WHPA applies only to certain Saskatchewan Crown agricultural (primarily grazing) lands administered by SAF. The Act lists the affected lands. The regulations provide for certain types of activity, including most O&amp;G activity, which are considered acceptable, and provide a mechanism (Minister's approval) for development which has potential to adversely affect the habitat value (for O&amp;G, usually development at a density of &gt;4 wells per ¼ Section).</p> <p>Applies to the management and protection of the environment. Specific environmental protection requirements which are addressed under <i>The Oil and Gas Conservation Act</i> are exempt from the EMPA.</p> <p>The administration of provincial lands in Saskatchewan.</p> <p><i>The Fisheries Act</i> (Saskatchewan) pertains to management of the Fishery. <i>The Fisheries Act</i> (Canada) deals with habitat.</p> <p>Deals with how Crown forest lands are managed.</p> <p>Pertains to wildlife management and protection. <i>The Wild Species at Risk Regulation</i> provide for protection of named endangered and threatened species of plants and animals</p>
<b>AF</b>	<p><i>The Provincial Lands Act (Ref.# P-31)</i>  - <i>The Provincial Lands Regulations (Ref.# R 145/68)</i></p>	<p>The administration of provincial lands in Saskatchewan.</p>

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