



Department Approved Tight Hole Status of Wells Prior to Crown Sales

- 1** "Department Approved Tight Hole" status may apply to wells within a one mile corridor of leases or drilling reservations and a five mile corridor of permits, offsetting Crown land posted for sale and having a finished drilling date within 30 days prior to a Crown mineral rights disposition sale. "Department Approved Tight Hole" status offers to industry the privilege of withholding all pertinent well information until after the deadline set for receipt of bids on the Crown sale, but it should not be interpreted as permission to prevent a department representative from entering on the lease or drilling rig for the purpose of carrying out other duties.
 - 2** Written requests for tight hole status should accompany the application for licence to drill the well and shall be addressed to Director, Petroleum Development Branch of the department. Requests received after the well has been spudded will not be honored. All pertinent information obtained by the operator such as logs (field prints acceptable), drill stem tests, well completion data, core analysis and initial production or any part thereof shall be delivered or lacking time telephoned to Administrator, Petroleum Lands within one hour after the deadline set for receipt of bids on the Crown sale.
 - 3** The foregoing in no way releases an operator from compliance with all other regulations under *The Oil and Gas Conservation Act*, including the informing of the minister of all blowouts, fires, or other major accidents. In particular, please be advised that any abandonment of a tight hole under this arrangement will necessitate your advising the department field office of formation tops, total depth, drill stem tests, etc., so that a proper abandonment program may be approved. This data will, of course, remain confidential within the personal possession of the field office technical staff until after the appointed hour of the sale, but the department will not keep confidential the fact that the well has been abandoned - this will be reported to the Regina office and be published in the appropriate issue of the Weekly Drilling and Land Report.
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