



Energy, Mines and Resources
Oil and Gas Resources

Additional Information Regarding the Regulation of Oil and Gas Activities in Yukon

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Prospective bidders are advised to make themselves aware of legislation and other documents that will affect oil and gas activities conducted by or on behalf of the Permittee. This is a non-exhaustive list, and it is the responsibility of the bidder to meet the requirements of the laws of Yukon in relation to oil and gas activities and operations.

1. *Oil and Gas Act*: Licensing of oil and gas activities:

Section 64 of the *Oil and Gas Act* (Act) prohibits the carrying out of any oil and gas activity (as defined in the Act) except under the authority of a licence issued by the Chief Operations Officer under the Act. Currently, oil and gas activities are governed by the following Yukon legislation:

- *Oil and Gas Act*: Part 3 (Oil and Gas Operations) and relevant provisions in Parts 1 and 4.
- *Oil and Gas Geoscience Exploration Regulations* governing Geoscience Exploration Licences and geophysical, geological and test hole operations.
- *Oil and Gas Drilling and Production Regulations* governing Well Licences and drilling, production and well-related operations, and Field Facility Licences and operations related to field facilities (as defined).
- *Oil and Gas Licence Administration Regulations* which contain provisions applicable to all licences and oil and gas activities.

2. *Oil and Gas Act*: Benefit opportunities agreements: Employment, training and business opportunities

Section 68 of Yukon's *Oil and Gas Act* states that no oil and gas activity shall be carried out under the authority of a licence unless a benefit opportunities agreement is then in effect. A benefit opportunities agreement is required to contain undertakings by the licensee to provide to the Yukon First Nation and its citizens, residents of communities affected by the activity, and other Yukon residents, opportunities for employment and training, and opportunities to supply goods and services to the licensee and its contractors, through any means or structures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

3. Other legislation relating to the environment, socio-economic impacts, surface access and resource management

The following list shows some Government of Yukon and Government of Canada Acts that regulate or affect oil and gas activities and that are administered by branches or agencies other than Oil and Gas Resources:

- *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act* (Canada)
- *Yukon Surface Rights Board Act* (Canada)
- *Fisheries Act* (Canada)
- *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* (Canada)
- *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, 1992* (Canada)
- *International Boundary Waters Treaty Act* (Canada)
- *Explosives Act* (Canada)
- *Canada National Parks Act*
- *Environment Act*
- *Highways Act*
- *Lands Act*
- *Territorial Lands (Yukon) Act*
- *Waters Act*
- *Public Health and Safety Act*
- *Forest Protection Act*
- *Historic Resources Act*
- *Motor Vehicles Act*
- *Navigable Waters Protection Act*
- *Parks and Land Certainty Act*
- *Wilderness Tourism Licensing Act*
- *Wildlife Act*

This is not an exhaustive list.

For additional information about oil and gas permitting, see the Government of Yukon publication: *Permit/Authorization Guide For Activities in the Yukon Territory*. ISBN 1-55362-248-0. This booklet is located at http://www.eco.gov.yk.ca/pdf/permit_guide_website_2005-07-05.pdf.

4. Yukon First Nation Final Agreements

Eleven of the fourteen Yukon First Nations have concluded “Yukon First Nation Final Agreements”, that is, final land claim agreements with the Governments of Canada and Yukon. These Final Agreements have prevalence over federal and Yukon laws. See:

- the *Yukon First Nations Land Claims Settlement Act*, and
- the *Yukon First Nations Self-Government Act*.

5. Yukon Oil and Gas Best Management Practices

Yukon has developed and is continuing to develop best management practices for oil and gas exploration and development activities. Yukon Oil and Gas Best Management Practices are found on the Oil and Gas Resources website at www.yukonoilandgas.com. While the Oil and Gas Best Management Practices are not legislation, they are considered by officials of Oil and Gas Resources in making decisions in the course of administering the Act and its regulations, and influence the making of those decisions.