

The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Regulations

being

[Chapter C-50.2 Reg 31](#) (effective October 27, 2016) as amended by Saskatchewan Regulations [87/2020](#), [8/2023](#), [75/2023](#), [24/2025](#) and [38/2026](#).

NOTE:

This consolidation is not official. Amendments have been incorporated for convenience of reference and the original statutes and regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpretation and application of the law. In order to preserve the integrity of the original statutes and regulations, errors that may have appeared are reproduced in this consolidation.

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CHAPTER C-50.2 REG 31

The Crown Minerals Act

PART 1

Preliminary Matters

Title

1-1 These regulations may be cited as *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Regulations*.

Definitions

1-2 In these regulations:

“**Act**” means *The Crown Minerals Act*;

“**adjoin**” or “**adjoining**”, when used in connection with subdivisions of land, means lands that are touching at one or more points and subdivisions that are separated by a correction line, road allowance, railway or other right of way;

“**administrator**” means the Administrator of Oil and Gas Tenure in the Lands and Mineral Tenure Branch of the ministry;

“**annual work commitment bid**” means the amount of money that a bidder agrees to spend in eligible work on permit lands during each of the first two years of the term of the permit as set out in a bid submitted in accordance with section 10-1;

“**approved**”, except in section 9-5, means approved by the minister;

“**associated gases**” means naturally occurring non-hydrocarbon gas or gases but does not include helium and natural gases;

“**business day**” means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or holiday;

“**collateral**” means:

- (a) the interest of a holder in a mineral disposition that is subject to a security interest; or
- (b) an interest in a mineral disposition that is:
 - (i) derived directly or indirectly from a holder or former holder of the mineral disposition; and
 - (ii) subject to a security interest;

and includes any interest that the holder of the interest satisfies the administrator is an interest in a mineral disposition;

“commercial quantities” means the production from a well or mining operation of a quantity of oil or natural gas, oil sands products, oil shale products or helium and associated gases that would, in the opinion of the minister, economically warrant drilling a similar well or carrying out a similar mining operation in the vicinity of that first-mentioned well or mining operation to produce the oil or natural gas, oil sands products, oil shale products or helium and associated gases, taking into consideration:

- (a) the cost of drilling, mining and production operations;
- (b) available markets for the oil or natural gas, oil sands products, oil shale products or helium and associated gases, as the case may be; and
- (c) the value, nature and quality of the oil or natural gas, oil sands products, oil shale products or helium and associated gases;

“designated heavy oil area” means an area designated by the minister pursuant to subsection 9-19(2);

“drainage unit”, with respect to the zone of an oil, natural gas or helium and associated gases well, as the case may be, means the area established as a drainage unit pursuant to Part III of *The Oil and Gas Conservation Act*;

“EOR oil” means EOR oil as defined in *The Crown Oil and Gas Royalty Regulations, 2012*;

“EOR project” means, subject to subsection 9-19(1), an EOR project as defined in *The Crown Oil and Gas Royalty Regulations, 2012*;

“expenditure deposit” means a deposit made by a holder of a permit pursuant to subsection 7-3(1);

“exploration licence” means an exploration licence issued pursuant to these regulations and includes an exploration licence that was issued before the implementation date and that is continued pursuant to these regulations as a legacy disposition;

“helium and associated gases permit” means a permit with rights with respect to helium and associated gases;

“horizontal well” means a horizontal well as defined in *The Oil and Gas Conservation Regulations, 2012*;

“implementation date” means the implementation date as defined in Part VII of the Act;

“instrument”, except in Part 2 of the Appendix, means an instrument as defined in Part VII of the Act;

“instrument number” means the unique alphanumeric identifier assigned to each registered instrument;

“investment” means an investment as defined in section 30 of *The Crown Oil and Gas Royalty Regulations, 2012*;

“lease” means a lease issued pursuant to these regulations and includes a lease that was issued before the implementation date and that is continued pursuant to these regulations as a legacy disposition;

“lease block” means:

- (a) for leases converted from permits with rights with respect to petroleum and natural gas or helium and associated gases permits, a solid block of permit lands with minimum surface dimensions of 1.6 kilometres by 1.6 kilometres and maximum surface dimensions of 4.8 kilometres by 4.8 kilometres, more or less; or
- (b) for leases converted from permits with rights with respect to oil sands or oil shale, a solid block of permit lands with minimum surface dimensions of 1.6 kilometres by 1.6 kilometres and maximum surface dimensions of 9.7 kilometres by 9.7 kilometres, more or less;

“lease lands” means the Crown mineral lands or spaces that are the subject of a lease;

“lease of spaces” means a lease of spaces entered into pursuant to Part VI of the Act;

“legacy disposition” means a legacy disposition as defined in Part VII of the Act;

“mineral disposition” means a Crown mineral disposition registered pursuant to a permit, exploration licence or lease, and includes the rights pursuant to any legacy disposition registered in accordance with Part 5, by which the Crown has granted any rights with respect to the Crown minerals and spaces and whose boundaries conform to the SaskGrid system, with any necessary modification;

“mineral disposition area” means the surface area of the mineral disposition lands expressed in hectares to which the rights constituting a mineral disposition relate;

“mineral disposition lands” means the Crown mineral lands that are the subject of a mineral disposition;

“mineral disposition number” means the unique alphanumeric identifier assigned to each registered mineral disposition;

“mining operations” means tunnelling, shaft-sinking, cross-cutting, drifting, raising, stoping, open-pit mining and surface and underground drilling operations;

“month” means any period calculated from a date in one calendar month to the same date in the preceding or succeeding calendar month, as the case may be, unless there is no corresponding date in the preceding or succeeding month, in which case the period ends on the last day of that month;

“natural gas” means natural gas, including casinghead, solution or dissolved gas and all hydrocarbons not defined as oil, oil sands products or oil shale products in these regulations, but does not include helium and associated gases;

“new oil shale” means oil shale that is the subject of a lease issued pursuant to “The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulations, 1969”, being Saskatchewan Regulations 8/69, or these regulations;

“oil” or **“petroleum”** means crude petroleum oil and all other hydrocarbons, regardless of density, that are produced at a well in liquid form by ordinary production methods and that are not:

- (a) oil sands products or oil shale products; or
- (b) the result of condensation of gas;

“oil and natural gas”, “oil or natural gas”, “petroleum and natural gas”, “petroleum or natural gas”, “helium and associated gases” or **“helium or associated gases”** mean, with respect to the two substances in each pair of terms, both or either of them;

“oil sands” means all sands and rocks that:

- (a) contain a highly viscous mixture, composed mainly of hydrocarbons heavier than pentanes, that will not normally flow, in its natural state, to a well;
- (b) lie above the top of the Devonian System; and
- (c) lie north of Township 73;

“oil sands products” means oil, associated natural gas and all minerals and substances that may be recovered when processing oil sands;

“oil shale” means a compact rock of sedimentary origin containing disseminated organic matter from which oil shale products can be extracted through destructive distillation;

“oil shale products” means oil and associated natural gas that can be extracted through the destructive distillation of oil shale and includes all minerals and substances that may be recovered when processing oil shale;

“old oil shale” means oil shale that is the subject of a lease issued pursuant to The Oil Shale Regulations, 1964, being Saskatchewan Regulations 555/64;

“permit” means a permit issued pursuant to these regulations with rights with respect to oil and natural gas, oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases, as the case may be, and includes a permit with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas, petroleum and natural gas, petroleum or natural gas, oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases, as the case may be, that was issued before the implementation date and that is continued pursuant to these regulations as a legacy disposition;

“permit area” means the surface area of the permit lands expressed in hectares to which the rights constituting a permit relate;

“permit lands” means the Crown mineral lands that are the subject of a permit;

“person” includes a partnership;

“Petrinex” means the organization of which the Government of Saskatchewan is a member along with petroleum producer associations and that is recognized by the minister as the organization that provides information to and about petroleum producers and includes any successor to that organization that is recognized by the minister;

“pre-authorized debit” means a withdrawal from a person’s account at a financial institution that is initiated by the minister on the authority of the person;

“primary recovery methods” includes horizontal well technology;

“primary term” means the term of a lease set out in subsection 9-5(3);

“registered”, except in sections 11-10 and 11-13, means registered as defined in Part VII of the Act;

“registry” means the registry as defined in Part VII of the Act;

“rent” means the rent payable pursuant to these regulations;

“royalty payer” means a person who owns a working interest;

“SaskGrid” means the collection of geomatics feature layers established in accordance with the SaskGrid system, with any necessary modification;

“SaskGrid system” means the geographic information reference system established and maintained by Information Services Corporation or its successors;

“secured party” means a person who has a security interest;

“security instrument” means a contract or other agreement that creates or provides for a security interest and that includes a short description of the security interest in writing and a document evidencing the security interest;

“security interest” means an interest in or charge on collateral that secures payment or the performance of an obligation and includes an assignment pursuant to the *Bank Act* (Canada);

“security notice” means a security instrument registered with respect to a security interest;

“spaces” means the spaces occupied or formerly occupied by a Crown mineral;

“special exploration area” means:

- (a) Crown oil and natural gas and oil shale rights lying within:
 - (i) Township 20 north to the Precambrian Shield and from Range 30, West 1 to Range 27, West 2, inclusive;
 - (ii) Township 1 north to the Precambrian Shield and from Range 28, West 2 to Range 3, West 3, inclusive; and
 - (iii) Township 4 north to the Precambrian Shield and from Range 4, West 3 to Range 11, West 3, inclusive; and

(b) Crown oil sands rights lying within Township 74 north to the Precambrian Shield, and from the Fourth Meridian east to the Precambrian Shield; or

(c) any:

(i) approved area; and

(ii) approved zone;

“special exploratory permit” means a permit with rights with respect to oil and natural gas, oil sands or oil shale that is with respect to Crown mineral lands that are situated within the special exploration area;

“surveyed section” means a section of land as described in the SaskGrid system and includes both surveyed and theoretic sections;

“transfer” means an instrument, other than a farmout agreement, a sublease or a security notice, by which a holder conveys a specific interest in a mineral disposition to another person and includes:

(a) an unconditional assignment; and

(b) a surrender that is carried out or approved pursuant to these regulations of all or part of a mineral disposition;

“vertical well” means a well that is not a horizontal well;

“well” means:

(a) any opening in the ground made within Saskatchewan from which any oil, natural gas or helium and associated gases are, have been or are capable of being produced from a reservoir;

(b) any opening in the ground that is made for the purpose of:

(i) obtaining water to inject into an underground formation;

(ii) injecting any substance into an underground formation;

(iii) storing oil, natural gas or other hydrocarbons, helium or associated gases underground; or

(iv) monitoring reservoir performance and obtaining geological information; or

(c) any opening in the ground made for informational purposes pursuant to *The Subsurface Mineral Conservation Regulations*;

but does not include seismic shot holes, structure test holes or oil shale core holes;

“working interest” means an interest acquired pursuant to a Crown lease or exploration licence, or a lease associated with acquired oil and gas rights as defined in subsection 23(1) of the Act, including an interest acquired from the person who is the holder of the lease or exploration licence, that:

(a) entitles a person to share in the oil or gas or helium and associated gases produced from or allocated to the Crown mineral lands that are the subject of the lease or exploration licence or in the proceeds from the disposition of the oil or gas or helium and associated gases; and

(b) requires a person to bear or contribute to the costs associated with producing oil or gas or helium and associated gases from or allocated to the Crown mineral lands that are the subject of the lease or exploration licence.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s1-2.

Application of Act and regulations

1-3(1) These regulations apply to all Crown minerals and spaces other than any Crown minerals and spaces that are subject to:

- (a) *The Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations*;
- (b) *The Coal Disposition Regulations, 1988*;
- (c) The Quarrying Regulations, 1957, being Saskatchewan Regulations 553/67; or
- (d) *The Subsurface Mineral Tenure Regulations*.

(2) These regulations do not apply to palaeontological objects as defined in *The Heritage Property Act*.

(3) For the purposes of section 27.31 of the Act:

- (a) the date prescribed as the implementation date is the date on which these regulations are filed with the Registrar of Regulations; and
- (b) on and after the implementation date, Part VII of the Act applies to all Crown minerals and spaces mentioned in subsection (1).

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s1-3.

PART 2 Registry

Contact information

2-1 For the purposes of these regulations, if the minister is required or authorized to provide documents or information to a person pursuant to the Act or these regulations, the minister:

- (a) shall provide those documents or that information to the person by using the contact information, if any, that is supplied by the person to Petrinex; and
- (b) may provide those documents and that information to the person in any other manner that the minister considers appropriate to ensure that the documents and information are brought to the person's attention.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s2-1.

Registrable instrument

2-2(1) Subject to payment of the fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix, an instrument may be registered that transfers:

- (a) the entire interest of the holder in a mineral disposition;

- (b) subject to subsection (2), a specified percentage of the interest of the holder in a mineral disposition;
 - (c) all or part of the interest of the holder in a formation, stratum or zone of the Crown mineral lands contained in the mineral disposition; or
 - (d) a part of the area included in a mineral disposition.
- (2) No instrument is to be registered that conveys an interest that is less than 1% of an interest in a mineral disposition.
- (3) Subject to subsections (1) and (2), the following instruments may be registered:
- (a) an instrument that evidences:
 - (i) a transfer; or
 - (ii) a change of name;
 - (b) a court order;
 - (c) a certificate issued pursuant to *The Business Corporations Act* or the *Canada Business Corporations Act* of:
 - (i) amalgamation; or
 - (ii) amendment;
 - (d) a notice of sublease;
 - (e) an Order in Council.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s2-2.

Searches

2-3 Subject to payment of the fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix, a user of the registry may:

- (a) conduct a search of the information and mineral dispositions and instruments registered;
- (b) obtain a copy, certified by the minister, of a search report of any mineral disposition or instrument contained in the registry; or
- (c) make any other search request not included in clause (a) or (b).

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s2-3.

Fees for services and other matters

2-4(1) Subject to payment of the fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix, a user of the registry may request that the ministry:

- (a) provide a service that is otherwise available on a self-service basis; or
- (b) prepare:
 - (i) a historical abstract; or
 - (ii) a copy of a record, including a certified copy of a record.

(2) If a user of the registry fails to pay any fee required pursuant to these regulations, the minister may issue a notice of cancellation in accordance with section 9 of the Act.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s2-4.

Deletion from registry or correction of entry in registry

2-5(1) On application by a holder, or on the initiative of the administrator, the administrator may:

- (a) amend an entry in the registry; or
 - (b) cancel or discharge an entry made in error in the registry.
- (2) The administrator shall record the reason for any amendment, cancellation or discharge made to the registry pursuant to this section.
- (3) The administrator shall notify parties affected by the amendment, cancellation or discharge:
- (a) before the amendment, cancellation or discharge unless the administrator is of the opinion that a delay in making the amendment, cancellation or discharge would have a deleterious effect on the registry; or
 - (b) as soon as is reasonably possible after making the amendment, cancellation or discharge.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s2-5.

Registration of mineral dispositions and instruments

2-6(1) The administrator shall register a mineral disposition granting rights or interests in petroleum and natural gas, oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases.

- (2) The administrator shall register any instrument that is:
- (a) received by the ministry pursuant to section 2-2; and
 - (b) in the administrator's opinion, registrable.
- (3) A record of a mineral disposition or instrument entered in the registry must contain:
- (a) a short description of the mineral disposition or instrument; and
 - (b) the date of registration of the mineral disposition or instrument.
- (4) The assignment of a mineral disposition number or instrument number in the registry constitutes registration of the mineral disposition or instrument.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s2-6.

Other records

2-7 The administrator may make any other entries and keep any other records that the administrator considers necessary with respect to mineral dispositions and instruments registered pursuant to these regulations.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s2-7.

PART 3
Registration of Instruments

Instrument number

3-1 The administrator shall assign instrument numbers consecutively in the order in which instruments are registered.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s3-1.

Priority of registration

3-2(1) The order of registration is determined by the registration date assigned to an instrument on registration in the registry.

(2) The registration date of an instrument establishes priority among and between transfers and security notices.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s3-2.

Submission for registration

3-3(1) A holder of a mineral disposition shall submit to the registry every instrument, together with its supporting documentation, that affects a mineral disposition of the holder on execution of the instrument.

(2) Nothing in subsection (1) prevents any other person from submitting an instrument for registration.

(3) A person shall apply to register an instrument and must submit with the application an electronic version of the executed copy of the instrument to be registered.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s3-3.

Registration procedure

3-4 Subject to section 27.46 of the Act, when the administrator accepts an application for registration, the administrator shall register the instrument by:

- (a) identifying on the mineral disposition or on the instrument to which the instrument relates the date on which the instrument was received by the registry;
- (b) recording the registration of the instrument in the registry; and
- (c) notifying the applicant of the outcome of the application for registration.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s3-4.

Effect of registration

3-5(1) An instrument that is not registered pursuant to this Part does not bind the Crown.

(2) An instrument that is registered pursuant to this Part binds the Crown on and from the day of registration.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s3-5.

Effect of transfer on mineral disposition

3-6(1) The administrator may amend an original mineral disposition and issue a new mineral disposition to a transferee in accordance with the terms and conditions of the original mineral disposition if the administrator registers a transfer of:

- (a) a specified percentage of an interest in a mineral disposition;
- (b) part of the area of a lease;
- (c) a specified stratum of a lease;
- (d) any other divided interest in a lease.

(2) A new mineral disposition issued pursuant to subsection (1) is subject to any instruments registered with respect to the original mineral disposition.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s3-6.

PART 4
Registration of Notices

Registration of notices

4-1(1) Subject to payment of the fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix and subject to section 27.46 of the Act, the following notices may be registered:

- (a) a notice of amendment;
- (b) a notice of assignment;
- (c) a notice of discharge;
- (d) a security notice;
- (e) a notice of sublease.

(2) Subject to payment of the fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix, a person who intends to register a notice shall submit to the registry:

- (a) an application for registration; and
- (b) a copy of the original notice with the application mentioned in clause (a).

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s4-1.

Registration procedure

4-2 On acceptance of a notice for registration, the administrator shall:

- (a) record in the registry the day on which the notice was submitted to the registry;
- (b) assign to the notice the next consecutive unused instrument number and record the registration of the notice in the registry; and
- (c) record on the mineral disposition with respect to which the notice is registered any other information that in the opinion of the administrator is relevant to the registration of that notice.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s4-2.

Amended mineral dispositions

4-3(1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), when the minister, on the initiative of the minister, subdivides a mineral disposition and, as a result of that subdivision, the minister amends the mineral disposition or issues one or more new mineral dispositions for all or part of the Crown mineral lands affected by the subdivision, any notice that is registered with respect to the new mineral disposition continues to be registered with respect to:

- (a) the mineral disposition; and
 - (b) any new mineral disposition created by the subdivision.
- (2) The registration of a security notice is continued:
- (a) with respect to the original mineral disposition if the collateral to which the security notice relates remains in the original mineral disposition; and
 - (b) with respect to the amended or new mineral disposition if the collateral to which the security notice relates is in the amended or new mineral disposition.
- (3) The administrator shall:
- (a) endorse an amended or new mineral disposition mentioned in subsection (1) with a registration that is continued pursuant to clause (2)(b); and
 - (b) cancel the registration of the security notice with respect to all or any part of the mineral disposition with respect to which it:
 - (i) was originally registered; and
 - (ii) no longer relates.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s4-3.

Grouped mineral dispositions

4-4 Notwithstanding the approval of a grouping pursuant to subsection 6-11(9), 7-7(2), 8-11(6) or 9-11(2), a notice registered with respect to a mineral disposition that is grouped continues to be registered with respect to that mineral disposition only.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s4-4.

Amended security interest

4-5(1) The administrator may register a notice of amendment with respect to a registered security notice described in clause (3)(a).

(2) The administrator shall register a notice of amendment with respect to a registered security notice described in clauses (3)(b) to (d).

(3) For the purposes of subsections (1) and (2), the following are registrable amendments:

- (a) a change in the mineral disposition number assigned by the ministry to a mineral disposition with respect to which a security notice is registered;
- (b) a change in the secured party's address for service as set out in a registered security notice;

(c) a change in the secured party's name as set out in a registered security notice, if the party that is the secured party has not changed despite the name change;

(d) a change in the debtor's name as set out in a registered security notice, if the party that is the debtor has not changed despite the name change.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s4-5.

Assignment of security interest

4-6 A notice of assignment may be registered with respect to an assignment of a security interest for which a security notice has been registered.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s4-6.

Discharge of security interest

4-7 A notice of discharge may be registered with respect to a discharge of a security interest for which a security notice has been registered.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s4-7.

Registration procedure for discharge

4-8 On acceptance of a notice of discharge for registration, the administrator shall:

- (a) record the discharge on the mineral disposition; and
- (b) record on the registered instrument to which the discharge applies the day on which the notice of discharge was received by the registry.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s4-8.

Notice to lapse

4-9(1) In this section, “**court**” means the Court of King’s Bench.

(2) A notice to lapse may be served on a secured party that has registered a security notice at the address set out in the registered security notice by:

- (a) the administrator, on his or her own initiative; or
- (b) by any person who claims an interest in:
 - (i) a mineral disposition affected by the registered security notice; or
 - (ii) the collateral mentioned in the registered security notice.

(3) The notice to lapse mentioned in subsection (2) must specify that at the expiration of one month after the date of receipt of the notice to lapse, the registration of the security notice is discharged unless the secured party files with the administrator before the expiration of that one-month period an order of the court that provides for the continuation of the registration beyond that period.

(4) The person mentioned in clause (2)(a) or (b) shall, at the same time that person serves the secured party pursuant to this section, submit to the registry a copy of the notice to lapse.

- (5) If an order of the court mentioned in subsection (3) has not been submitted to the registry, the administrator shall discharge the registration of the security notice in accordance with the notice to lapse:
 - (a) on evidence satisfactory to the administrator that:
 - (i) the secured party has been served with the notice to lapse; and
 - (ii) one month has expired since that notice to lapse was received by the secured party; and
 - (b) on request of the person who served the notice to lapse.
- (6) The administrator may discharge the registration of the security notice on the expiration of one month from the date of receipt of the notice to lapse by the secured party if:
 - (a) an order of the court mentioned in subsection (3) has not been submitted to the registry; and
 - (b) the administrator has served the notice to lapse.
- (7) The judge of the court to whom the application for an order mentioned in subsection (3) is made may continue, discharge or substitute, in whole or in part, the registration of the security notice:
 - (a) after any notice and hearing that the judge considers proper; and
 - (b) on any terms and conditions that the judge may make.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s4-9; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s3.

PART 5

Legacy Dispositions

Registration of legacy dispositions

- 5-1(1)** On the implementation date, the minister shall register a legacy disposition on behalf of a holder in accordance with this Part.
- (2) On registration of a legacy disposition, the administrator, on behalf of the legacy disposition holder, shall register any information, document, notice or other matter that is recorded by the ministry with respect to a legacy disposition on the implementation date if that information, document, notice or other recorded matter would have been an instrument if it were registered on or after the implementation date.
- (3) A holder of a legacy disposition may verify and, if necessary, advise the administrator of any error that occurs in the registration of the legacy disposition.
- (4) With respect to each legacy disposition in the register, the minister shall register:
 - (a) the legacy disposition containing any information that the minister is required to provide to meet the requirements of the registry; and
 - (b) if the minister considers it necessary to do so, an instrument that sets out the correct ownership information for that legacy disposition.

(5) If there is any conflict between the information in the legacy disposition set out in clause (4)(a) and the instrument set out in clause (4)(b), the information in the instrument prevails.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s5-1.

Term of legacy disposition

5-2(1) The term of a legacy disposition:

- (a) commences on the date the legacy disposition was issued; and
- (b) expires pursuant to the provisions of these regulations governing the term of a mineral disposition.

(2) The provisions of these regulations respecting termination of dispositions apply, with any necessary modification, to a legacy disposition as if that disposition had been issued on or after the implementation date.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s5-2.

PART 6 Permits

Bid for special exploratory permit

6-1 Any person who intends to obtain a special exploratory permit or a helium and associated gases permit shall submit a bid to the minister pursuant to section 10-1.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-1; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s4.

6-2 Repealed. 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s5.

Issuance of special exploratory permit or helium and associated gases permit

6-3(1) The minister may issue a special exploratory permit or a helium and associated gases permit to a person who:

- (a) the minister is satisfied has complied with the requirements of this Part;
- (b) submits a bid acceptable to the minister pursuant to section 10-1 specifying:
 - (i) in the case of an annual work commitment bid for a permit respecting oil and natural gas or oil shale, as the case may be, the amount the person agrees to spend in eligible work on the permit lands during each of the first 2 years of the term of the special exploratory permit in accordance with the minimum expenditure requirements for that permit set out in Part 7;
 - (ii) in the case of a bid respecting oil sands, the amount the person agrees to pay to acquire a special exploratory permit with rights with respect to oil sands; or
 - (iii) in the case of a bid respecting helium and associated gases, the amount the person agrees to pay to acquire a helium and associated gases permit;

- (c) submits the application fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix;
 - (d) in the case of a helium and associated gases permit, submits the rent for the period from the effective date of the permit to April 1 following that date, calculated in accordance with subclause 6-8(1)(b)(i); and
 - (e) agrees to accept the permit and to be bound by its terms and conditions and by the Act and any regulations made pursuant to the Act.
- (2) The area of Crown mineral lands for which a special exploratory permit may be issued is:
- (a) a minimum of 36 surveyed sections or 9 324 hectares, more or less; and
 - (b) a maximum of:
 - (i) 720 surveyed sections or 186 500 hectares, more or less, for petroleum and natural gas rights; or
 - (ii) 360 surveyed sections or 93 240 hectares, more or less, for oil sands rights or oil shale rights.
- (3) The area of Crown mineral lands for which a helium and associated gases permit may be issued is a maximum of 144 surveyed sections or 37 296 hectares, more or less

12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s6.

6-4 Repealed. 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s6.

Powers of minister

- 6-5(1)** The minister may determine the configuration of the permit area for any permit issued pursuant to this Part.
- (2) The minister may place any environmental, drilling or developmental restrictions on a permit.
- (3) If the minister is satisfied that a holder of a permit has contravened any terms or conditions of the permit, the minister may, after giving the holder written notice of the minister's intention and an opportunity to be heard, cancel the permit, and all interests in any lands affected by the permit revert to the Crown.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-5.

Rights granted by and condition of permit

- 6-6(1)** Subject to *The Seismic Exploration Regulations, 1999*, a permit grants to the holder the exclusive right to explore the permit lands for oil and natural gas, oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases, as the case may be.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), no holder of a permit shall remove, produce, recover or extract any oil and natural gas, oil shale or oil shale products, oil sands or oil sands products or helium and associated gases, as the case may be, discovered by exploration pursuant to a permit until a lease is issued to the holder pursuant to this Part.
- (3) The holder of a permit may:
- (a) place a well on the permit lands for production test purposes; or

- (b) remove, produce, recover or extract from the permit lands for test purposes or for the purpose of analyzing and testing the samples and for mineralogical or other scientific studies:
 - (i) oil shale and oil shale products; or
 - (ii) oil sands and oil sands products.
- (3.1) On the request of the minister, the holder of a permit shall provide to the minister the results of any tests conducted pursuant to subsection (3).
- (4) **Repealed.** 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s7.
- (5) During the term of the permit, no holder of a permit shall fail to comply with:
 - (a) section 89 of *The Oil and Gas Conservation Regulations, 2012*; and
 - (b) the terms and conditions:
 - (i) set out in this Part; and
 - (ii) of the permit.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-6; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s7.

Term of permit

- 6-7(1)** Unless sooner surrendered or cancelled and subject to subsections (2), (3) and (4) to (6), the maximum term of a special exploratory permit is 5 years from the date on which it is issued.
- (2) The minister may grant a one-year extension to the term of a special exploratory permit if the holder of the permit:
 - (a) applies in the registry to the minister for approval of an exploration program at least one month before the permit expires; and
 - (b) submits evidence that the holder has performed the minimum exploratory work required by the permit.
- (3) The minister may grant up to three one-year extensions of the term of the special exploratory permit pursuant to subsection (2).
- (3.1) Unless sooner surrendered or cancelled and subject to subsections (4) to (6), a helium and associated gases permit is effective on the date entered in the registry and continues for 6 years, commencing on April 1 following the effective date of the permit or, if the effective date of the permit is April 1, for 6 years from that date.
- (4) On the application of a holder of a permit, the minister may extend the term of the permit:
 - (a) if the exploratory work required to be carried out pursuant to these regulations is delayed:
 - (i) by an action taken by a government agency or a member of the Executive Council for environmental, regulatory, jurisdictional or consultation purposes with respect to the surface of the land; or
 - (ii) for any reason that is satisfactory to the minister; and
 - (b) the delay mentioned in clause (a) is greater than two consecutive months.

(5) In accordance with subsection (4), the minister may extend the term of the permit for a period equivalent to the length of the delay or any longer period that the minister may determine.

(6) On the application of a holder of a permit, the minister may extend the term of a permit for a period not to exceed three months if the holder of the permit is in compliance with these regulations and the terms and conditions of the permit and:

- (a) the holder of the permit is carrying out drilling or mining operations on the permit lands when the period for which the permit is valid expires; or
- (b) a well licence has been issued to the holder of the permit but drilling operations have not begun for reasons beyond the control of the holder of the licence.

(7) If the term of a permit is extended pursuant to subsection (4), the holder of the permit is not required to pay rent with respect to the period of the extension of the term of the permit.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-7; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s8.

Annual permit rent

6-8(1) The holder of a permit shall pay to the minister, on or before the anniversary date of the permit, the following annual rent for the year that follows that anniversary date:

- (a) for a special exploratory permit, \$0.25 per hectare of permit lands for each year of the term of the permit;
- (b) for a helium and associated gases permit:
 - (i) for the first and second years of the term of the permit, \$0.05 per hectare of permit lands for each year;
 - (ii) for the third year of the term of the permit, \$0.12 per hectare of permit lands; and
 - (iii) for the fourth, fifth and sixth years and any extension of the term of the permit, \$0.25 per hectare of permit lands for each year.

(2) If a holder of a permit fails to pay rent in accordance with this section, the minister shall cancel the permit in accordance with section 9 of the Act, and all interests in any lands affected by the permit revert to the Crown.

(3) If the minister cancels the permit, no refund of rent is to be made to the holder of the permit.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-8; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s9.

Drilling commitment and expenditure requirements for permit

6-9(1) Every holder of a permit shall satisfy the drilling commitment and permit expenditure requirements set out in Part 7 during the term of the permit, and a holder who fails to do so forfeits the right to convert the permit to a lease pursuant to section 6-11 or 6-13.1.

(2) Expenditures claimed for the purposes of satisfying drilling commitments and expenditure requirements with respect to the permit must comply with Part 7.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-9; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s10.

Surrender of all or part of a permit

6-10(1) The holder of a permit may surrender all or any part of the permit lands at any time during the term of the permit.

(2) If the holder of the permit surrenders permit lands:

- (a) no refund of rent is to be made to the holder; and
- (b) the adjusted work expenditure requirement for the year for the permit lands is the amount C calculated as follows:

$$C = ER - \left\{ \left[\left(\frac{D}{365} \right) \times \left(\frac{S}{P} \right) \right] \times ER \right\}$$

where:

ER is the work expenditure requirement for the year for the total area of the permit lands at the time of the surrender;

D is the number of days in the current year of the permit subsequent to the date of surrender;

S is the area of the permit lands surrendered, in hectares; and

P is the original area of the permit lands before the surrender, in hectares.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-10.

Conversion of permit to lease

6-11(1) If the holder of a permit makes a discovery on permit lands of commercial quantities of oil or natural gas or of oil sands or oil shale capable of producing oil sands products or oil shale products in commercial quantities, as the case may be, on permit lands, and the holder of the permit intends to obtain a lease for that land, the holder shall, if the holder has complied with the terms and conditions of the permit, within six months after the discovery:

- (a) select one or more lease blocks; and
- (b) apply for a lease of the selected lease blocks in accordance with these regulations.

(2) The lease blocks selected pursuant to subsection (1) must include the well whose drilling or mining operations whose making resulted in the discovery of oil or natural gas or of oil sands or oil shale capable of producing oil sands products or oil shale products, as the case may be, in commercial quantities.

(3) In addition to any lease blocks selected pursuant to subsection (1), the holder of the permit has the exclusive right at the expiry of the term of the permit or within two months after the expiry to select one or more lease blocks and apply for a lease of the areas included in the lease blocks if the holder of the permit:

- (a) complies with sections 6-9 and 7-1; and
- (b) applies for the lease in accordance with these regulations.

(4) Subject to subsection (11) and notwithstanding the maximum area set out in a permit issued pursuant to clause 4(b) of the Act, the total area of the lease blocks selected by a holder of a permit pursuant to this section is to comprise:

- (a) in the case of a petroleum and natural gas permit, not more than 25% of the permit lands covered by the permit on the day on which the permit is issued;
- (b) in the case of an oil shale permit, not more than 25% of the permit lands covered by the permit on the day on which the permit is issued;
- (c) in the case of an oil sands permit, not more than 50% of the permit lands covered by the permit on the day on which the permit is issued;
- (d) **Repealed.** 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s11.

(5) If a holder of a permit selects more than one lease block from a petroleum and natural gas permit, each lease block is to be situated so that any side of one block is at least 1.6 kilometres, more or less, perpendicularly distant from any side of another block except that the blocks may be diagonally situated so as to have a common corner.

(6) If a holder of a permit selects more than one lease block from an oil sands or oil shale permit and that holder has not discovered oil sands or oil shale capable of producing oil sands products or oil shale products in commercial quantities within the permit area, each lease block is to be situated so that any side of one block is at least 4.8 kilometres, more or less, perpendicularly distant from any side of another block except that the blocks may be diagonally situated so as to have a common corner.

(7) If a holder of a permit selects more than one lease block from an oil sands or oil shale permit and the holder has discovered oil sands or oil shale capable of producing oil sands products or oil shale products in commercial quantities in the permit area, the holder may select each lease block in a random configuration.

(8) For the purpose of selecting lease blocks for conversion to lease pursuant to this section, a holder of a permit may request that the minister group all or a part of the total area of lease blocks that may be selected as set out in clause (4)(a), (b) or (c) or as set out in a permit issued pursuant to clause 4(b) of the Act with all or a part of the total area of lease blocks that may be selected from not more than two other permits.

(9) The minister may approve a request made pursuant to subsection (8) to group all or a part of the total area of lease blocks mentioned in that subsection if:

- (a) the ownership of the permits to be grouped is common;
- (b) the rights granted are common; and

- (c) the permit lands covered by the other permit or permits are not more than 10 kilometres, more or less, distant from at least one other permit that is the subject of the application.
- (10) If the holder of a permit groups all or a part of the total area of lease blocks mentioned in subsection (8), the holder shall not include any of the grouped lease blocks in another application pursuant to this section.
- (11) Permits that are grouped pursuant to this section may exceed the total area of lease blocks set out in clause (4)(a), (b) or (c).
- (12) If the permits within the group have different expiry dates, the holder of the permits may:
 - (a) choose not to convert to lease any or all of the permit lands with respect to a permit in the group with an earlier expiry date than other permits in the group; and
 - (b) apply any or all of the total area of permit lands that was eligible for conversion to lease with respect to a permit mentioned in clause (a) to the conversion to lease with respect to a permit in the group with a later expiry date.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-11; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s11.

Natural gas discovery

- 6-12(1)** If a holder of a permit with oil and natural gas rights has determined that natural gas is present in commercial quantities in a zone of a formation in the permit lands, the holder may select in a random configuration for lease up to 25% of the oil and natural gas rights owned by the Crown within the zone of the formation in which the discovery is made in addition to any leases selected pursuant to subsection 6-11(3).
- (2) No holder of a permit with oil sands or oil shale rights who has determined that oil or natural gas is present in commercial quantities in a zone of a formation in the permit lands shall remove, produce or recover the oil or natural gas.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-12.

Application for lease selection from permit

6-13 Every application for a lease selection from a special exploratory permit must include:

- (a) a legal description of the lands whose boundaries conform to the SaskGrid system, with any necessary modification;
- (b) subject to section 6-14, the rent for the period from the effective date of the lease to April 1 of the next year at the rate of the greater of:
 - (i) \$0.25 per hectare of permit lands for each calendar month or portion of a calendar month; and
 - (ii) \$50; and
- (c) the application fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-13; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s12.

Conversion of helium and associated gases permit to lease

6-13.1(1) The holder of a helium and associated gases permit that is in good standing may apply to the minister in an approved form and manner to convert the permit to one or more leases.

(2) The holder of a helium and associated gases permit who intends to apply to convert the permit to a lease shall apply on or before the day that is 2 months after the expiry of the permit.

(3) The maximum total area that may be converted to one or more leases pursuant to subsection (1) is an area equal to 36 surveyed sections or 9 324 hectares, more or less, multiplied by the number of wells drilled within the area covered by the permit.

(4) Every application for a lease selection from a permit must include:

- (a) a legal description of the lands whose boundaries conform to the SaskGrid system, with any necessary modification;
- (b) the rent for the period from the effective date of the lease to April 1 of the following year at the rate determined in accordance with section 9-9; and
- (c) the application fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix.

(5) For the purpose of determining the area that may be covered by a lease pursuant to this section, a holder of a helium and associated gases permit may request that the minister group permit lands with rights with respect to helium and associated gases.

(6) The minister may approve a request made pursuant to subsection (5) to group the permit lands mentioned in that subsection if:

- (a) the ownership of the permits to be grouped is common;
- (b) the permit lands are not separated by more than 10 kilometres, more or less;
- (c) the grouping includes all lands covered by the permits concerned; and
- (d) the total area of grouped permit lands does not exceed 144 surveyed sections or 37 296 hectares, more or less.

(7) If the holder of a helium and associated gases permit groups the permit lands pursuant to subsection (5), the holder shall not include the grouped permit in another application pursuant to this section.

(8) The holder of a permit who converts the permit to a lease pursuant to subsection (1) is not entitled to a refund of any rent paid to the Crown under the permit.

12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s13.

Credit for lease rent

6-14(1) If the minister is satisfied that the holder of a special exploratory permit has during the term of the permit fulfilled all the requirements of these regulations, the minister shall grant a credit to the holder in an amount equal to the positive difference between:

- (a) the expenditures made by the holder and approved pursuant to Part 7 with respect to the term of the permit; and
- (b) the expenditures required to be made by the holder pursuant to section 6-9.

(2) Any credit granted pursuant to subsection (1) must be applied against the rent:

- (a) for the first 24 calendar months of the term of the lease; or
- (b) at the option of the holder, commencing from the first April 1 after the issuing of the lease, for the first 24 calendar months of the term of any lease that was or is issued to the holder with respect to the permit lands.

(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), no credit for excess expenditures is to be applied against the rent for a lease taken out in the first, second, third or fourth year of the term of the permit unless the holder of the permit has incurred expenditures on drilling a well before the conversion of the permit to the lease.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s6-14; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s14.

PART 7

Drilling Commitment and Permit Expenditure Requirements

Drilling commitment

7-1(1) The holder of a special exploratory permit shall drill at least one well on the permit lands per permit with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas to a depth that is satisfactory to the minister.

(2) If the permit lands covered by a special exploratory permit with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas exceed 100 000 hectares, the holder of the permit shall drill at least two wells on the permit lands to depths that are satisfactory to the minister.

(3) Wells drilled in satisfaction of the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) are to be separated by a distance of at least eight kilometres.

(4) The holder of a helium and associated gases permit shall, during the term of the permit, drill at least one well on the permit lands or grouped permit lands with rights with respect to helium and associated gases to a depth that is satisfactory to the minister.

(5) **Repealed.** 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s15;

(5) **Repealed.** 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s15;

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s7-1; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s15.

Expenditure requirements

7-2(1) In the case of a permit issued to explore for oil and natural gas, the holder of the permit shall explore for oil and natural gas in the permit lands and expend at least the following amounts each year in exploring for oil and natural gas:

(a) during each of the first and second years of the term of the permit, the greater of:

(i) the amount of the annual work commitment bid made by the holder; and

(ii) \$2 per hectare of permit lands;

(b) during each of the third, fourth and fifth years of the term of the permit, \$4 per hectare of permit lands;

- (c) if the permit has been extended pursuant to subsection 6-7(2), \$6 per hectare of permit lands for each year that the permit is extended.
- (2) In the case of a permit issued to explore for oil sands, the holder of the permit shall explore for oil sands in the permit lands and expend at least the following amounts each year in exploring for oil sands:
 - (a) during each of the first and second years of the term of the permit, \$1 per hectare of permit lands;
 - (b) during each of the third, fourth and fifth years of the term of the permit, \$2 per hectare of permit lands;
 - (c) if the permit has been extended pursuant to subsection 6-7(2), \$3 per hectare of permit lands for each year that the permit is extended.
- (3) In the case of a permit issued to explore for oil shale, the holder of the permit shall explore for oil shale in the permit lands and expend at least the following amounts each year in exploring for oil shale:
 - (a) during each of the first and second years of the term of the permit, the greater of:
 - (i) the amount of the annual work commitment bid made by the holder of the permit; and
 - (ii) \$1 per hectare of permit lands;
 - (b) during each of the third, fourth and fifth years of the term of the permit, \$2 per hectare of permit lands;
 - (c) if the permit has been extended pursuant to subsection 6-7(2), \$3 per hectare of permit lands for each year that the permit is extended.
- (4) **Repealed.** 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s16.
- (5) At the option of the holder of the permit, excess expenditures made pursuant to subsection (1), (2) or (3) may:
 - (a) be applied for credit towards lease rents pursuant to section 6-14; or
 - (b) be deemed to have been expended in any year the permit has been extended to a maximum of:
 - (i) \$2 per hectare of permit lands for a permit issued to explore for oil and natural gas; or
 - (ii) \$1 per hectare of permit lands for a permit issued to explore for oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases.
- (6) Subject to section 7-8, if a holder of a permit fails to meet the holder's work expenditure requirement during the year, the minister shall cancel the permit, and all interests in any lands affected by the permit revert to the Crown.

Expenditure deposit

7-3(1) The holder of a permit with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas shall submit an expenditure deposit with respect to the work expenditure requirement for the year pursuant to the permit as follows:

- (a) for each of the first and second years of the term of the permit, the expenditure deposit is 25% of the work expenditure requirement for the year;
 - (b) for the third year and each subsequent year of the term of the permit, the expenditure deposit is \$1 per hectare of permit lands.
- (2) An expenditure deposit is to be submitted to the ministry in advance of the anniversary date of the permit.
- (3) If the holder of a permit with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas submits evidence satisfactory to the minister of actual exploration expenditures to the minister, the minister shall refund 25% of the allowable expenditures for the work carried out, but the refund is not to exceed the amount of the expenditure deposit submitted pursuant to subsection (1).
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (3), a deficiency payment is not an exploration expenditure.
- (5) If a holder of a permit with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas fails to submit an expenditure deposit, the minister shall cancel the permit, and all interests in any lands affected by the permit revert to the Crown.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s7-3.

Evidence of expenditures

7-4(1) A holder of a special exploratory permit shall, not later than one month after each anniversary date of the permit, file with the administrator a statement setting out the estimated sums of money expended during that year in carrying out work and operations on:

- (a) the permit lands; and
 - (b) any other lands with respect to which credit for work expenditures is claimed by the holder.
- (2) A holder of a special exploratory permit shall, not later than four months after each anniversary date of the permit, file with the administrator a detailed statement setting out the sums of money expended during that year in carrying out work and operations on:
- (a) the permit lands; and
 - (b) any other lands with respect to which credit for work expenditures is claimed by the holder.

- (3) Every statement mentioned in subsection (2) must be:
- (a) certified by a member in good standing of a recognized accounting profession that is regulated by an Act who is satisfactory to the minister; or
 - (b) verified by a statutory declaration by a person with personal knowledge of the facts and accompanied by original vouchers or certified copies of those vouchers, verifying the expenditures.
- (4) The minister may require that all or any part of a statement verified by a statutory declaration in accordance with clause (3)(b) be certified by a member in good standing of a recognized accounting profession that is regulated by an Act who is satisfactory to the minister.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s7-4; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s17.

Holder of a permit to submit annual statements

7-5(1) Within four months after the end of each year of the term of a special exploratory permit, every holder of a permit shall submit to the minister:

- (a) a detailed statement setting forth full particulars of the work and operations carried out on the permit lands and on any lands with respect to which a credit for work expenditures is claimed during the preceding year; and
 - (b) the evidence set out in Part 2 of the Appendix.
- (2) The minister may request copies of the seismograms taken at each shot point, with the necessary computational data included on the face of each record submitted in accordance with subsection (1), and the minister may, at any time, examine the original seismograms and any pertinent data related to them.
- (3) Seismograms submitted pursuant to subsection (2) are not to be made available to the public.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s7-5; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s18.

Credit for expenditures

7-6(1) The amount of approved expenditures with respect to the work and operations carried out by the holder of a special exploratory permit during any year of the term of the permit must be credited to the holder against the work expenditures required to be made during that year.

(2) If the holder of a special exploratory permit expends during any year an amount of money greater than the holder is required to expend during that year pursuant to section 7-2, the excess expenditures:

- (a) are deemed to have been expended in work and operations in succeeding years of the permit; or
- (b) at the option of the holder, may be applied for credit against lease rents pursuant to section 6-14.

(3) For the purpose of determining the amount expended from time to time by the holder of the permit:

- (a) only direct expenditures applicable to exploration are allowable;
- (b) the maximum capital charges must not exceed the maximum capital cost allowance as provided for in the *Income Tax Act* (Canada);
- (c) if the permit lands are in land that is not the subject of a plan of survey as defined in *The Land Surveys Act, 2000*, the cost of a recognized legal survey of the area lands must be accepted by the minister as an expenditure in the year in which any work in connection with the survey was done, but the total credit for that survey must not exceed 20% of the expenditure required to be made during the permit year.

(4) The following expenditures are not allowable pursuant to clause (3)(a):

- (a) administrative overhead and office expenses;
- (b) well levy payment;
- (c) legal fees or the fees and expenses of procuring the surface lease;
- (d) equipment required to put a well in production or salvageable equipment used in drilling the well, including the following equipment:
 - (i) recoverable casing;
 - (ii) liner;
 - (iii) float equipment;
 - (iv) endless tubing;
 - (v) casing bowl;
 - (vi) wellhead;
 - (vii) unsalvageable packers;
 - (viii) plugs and downhole equipment;
- (e) any recoverable equipment not mentioned in clause (d);
- (f) any Goods and Services Tax paid pursuant to the *Excise Tax Act* (Canada) on the items listed in clauses (a) to (e).

(5) If any part of the permit lands is surrendered in accordance with these regulations, expenditures in excess of those required by section 7-2 must, for the purpose of calculating credit for expenditures, be reduced proportionately by the ratio of the area of the permit lands surrendered to the area of the permit lands held before the surrender.

(6) **Repealed.** 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s19.

(7) **Repealed.** 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s19.

Grouping of permit work expenditures

7-7(1) For the purpose of meeting the work expenditure requirement during the year, a holder of a special exploratory permit may request that the minister group up to 3 permits.

(2) The minister may approve a request made pursuant to subsection (1) to group the permits mentioned in that subsection if:

- (a) the ownership of the permits to be grouped is common;
- (b) the permit lands are not separated by more than 10 kilometres, more or less;
- (c) the grouping includes all lands covered by the permits concerned; and
- (d) none of the permits to be grouped is a permit the term of which has been extended.

(3) Excess expenditures credited pursuant to subsection 7-6(2) must be prorated among all the permit lands in each permit in the grouping, including those permits that have met the work expenditure requirement during the year.

(4) If permit lands are grouped pursuant to this section, any work or operations performed on those permit lands subsequent to the grouping that is attributable to those permit lands as credit for work expenditures must, for the purposes of determining expenditures and credits, be deemed to be work and operations carried out on the permit lands in the grouping.

(5) **Repealed.** 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s20.

(6) A grouping for a special exploratory permit continues:

- (a) until the holder of the permit requests that the grouping be cancelled; or
- (b) until the ownership of the permit changes.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s7-7; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s20.

Deficiency payments

7-8(1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), if the holder of a special exploratory permit does not meet the holder's work expenditure requirement during the year pursuant to section 7-2, the holder may make a non-refundable payment in the amount of the deficiency in order to maintain the permit in good standing.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the holder of the permit fails to meet the work expenditure requirement in two or more consecutive years.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply with respect to a permit that has been extended pursuant to subsection 6-7(2).

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s7-8.

7-9 Repealed. 12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s21.

Expenditure deposit forfeiture

7-10 If a special exploratory permit is surrendered or cancelled pursuant to subsection 6-5(3), 6-8(2), 7-2(6) or 7-3(5) or section 6-10, any remaining expenditure deposit held by the ministry is forfeited to the Crown by the holder of the permit.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s7-10.

PART 8
Exploration Licences

Bid for exploration licence

8-1 Any person who intends to obtain an exploration licence shall submit a bid to the minister pursuant to section 10-1.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-1.

Issuance of exploration licence

8-2(1) The minister may issue an exploration licence to a person who:

- (a) the minister is satisfied has complied with the requirements of this Part;
 - (b) submits a bid acceptable to the minister pursuant to section 10-1;
 - (c) submits the application fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix; and
 - (d) agrees to accept the exploration licence and to be bound by its terms and conditions and by the Act and any regulations made pursuant to the Act.
- (2) The area of Crown mineral lands for which an exploration licence may be issued is:
- (a) a minimum of one surveyed section or 259 hectares, more or less; and
 - (b) a maximum of 36 surveyed sections or 9 324 hectares, more or less.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-2.

Powers of minister

8-3(1) The minister may determine the configuration of the lands covered by the exploration licence for any exploration licence issued pursuant to this Part.

(2) The minister may place any environmental, drilling or developmental restrictions on an exploration licence.

(3) If the minister is satisfied that a holder of an exploration licence has contravened any terms or conditions of the exploration licence, the minister may, after giving the holder written notice of the minister's intention and an opportunity to be heard, cancel the exploration licence, and all interests in any lands affected by the exploration licence revert to the Crown.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-3.

Rights granted to holder and condition of exploration licence

8-4(1) Subject to these regulations and unless otherwise specifically stated in the exploration licence, an exploration licence grants to the holder the exclusive right to:

- (a) search, dig, bore and drill for oil and natural gas or oil sands, as the case may be, within the lands covered by the exploration licence; and
- (b) win, get, recover, extract, procure, carry away, dispose of and sell the oil and natural gas or oil sands products found within the lands covered by the exploration licence.

(2) During the term of the exploration licence, no holder of an exploration licence shall fail to comply with the terms and conditions:

- (a) set out in this Part; and
- (b) of the exploration licence.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-4.

Term of exploration licence

8-5(1) Unless sooner surrendered, cancelled or terminated and subject to subsections (2) to (4), an exploration licence is valid for:

- (a) two years after the date of its issuance, if any of the lands with respect to which the exploration licence is issued are located south of Township 55;
- (b) three years after the date of its issuance, if:
 - (i) all of the lands with respect to which the exploration licence is issued are located north of Township 54 but south of Township 66; or
 - (ii) some of the lands with respect to which the exploration licence is issued are located north of Township 54 but south of Township 66 and the remainder of the lands are located north of Township 65;
- (c) four years after the date of its issuance, if all of the lands with respect to which the exploration licence is issued are located north of Township 65; or
- (d) five years after the date of its issuance, if the rights pursuant to the exploration licence are for oil sands.

(2) On the application of a holder of an exploration licence, the minister may extend the term of the exploration licence:

- (a) if the exploratory work required to be carried out pursuant to these regulations is delayed:
 - (i) by an action taken by a government agency or a member of the Executive Council for environmental, regulatory, jurisdictional or consultation purposes with respect to the surface of the land; or
 - (ii) for any reason that is satisfactory to the minister; and
- (b) the delay mentioned in clause (a) is greater than two consecutive months.

(3) In accordance with subsection (2), the minister may extend the term of the exploration licence for a period equivalent to the length of the delay or any longer period that the minister may determine.

(4) On the application of a holder of an exploration licence, the minister may extend the term of an exploration licence for a period not to exceed three months if:

- (a) the holder of the exploration licence is in compliance with these regulations and the terms of the exploration licence; and

- (b) any of the following apply:
- (i) the holder of the exploration licence is carrying out drilling operations on a well within the land covered by the exploration licence when the period for which the licence is valid expires;
 - (ii) a well licence has been issued to the holder of the exploration licence but drilling operations have not begun for reasons beyond the control of the holder;
 - (iii) if the rights pursuant to the exploration licence are for oil sands, mining operations have been delayed for reasons beyond the control of the holder of the exploration licence.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-5.

Exploration licence deemed to be Crown lease

8-6 An exploration licence is deemed to be a Crown lease within the meaning of the Act for the purpose of determining royalties payable on oil and natural gas or oil sands products produced from or allocated to the Crown mineral lands with respect to which the exploration licence is issued.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-6.

Annual exploration licence rent

8-7(1) During the term of an exploration licence, the holder of the exploration licence shall pay annually to the ministry a rent of \$1.75 per hectare of land covered by the exploration licence.

(2) If the holder of an exploration licence surrenders the lands covered by the exploration licence or the minister cancels the exploration licence, no refund of rent is to be made.

(3) If the term of an exploration licence is extended pursuant to subsection 8-5(2) for a period that is three months or longer, the holder of the exploration licence shall pay the full amount of the annual rent required pursuant to this section for the extended term even if the extended term is less than a full year.

(4) If a holder of an exploration licence fails to pay rent in accordance with this section, the minister shall cancel the exploration licence in accordance with section 9 of the Act, and all interests in any lands affected by the exploration licence revert to the Crown.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-7.

Surrender of all or part of an exploration licence

8-8 The holder of an exploration licence may surrender all or any part of the lands covered by the exploration licence at any time during the term of the exploration licence.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-8.

Exploration licence terminated when lease issued

8-9 If the holder of an exploration licence obtains a lease pursuant to Part 9 for lands covered by the exploration licence before the end of the term of the exploration licence, the exploration licence terminates at the time the lease is issued.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-9.

Application for lease from exploration licence

8-10 Every application for a lease selection from an exploration licence must include:

- (a) a legal description of the lands whose boundaries conform to the SaskGrid system, with any necessary modification;
- (b) subject to section 6-14, the rent for the period from the effective date of the lease to April 1 of the next year at the rate of the greater of:
 - (i) \$0.25 per hectare of lease lands for each calendar month or portion of a calendar month; and
 - (ii) \$50; and
- (c) the application fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-10.

Conversion of exploration licence to lease

8-11(1) If the holder of an exploration licence is in compliance with section 89 of *The Oil and Gas Conservation Regulations, 2012*, the holder may apply to convert the exploration licence to one or more leases.

(2) The holder of an exploration licence who intends to apply to convert the exploration licence to a lease shall apply on or before the day that is two months after the expiry of the exploration licence.

(3) Subject to subsection (5), the maximum area that may be covered by a lease resulting from a conversion pursuant to subsection (1) is equal to the sum of area factors for all wells drilled or mining operations made within the area covered by the exploration licence.

(4) The area factor mentioned in subsection (3) for a well or mining operation is calculated in accordance with whichever of the following formulas applies:

- (a) in the case of a well drilled or mining operation made on exploration licences the rights pursuant to which are for oil sands, the area factor, measured in surveyed sections, is the amount AF calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$AF = 1$$

but only if:

- (i) the well is drilled or mining operation is made sufficiently deep, in the minister's opinion, to completely intersect or access the oil sands zone; and
- (ii) any core recovered from the well is in compliance with section 89 of *The Oil and Gas Conservation Regulations, 2012*;

(b) in the case of a well drilled on exploration licences the rights pursuant to which are for petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas, the area factor, in surveyed sections rounded to the nearest one-quarter of a surveyed section, is the amount AF calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$AF = TD \times F$$

where:

TD is the total measured depth, as determined by the minister, expressed in metres, for the well; and

F is:

- (i) 0.004 surveyed sections, if the well is drilled to 1 800 metres or less; or
- (ii) 0.006 surveyed sections, if the well is drilled to more than 1 800 metres.

(5) For the purpose of determining the area that may be covered by a lease pursuant to this section, a holder of an exploration licence may request that the minister group the area factor for wells drilled or mining operations made within the area covered by the exploration licence with the area factor of any or all wells drilled or mining operations made in the area covered by one other exploration licence.

(6) The minister may approve a request made pursuant to subsection (5) to group the area factors mentioned in that subsection if:

- (a) the other exploration licence is held by the same holder; and
- (b) the area covered by the other exploration licence is not more than 3.2 kilometres, more or less, distant from the area that is the subject of the application.

(7) If the holder of an exploration licence groups the area factor of wells drilled or mining operations made in another area pursuant to subsection (5), the holder shall not include the grouped area factors in another application pursuant to this section.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-11.

Effective date of lease selected from exploration licence

8-12 The effective date of a lease that is issued pursuant to this Part respecting lands covered by an exploration licence is the date on which the lease is registered.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s8-12.

PART 9
Leases

DIVISION 1
Basic Rights

Bid for lease for petroleum and natural gas, oil sands or oil shale rights

9-1 Subject to sections 6-11, 8-11 and 10-2, every person who intends to obtain a lease for petroleum and natural gas, oil sands or oil shale rights shall submit a bid pursuant to section 10-1.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-1.

Application for lease for use of spaces

9-2 Any person who intends to obtain a lease for use of spaces shall apply to the minister in an approved form and manner.

12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s22.

Issuance of lease

9-3(1) The minister may issue a lease to a person who:

- (a) the minister is satisfied has complied with the requirements of this Part;
 - (b) for petroleum, natural gas, petroleum and natural gas, oil sands or oil shale rights, submits a bid amount acceptable to the minister pursuant to subsection 10-1(7) or clause 10-2(1)(a), (d) or (f);
 - (c) submits the application fee set out in Part 1 of the Appendix; and
 - (d) agrees to accept the lease and to be bound by its terms and conditions and by the Act and any regulations made pursuant to the Act.
- (2) The area that may be the subject of a lease for petroleum, natural gas, or petroleum and natural gas rights, unless otherwise approved, must be:
- (a) a minimum of one legal subdivision or 16.18 hectares, more or less, as described in the SaskGrid legal subdivision feature layer; and
 - (b) a maximum of 12.25 surveyed sections or 3 173 hectares, more or less, but only if all lands in the lease are adjoining.
- (3) The area that may be the subject of a lease for oil sands or oil shale rights, unless otherwise approved, must be:
- (a) a minimum of one legal subdivision or 16.18 hectares, more or less, as described in the SaskGrid legal subdivision feature layer; and
 - (b) a maximum of 36 surveyed sections or 9 324 hectares, more or less, in the configuration described in subsection 6-11(5) or (6), as the case may be, but only if all lands in the lease are adjoining.

- (4) The area that may be the subject of a lease for helium and associated gases rights, unless otherwise approved, must be:
- (a) a minimum of one legal subdivision or 16.18 hectares, more or less, as described in the SaskGrid legal subdivision feature layer; and
 - (b) a maximum of 12.25 surveyed sections or 3 173 hectares, more or less, but only if all lands in the lease are adjoining.
- (5) The minister shall determine the area that may be the subject of a lease of spaces.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-3.

Rights granted to holder and condition of lease

9-4(1) Subject to the other provisions of these regulations, each lease, unless otherwise specifically provided for in the lease, grants to the holder of the lease the exclusive right:

- (a) to search, dig, bore and drill for oil and natural gas, oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases, as the case may be, within the lease lands; and
 - (b) to win, get, recover, extract, procure, carry away, dispose of and sell the oil and natural gas, oil sands or oil sands products, oil shale or oil shale products, or helium and associated gases, as the case may be, found within the lease lands; or
 - (c) to use the spaces within the lease lands.
- (2) During the term of the lease, no holder of a lease shall fail to comply with the terms and conditions:
- (a) set out in this Part; and
 - (b) of the lease.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-4.

Term of lease

9-5(1) In this section and in section 9-12, “**deeper rights**” means deeper rights on leases with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas as determined by the minister pursuant to section 16.1 of the Act.

(2) The minister may, by order pursuant to section 16.1 of the Act, determine deeper rights for the purposes of this section and sections 9-12 and 10-1 and, if the minister issues an order determining deeper rights, shall cause that order to be published on the ministry’s website.

- (3) A lease is effective on the effective date entered in the registry and continues:
- (a) if the rights are for petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas, for five years, beginning on the first day of April following the effective date of the lease, or, if the effective date of the lease is April 1, for five years from that date;
 - (b) if the rights are for oil sands or new oil shale, for 15 years, beginning on the first day of April following the effective date of the lease or, if the effective date of the lease is April 1, for 15 years from that date;
 - (c) if the rights are for old oil shale or helium and associated gases, for 21 years, beginning on the first day of April following the effective date of the lease or, if the effective date of the lease is April 1, for 21 years from that date; or
 - (d) if the rights are for the use of spaces, for 20 years, beginning on the first day of April following the effective date of the lease or, if the effective date of the lease is April 1, for 20 years from that date.
- (4) Subject to subsections (5), (6), (7), (9) and (11) and to the termination of any deeper rights pursuant to section 16.1 of the Act, a lease continues after the period mentioned in subsection (3) if:
- (a) the holder of the lease is in compliance with these regulations and the terms and conditions of the lease; and
 - (b) any of the following circumstances apply:
 - (i) a well is being drilled or mining operations are taking place at the time that the period mentioned in subsection (3) expires;
 - (ii) there are one or more producing wells or producing mining operations on the lease lands, but, in that case, the lease continues only for that portion of the lease lands in each surveyed section that contains the producing well or wells or mining operations and only for a period ending:
 - (A) three months after production from that portion of the lease lands ceases; or
 - (B) on any later date approved by the minister;
 - (iii) any part of the lease lands is under unit operation approved by the minister or by an order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, but, in that case, the lease continues only for that part or all of the lease lands and only for a period ending six months after that part is no longer subject to that unit operation;
 - (iv) any part of the lease lands is included within a natural gas area designated pursuant to section 9-18, but, in that case, the lease continues only for that part of the lease lands that is within the designated natural gas area;
 - (v) the lease is continued pursuant to sections 9-20 to 9-25;

- (vi) compensatory royalty payments are being made pursuant to section 9-16 respecting a location designated by the minister pursuant to section 9-15 on the lease lands, but, in that case, the lease continues only for that portion of the lease lands in the surveyed section containing the location;
- (vii) access to the lease lands has been denied:
 - (A) by an action taken by a government agency or a member of the Executive Council for environmental, regulatory, jurisdictional or consultation reasons; or
 - (B) for any reason that is satisfactory to the minister; and
 - (C) the denial has resulted in a delay in exercising rights of more than two consecutive months.
- (5) Unless otherwise specified in this section, a lease is continued pursuant to subsection (4) for one year after the period mentioned in subsection (3) expires.
- (6) Subject to the termination of any deeper rights pursuant to section 16.1 of the Act, a lease continues after the period mentioned in subsection (3) if:
 - (a) the holder of the lease is in compliance with these regulations and the terms and conditions of the lease; and
 - (b) a well licence has been issued but drilling operations have not begun.
- (7) A lease is continued pursuant to subsection (6) for three months, or any longer period that the minister may determine, after the expiry of the period mentioned in subsection (3).
- (8) Unless otherwise specified in this section, if a lease is continued pursuant to this section, the holder of the lease shall pay the full amount of the annual rent payable even if the lease continues for less than a full year.
- (9) A lease with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas, or petroleum and natural gas is continued pursuant to this section only to the base of the deepest productive zone for that lease as determined by the minister.
- (10) In accordance with subclause (4)(b)(vii), the minister may extend the term of the lease:
 - (a) for a period equivalent to the length of the delay; or
 - (b) for any longer period that the minister may determine.
- (11) On the expiration of the 21-year period mentioned in clause (3)(c) for a lease with rights with respect to old oil shale and the 20-year period mentioned in clause (3)(d) for a lease of spaces, the lease is renewable for successive terms of 21 or 20 years, as the case may be, each on the application of the holder of the lease, if the holder has complied fully with:
 - (a) the terms and conditions of the lease or renewal of the lease; and
 - (b) the Act and these regulations.

Net royalty leases

9-6(1) Notwithstanding section 9-14, a holder of a net royalty lease may surrender an interest in all or any part of the lands covered by the net royalty lease if:

- (a) the surrender meets the requirements of section 9-17;
 - (b) the holder of the net royalty lease applies pursuant to subsection (2) for a standard lease of the lands to be surrendered pursuant to this subsection; and
 - (c) the minister approves the application of the holder of the net royalty lease for a standard lease.
- (2) The minister may issue a standard lease of the surrendered lands to the holder of the net royalty lease in accordance with this Part if a holder of the net royalty lease who has surrendered an interest pursuant to subsection (1):
- (a) applies pursuant to this section for a standard lease of the surrendered lands;
 - (b) submits a bid in an amount acceptable to the minister; and
 - (c) makes a commitment, in a form acceptable to the minister, with respect to the terms and conditions that the minister may require.
- (3) If a holder of a net royalty lease fails to comply with a commitment made pursuant to clause (2)(c) within any period determined by the minister, the minister may cancel the lease in accordance with section 9 of the Act.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of these regulations, the minister shall not issue any new net royalty leases pursuant to these regulations.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-6.

Production after January 1, 1994

9-7 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in a net royalty lease:

- (a) the cash proceeds of production from any of the following are not to be included for the purpose of determining the net royalty payable as specified in the net royalty lease:
 - (i) all oil and natural gas production from or allocated to a well with a finished drilling date on or after January 1, 1994;
 - (ii) incremental oil and natural gas production:
 - (A) with respect to an enhanced recovery project approved pursuant to *The Oil and Gas Conservation Act* that has an operation commencement date on or after January 1, 1994; and
 - (B) that is determined by the same method as is used in determining incremental waterflood oil pursuant to *The Crown Oil and Gas Royalty Regulations, 2012*; and
- (b) payments, costs, charges, expenses or allowances, as determined by the minister, that relate to the oil and natural gas production mentioned in clause (a) are not to be deducted when determining the net proceeds of production for the net royalty lease.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-7.

Farmout agreements

9-8(1) Subsections 9-6(1) to (3) and section 9-7 apply, with any necessary modification, to:

- (a) the termination or surrender of a farmout agreement with respect to Crown mineral lands;
 - (b) the issuing of a standard lease in substitution for the farmout agreement mentioned in clause (a); and
 - (c) net royalty payable determinations for farmout agreements.
- (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of these regulations, the minister shall not issue any new farmout agreements pursuant to these regulations.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-8.

Annual lease rent

9-9(1) Subject to subsections (2) to (4) and section 6-14, a holder of a lease shall pay to the minister on or before the anniversary date of the lease an annual rent for the year that follows that anniversary date, being the greater of:

- (a) \$3.50 per hectare of lease lands; and
 - (b) \$50.
- (2) If the holder of a lease elects to apply credits granted pursuant to section 6-14 instead of paying rent for the first 24 calendar months of the lease, the rent for that portion of the rental year after the termination of the credit period to the commencement of the next rental year is due and payable on the termination date of the credit period.
- (3) If the minister is satisfied that, for a rental year, an adequate market for helium or associated gases in which the holder of a lease with rights with respect to helium and associated gases may participate is not available, the minister may reduce the rent with respect to that rental year for that lease.
- (4) If a holder of a lease fails to pay rent in accordance with this section, the minister shall cancel the lease in accordance with section 9 of the Act, and all interests in any lands affected by the lease revert to the Crown.
- (5) If the minister cancels the lease, no refund of rent is to be made to the holder of the lease.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-9; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s23.

Helium and associated gases lease refund of rent

9-10(1) Subject to subsections (6) and (7), if, during or within six months after the first year of the term of a lease with rights with respect to helium and associated gases commencing on April 1, the holder of the lease submits evidence satisfactory to the minister that during that rental year actual drilling operations for helium or associated gases have been carried out on the lease lands, a refund of all or any portion of the rent paid in advance for that rental year may be made to the holder.

(2) Subject to subsections (6) and (7), if, during or within six months after the second year of the term of a lease described in subsection (1), the holder of the lease submits evidence satisfactory to the minister that actual drilling operations for helium or associated gases have been carried out on the lease lands during that rental year, a refund of all or any portion of the rent paid in advance for that rental year may be made to the holder.

(3) Subject to subsections (6) and (7), if, during or within six months after the third year of the term of a lease described in subsection (1), the holder of the lease submits evidence satisfactory to the minister that actual drilling operations for helium or associated gases have been carried out on the lease lands during that rental year, a refund of all or any portion of the rent paid in advance for that rental year may be made to the holder.

(4) Subject to subsections (5) to (7), if, during or within six months after the fourth and subsequent years of the term of a lease described in subsection (1), the holder of the lease submits evidence satisfactory to the minister that actual drilling operations for helium or associated gases have been carried out on the lease lands during that rental year and that the wells drilled do not produce commercial quantities of helium or associated gases, a refund of all or any portion of rent paid in advance for that rental year may be made to the holder.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (4), the eligibility for a refund is to be determined as follows:

- (a) for a well in the lease lands that is drilled beyond 1 220 metres, a refund may be made only for the fourth rental year of the term of the lease;
- (b) for a well in the lease lands that is drilled beyond 1 524 metres, a refund may be made only for the fourth and fifth rental years of the term of the lease;
- (c) for a well in the lease lands that is drilled beyond 1 829 metres, a refund may be made only for the fourth to sixth rental years of the term of the lease;
- (d) for a well in the lease lands that is drilled beyond 2 134 metres, a refund may be made only for the fourth to seventh rental years of the term of the lease;
- (e) for a well in the lease lands that is drilled beyond 2 439 metres, a refund may be made only for the fourth to eighth rental years of the term of the lease;
- (f) for a well in the lease lands that is drilled beyond 2 743 metres, a refund may be made only for the fourth to ninth rental years of the term of the lease;
- (g) for a well in the lease lands that is drilled beyond 3 048 metres, a refund may be made only for the fourth to tenth rental years of the term of the lease.

- (6) The amount of a refund pursuant to this section is not to exceed the lesser of:
- (a) the rent paid for the rental year for which the refund is applied for; and
 - (b) the amount of expenditures approved pursuant to subsection (8).
- (7) Subject to subsection (6), if, in the opinion of the minister, certain geophysical work performed by the holder of a lease on the lease lands is in an acceptable and necessary form of preliminary development before drilling a well, the minister may, if the minister considers it advisable and in the public interest to do so, approve a refund of rent paid in advance in an amount that the minister may determine.
- (8) For the purposes of this section:
- (a) the holder of a lease shall submit as evidence to the minister an itemized statement of amounts expended in drilling verified by the statutory declaration of a person having personal knowledge of the facts; and
 - (b) subject to subsection (9) and based on the evidence submitted to the minister, the minister may approve an amount of expenditures.
- (9) In determining the amount of expenditures to approve pursuant to subsection (8), the minister shall not consider:
- (a) the cost of machinery;
 - (b) the cost of production casing; or
 - (c) any other item that, in the opinion of the minister, does not constitute an actual drilling expenditure.
- (10) If a well is drilled in any rental year of the lease or grouping of leases for which the rent has been satisfied by previous credits granted pursuant to section 6-14 or otherwise, the minister may, instead of making a refund, approve for a credit an amount not to exceed the expenditures incurred in drilling the well.
- (11) A credit approved pursuant to subsection (10) may be used in a subsequent rental year on the lease or grouping of leases for which the credit is granted.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-10.

Grouping and regrouping of helium and associated gases leases

- 9-11(1)** For the purpose of section 9-10, a holder of a helium and associated gases lease may request that the minister group or regroup all or any portion of Crown mineral lands covered by two or more leases with rights with respect to helium and associated gases.
- (2) The minister may approve a request made pursuant to subsection (1) to group or regroup all or any portion of Crown mineral lands covered by the leases mentioned in that subsection.
- (3) If lands are grouped or regrouped pursuant to this section, the operations carried out on the lands grouped or regrouped are deemed to be operations carried out on the lands in the grouping.
- (4) No land is to be included in the grouping if it is separated by more than 10 kilometres, more or less, from any other land to be included in the grouping.

- (5) The maximum area to be included in a grouping is as follows:
- (a) for an area containing a well that does not penetrate into any part of a formation older than the Devonian System, 36 surveyed sections or 9 324 hectares, more or less;
 - (b) for an area containing a well that penetrates into any part of a formation older than the Devonian System, 72 surveyed sections or 18 648 hectares, more or less.
- (6) If lease lands are regrouped into a new grouping pursuant to this section, the regrouping cancels all previously established groupings with respect to any lease lands included in the new grouping.
- (7) Every assignment, surrender or cancellation of part of the area included in a grouping decreases the size of the grouping accordingly without the necessity of regrouping unless the areas remaining in the grouping must be regrouped in order to comply with subsection (4).
- (8) When considering whether or not to approve a grouping or regrouping, the minister may consider:
- (a) the size and shape of the proposed groupings;
 - (b) the location of any well to be drilled for rent refund purposes within the grouping; and
 - (c) any other matters the minister considers relevant.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-11; 7 Aug 2020
SR 87/2020 s3.

Continuation of deeper rights

- 9-12(1)** In accordance with section 16.1 of the Act, the holder of a lease may apply to the minister for approval to have the deeper rights continue as part of the lease.
- (2) The application mentioned in subsection (1) must:
- (a) be in a form acceptable to the minister; and
 - (b) contain information that demonstrates to the minister's satisfaction that access to the lease lands has been denied:
 - (i) by an action taken by a government agency or a member of the Executive Council for environmental, regulatory, jurisdictional or consultation reasons; or
 - (ii) for any reason that is satisfactory to the minister.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-12.

When work must commence

9-13(1) Subject to subsection (3), within six months after receiving a written request from the minister to do so, the holder of a lease with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas shall:

- (a) commence drilling operations on the lands described in the lease or grouping of leases; and
 - (b) continue the drilling operations mentioned in clause (a) with reasonable diligence to the satisfaction of the minister with a view to the discovery of oil or natural gas.
- (2) The minister may cancel a lease or grouping of leases with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas after giving the holder of the lease two months' written notice if the holder of the lease:
- (a) does not commence drilling operations within the time specified pursuant to subsection (1);
 - (b) having commenced drilling operations, does not continue those operations with reasonable diligence to the satisfaction of the minister; or
 - (c) without the consent of the minister, ceases to carry on those operations for a period of more than six months.
- (3) The minister may extend the time specified pursuant to subsection (1) for any period the minister considers appropriate.
- (4) This section does not apply to a lease in its primary term.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-13.

Operations continuous if reporting production

9-14 If the lands described in a lease produce oil or natural gas or helium and associated gases in commercial quantities, or produce oil sands products or oil shale products from an active EOR project, the holder of the lease shall produce and work the wells on those lands:

- (a) in accordance with these regulations; and
- (b) to the satisfaction of the minister.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-14.

Offset obligation

9-15(1) In this section and in section 9-16, "**non-Crown mineral lands**" means lands in which the Crown holds less than a 50% interest.

(2) If the lands covered by a lease adjoin lands that are non-Crown mineral lands and the adjoining lands contain a vertical well or any portion of the horizontal section of a horizontal well producing oil or natural gas or helium and associated gases from a zone or formation to which the lease applies, the holder of the lease, within one year after receiving notification of an offset obligation from the minister, shall comply with one of the following:

- (a) commence drilling a well on the location designated by the minister to a depth sufficient to test that producing zone or formation and, if the well is capable of commercial production in the opinion of the minister, ensure that the well enters into production and continues to report production in a manner satisfactory to the minister;
 - (b) in the case of a lease with rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas, pay to the Crown a compensatory royalty in accordance with section 9-16;
 - (c) surrender to the Crown the drainage unit on which the well is required pursuant to clause (a), including all the zones or formations or stratigraphic units covered by the lease except any zone or formation with respect to which oil or natural gas or helium and associated gases are being produced by the holder of the lease to the satisfaction of the minister.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), a location designated by the minister may be:
- (a) in the case of spacing areas of one-quarter, one, four or 16 legal subdivisions, as described in the SaskGrid legal subdivision feature layer, a lateral location on the lands covered by the lease; or
 - (b) in the case of spacing areas of one-half, two or eight legal subdivisions, as described in the SaskGrid legal subdivision feature layer, a diagonal location on the lands covered by the lease.
- (4) Notwithstanding subsection (2), if the holder of the lease mentioned in subsection (2) submits an application for relief from an offset obligation that is supported by maps, reports and other pertinent information satisfactory to the minister, the minister may cancel that offset obligation.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-15.

Calculation of compensatory royalty

9-16(1) Subject to subsection (2), for the purposes of clause 9-15(2)(b), the compensatory royalty is equal to the amount of the royalty that would have been payable pursuant to *The Crown Oil and Gas Royalty Regulations, 2012* if:

- (a) either:
 - (i) in the case of a vertical well creating the offset obligation, the oil or natural gas produced from the vertical well had actually been produced from a vertical well on the location designated by the minister; or

(ii) in the case of a horizontal well creating the offset obligation, the percentage A, calculated in accordance with the following formula, of oil or natural gas produced from the horizontal well had actually been produced from a vertical well on the location designated by the minister:

$$A = \left(\frac{L}{T} \right) \times 100$$

where:

L is the length of the portion of the horizontal well that:

(A) is located within the drainage unit creating the offset obligation; and

(B) is, in the opinion of the minister, capable of producing oil or natural gas; and

T is the portion of the total length of the horizontal well that is, in the opinion of the minister, capable of producing oil or natural gas; and

(b) Parts III and V of *The Crown Oil and Gas Royalty Regulations, 2012* did not exist; and

(c) the wellhead value of the oil or natural gas is the fair value determined by the minister.

(2) The compensatory royalty calculated pursuant to subsection (1) is to be prorated in accordance with the following formula:

$$FCR = CR (100\% - CI)$$

where:

FCR is the compensatory royalty payable pursuant to clause 9-15(2)(b);

CR is the compensatory royalty calculated pursuant to subsection (1); and

CI is the percentage interest of the Crown in the adjoining lands that are non-Crown mineral lands.

(3) The royalty payable to the Crown is to be based on the well generating the greatest revenue among any wells that create an offset obligation pursuant to subsection 9-15(2).

(4) Notwithstanding clause 9-15(2)(b), the minister may exempt any holder of a lease from the payment of a compensatory royalty if the holder of the lease satisfies the minister that the holder is prevented from drilling the well at the location designated pursuant to clause 9-15(2)(a) for reasons beyond the control of the holder of the lease for:

(a) a period equivalent to the length of the delay; or

(b) any longer period that the minister may determine.

Surrender of all or part of a lease

9-17(1) Subject to section 9-14, a holder of a lease may surrender all or any part of the lands covered by the holder's lease during the term of the lease if:

- (a) the surrendered portions conform to legally described parcels of land in the SaskGrid system and include all the rights in the lease at the time of surrender; and
 - (b) any retained portion of the lease is at least one legal subdivision as described in the SaskGrid legal subdivision feature layer.
- (2) If a holder of a lease surrenders the lease, no refund of rent is to be made to the holder.
- (3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the minister has the unqualified right to refuse to grant an application to surrender.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-17.

Designation of natural gas areas

9-18(1) A holder of a lease may apply to the minister to have an area designated as a natural gas area if the holder:

- (a) submits evidence satisfactory to the minister to establish that the holder has made a discovery of natural gas in the area; and
 - (b) delimits the area mentioned in clause (a) by drilling wells that are adequately spaced to the satisfaction of the minister within the confines of the lease.
- (2) An application pursuant to subsection (1) must be received by the minister at least one month before the lease expires.
- (3) The minister may designate an area as a natural gas area for a period of one year beyond the expiry date of the lease if the minister is satisfied that:
- (a) the wells drilled pursuant to clause (1)(b) by the holder of the lease sufficiently delimit the area for which designation is sought; and
 - (b) further development and production of natural gas from the area:
 - (i) is not warranted because of any or all of the following:
 - (A) economic considerations;
 - (B) lack of accessible transportation for natural gas or an adequate market for natural gas;
 - (C) environmental considerations; or
 - (ii) is not consistent with good oil and natural gas conservation practices.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of these regulations, if an area has been designated as a natural gas area pursuant to subsection (3), the holder of the lease is relieved from the development and production requirements of the lease set out in clause 9-5(4)(b) with respect to the natural gas area.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-18.

DIVISION 2 Heavy Oil and EOR

Designation of heavy oil area

9-19(1) In this Division, notwithstanding that the minister has determined that two or more EOR projects are to be treated as one EOR project for the purposes of *The Crown Oil and Gas Royalty Regulations, 2012*, each of the EOR projects is to be considered a separate project for the purposes of these regulations.

(2) For the purposes of this Division, the minister may, on application by the holder of a lease, designate as a heavy oil area an area:

- (a) that contains one or more oil, oil sands or oil shale deposits that:
 - (i) in the opinion of the minister, are not economically recoverable through primary recovery methods; and
 - (ii) are defined:
 - (A) by wells spaced at a frequency of at least one well per surveyed section; or
 - (B) by other means that, in the opinion of the minister, are adequate;
 - (b) that is, in the opinion of the minister, suited to the application of enhanced recovery methods;
 - (c) that contains at least one-quarter of a surveyed section or 64.75 hectares, more or less, and not more than 36 surveyed sections or 9 324 hectares, more or less, of Crown mineral lands, unless the minister approves otherwise;
 - (d) that is wholly contained within a square measuring 16.1 kilometres by 16.1 kilometres, more or less; and
 - (e) in which the ownership is common for each of the leases.
- (3) The minister may, from time to time, amend the boundaries of a designated heavy oil area.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-19.

Power to grant or refuse continuances

9-20(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of these regulations, the minister may, on the application of a holder of a lease, grant a continuance of a lease in accordance with this Division.

(2) Any holder of a lease who intends to obtain a continuance of the lease must apply in the registry to the minister.

(3) The holder of the lease mentioned in subsection (2) shall submit with the application a work plan that sets out in detail the holder's plans to carry out one or more of the activities mentioned in subsection 9-22(3).

(4) The minister may refuse to grant a continuance of a lease for any reason that the minister considers sufficient, including any failure of the holder of the lease to comply with the Act, these regulations or the terms or conditions of the lease.

(5) If a term or condition of a lease continued pursuant to sections 9-21 to 9-25 is inconsistent with a provision of those sections, that provision supersedes the term or condition of the lease.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-20.

Continuance before designation

9-21(1) If a holder of a lease who needs additional time to define an area and apply for designation of the area pursuant to subsection 9-19(2) submits an application at least one month before the end of the primary term of the lease, the minister may grant a continuance of the lease:

- (a) for a period of one year, commencing on the day immediately following the last day of the primary term; and
 - (b) at an annual rent of the greater of:
 - (i) \$7 per hectare of the lands to which the continuance applies per year; and
 - (ii) \$50 per year.
- (2) If a holder of a lease who is granted a continuance of a lease pursuant to subsection (1) submits an application at least one month before the end of the year of continuance, the minister may grant a continuance of the lease:
- (a) for a period of one additional year, commencing on the day immediately following the last day of the year of continuance; and
 - (b) at an annual rent of the greater of:
 - (i) \$10.50 per hectare of the lands to which the continuance applies per year; and
 - (ii) \$50 per year.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-21.

Continuance after designation

9-22(1) The minister may grant a continuance of a lease if:

- (a) a heavy oil area has been designated on the leased Crown mineral lands; and
 - (b) the holder of the lease submits an application at least one month before the expiry of the lease.
- (2) A continuance granted pursuant to subsection (1) is:
- (a) with respect only to the leased Crown mineral lands included in the designated heavy oil area mentioned in subsection (1);
 - (b) for a period of five years, commencing on the day immediately following the last day of the previous term of the lease; and
 - (c) at an annual rent of the greater of:
 - (i) \$5 per hectare of the lands to which the continuance applies per year; or
 - (ii) \$50 per year.

(3) A holder of a lease who is granted a continuance pursuant to subsection (1) shall expend at least \$25 per hectare of the lands to which the continuance applies per year during the period of the continuance on:

- (a) reservoir studies;
- (b) combustion tube studies;
- (c) injectivity tests;
- (d) a pilot EOR project related to a specific oil, oil sands or oil shale deposit;
- (e) any other activity approved for the purposes of this section; or
- (f) any combination of the studies, tests, projects and activities described in clauses (a) to (e).

(4) An expenditure for drilling to further define an oil, oil sands or oil shale deposit does not qualify as an expenditure pursuant to subsection (3).

(5) A holder of a lease who is granted a continuance pursuant to subsection (1) shall, not later than two months after each anniversary date of the lease, file with the administrator expenditure statements containing any information that the minister may require.

(6) If, in any year of a continuance granted pursuant to subsection (1), the holder of the lease has expended more than the amount set out in subsection (3), the minister may permit the holder to carry forward any expenditures in excess of that amount to be applied against the expenditure requirements for subsequent years of the period of the continuance.

(7) On the application of the holder of a lease made within the period mentioned in subsection (5), the minister may permit the holder to make a payment, within the time specified by the minister, to maintain the lease in good standing if, in any year of a continuance granted pursuant to subsection (1):

- (a) the holder has expended less than the amount set out in subsection (3); and
- (b) there are not sufficient expenditures carried forward from previous years pursuant to subsection (6) to satisfy the expenditure requirement for that year.

(8) The amount of the payment required pursuant to subsection (7) is equal to the difference between:

- (a) the amount set out in subsection (3) for the year in question; and
- (b) the sum of:
 - (i) the amount of actual expenditures made pursuant to subsection (3) for the year in question; and
 - (ii) the amount of expenditures carried forward from previous years pursuant to subsection (6) that have not been applied against the expenditure requirements of other years.

(9) On the holder of the lease submitting evidence satisfactory to the minister of the amount of expenditures pursuant to subsection (3) made by the holder in the year following the year in which the deficiency of expenditures mentioned in subsection (7) occurred:

(a) if the amount of expenditures evidenced is equal to or greater than the sum of the following, the minister shall refund to the holder the entire amount of a payment made by the holder pursuant to subsection (7):

(i) the required expenditures pursuant to subsection (3) for the year following the year in which the deficiency occurred;

(ii) the amount of the payment made pursuant to subsection (7); or

(b) if the amount of expenditures evidenced is less than the sum determined pursuant to clause (a), the minister shall refund to the holder the portion of the payment made by the holder pursuant to subsection (6) that is equal to the difference between:

(i) the amount of expenditures evidenced; and

(ii) the amount required to be expended pursuant to subsection (3) for the year following the year in which the deficiency occurred.

(10) If a portion of a payment made pursuant to subsection (7) is refunded pursuant to subsection (9), the balance of the payment is forfeited to the Crown.

(11) If no expenditures are made by the holder of the lease pursuant to subsection (3) in the year following the year in which the deficiency of expenditures occurred, the entire payment made pursuant to subsection (7) is forfeited to the Crown.

(12) In any year of a continuance granted pursuant to subsection (1), the lease terminates at the end of that year of continuance with respect to that portion of the designated heavy oil area, in hectares rounded off to the nearest one-quarter of a surveyed section, that bears the same proportional relationship to the total of the leased Crown mineral lands as the deficiency in expenditures for the year bears to the expenditure requirement for that year if:

(a) the holder of the lease has expended less than the amount described in subsection (3);

(b) expenditures carried forward from previous years pursuant to subsection (6) are not sufficient to satisfy the expenditure requirement for that year; and

(c) the holder of the lease has not made a payment pursuant to subsection (7).

(13) If a lease terminates pursuant to subsection (12):

(a) the holder of the lease may, within two months after the expiry of the time for filing expenditure statements, designate the portion of the designated heavy oil area with respect to which the lease terminates; and

(b) if the holder of the lease fails to designate a portion of the leased Crown mineral lands within the period set out in clause (a), the minister shall designate the portion of the designated heavy oil area with respect to which the lease terminates.

Continuance - no EOR project in operation

9-23(1) The minister may grant a continuance of a lease if:

- (a) a continuance was granted pursuant to subsection 9-22(1);
 - (b) no EOR project is in operation in the designated heavy oil area at the end of the period of the continuance; and
 - (c) the holder of the lease submits an application at least one month before the end of the period of the continuance.
- (2) A continuance granted pursuant to subsection (1) is:
- (a) with respect only to the leased Crown mineral lands included in the designated heavy oil area mentioned in subsection (1);
 - (b) for a further period of five years, commencing on the day following the last day of the previous continuance; and
 - (c) at an annual rent of the greater of:
 - (i) \$7 per hectare of the lands to which the continuance applies per year; and
 - (ii) \$50 per year.
- (3) A holder of a lease who is granted a continuance pursuant to subsection (1) shall expend at least \$50 per hectare of the lands to which the continuance applies per year during the period of the continuance on any of the studies, tests, projects and activities mentioned in clauses 9-22(3)(a) to (f).
- (4) No person shall claim as an expenditure pursuant to this section an expenditure claimed pursuant to section 9-22.
- (5) Subsections 9-22(4) to (12) apply, with any necessary modification, to holders of leases and continuances granted pursuant to subsection (1).
- (6) At the expiry of a continuance granted pursuant to subsection (1), no further continuance is to be granted except in accordance with section 9-24 or 9-25.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-23.

Continuance - EOR project in operation

9-24(1) A lease the primary term of which has expired or a lease continuance granted pursuant to this Division may be continued if, on the expiry of the primary term of that lease or of the period of any continuance of that lease:

- (a) the minister has approved an EOR project on leased Crown mineral lands included in the designated heavy oil area; and
 - (b) operations are being carried out on those lands pursuant to that project.
- (2) A continuance continued pursuant to subsection (1) is:
- (a) with respect only to the leased Crown mineral lands included in the designated heavy oil area mentioned in clause (1)(a);
 - (b) for a period of two years, commencing on the day following the last day of the primary term or previous continuance, as the case may be, and, after the expiry of that period, for as long as EOR oil is produced from the EOR project; and
 - (c) at the rent provided for in section 9-9.

(3) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), if a lease is continued pursuant to subsection (1), the minister may, with respect to leased Crown mineral lands included in designated heavy oil areas other than the one in which the EOR project is located, grant a continuance of a lease in which an owner of a working interest in the EOR project holds an interest recorded on the lease kept by the ministry that, in the opinion of the minister, is a sufficient interest if those designated heavy oil areas:

- (a) contain oil, oil sands or oil shale deposits with characteristics similar to those of the deposits in the designated heavy oil area in which the EOR project is located; and
- (b) are wholly contained within a square measuring 16.1 kilometres by 16.1 kilometres, unless the minister approves otherwise.

(4) The minister shall not grant a continuance pursuant to subsection (3) with respect to any part of the designated heavy oil area in excess of the area equal to the product of:

- (a) the holder of the lease's percentage interest in the EOR project; and
- (b) either:
 - (i) 9 324; or
 - (ii) if the rights are for oil sands or oil shale, 18 648.

(5) The minister shall not grant a continuance pursuant to this section with respect to any area of leased Crown mineral lands in excess of the number of surveyed sections equal to:

- (a) the greater of:
 - (i) the number of wells on Crown mineral lands in the EOR project; and
 - (ii) the number obtained by dividing the investment on Crown mineral lands in the EOR project as evidenced in a manner satisfactory to the minister by \$250,000, rounded to the nearest one-quarter of a surveyed section; or
- (b) any other area that the holder satisfies the minister is appropriate for the purposes of these regulations and that is not contrary to the public interest.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-24.

Continuance - EOR project suspended

9-25(1) The minister may grant a continuance of a lease granted pursuant to this Division if, after the expiry of the primary term of the lease or of the period of any continuance of the lease, operations pursuant to an EOR project located in a designated heavy oil area are suspended for reasons that, in the opinion of the minister, are:

- (a) beyond the control of the holder of the lease; and
- (b) sufficient to justify the suspension of the project.

- (2) A continuance granted pursuant to subsection (1) is:
- (a) with respect only to the leased Crown mineral lands included in the designated heavy oil area mentioned in subsection (1);
 - (b) for a period specified by the minister that does not exceed five years from the day on which EOR oil was last produced from the project or from any other day specified by the minister; and
 - (c) at an annual rent of the greater of:
 - (i) \$5 per hectare of the lands to which the continuance applies per year; and
 - (ii) \$50 per year.
- (3) A holder of a lease who is granted a continuance of a lease pursuant to subsection (1) shall maintain the equipment of the EOR project in an operable state to the satisfaction of the minister.
- (4) If a holder of a lease fails to maintain the equipment of an EOR project in accordance with subsection (3), the minister may, after giving the holder written notice of the minister's intention and an opportunity to be heard, rescind the designation of the designated heavy oil area in which the EOR project is located.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-25.

DIVISION 3 Helium and Associated Gases Royalties

Helium and associated gases royalties

9-26(1) In this section:

“allowable transportation expenses” means:

- (a) transportation expenses actually incurred by the royalty payer in transporting helium and associated gases to the delivery point specified in an arm's-length agreement for sale of the helium and associated gases; and
- (b) any other reasonable transportation expenses that are approved as allowable transportation expenses;

“month of production” means the calendar month in which the helium and associated gases are allocated to Crown mineral lands and produced from a well;

“SRC” means the Saskatchewan Resource Credit, which equals:

- (a) with respect to helium and associated gases produced before April 1, 2013, 1%; and
- (b) with respect to helium and associated gases produced on or after April 1, 2013, 0.75%.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the wellhead price of helium and associated gases is the amount by which the price of that helium and any associated gases, expressed in dollars per thousand cubic metres, received by a royalty payer pursuant to the first arm's-length agreement for the sale of helium and associated gases exceeds allowable transportation expenses, expressed in dollars per thousand cubic metres, with respect to that helium and any associated gases.

(3) The wellhead price of helium and associated gases is the fair price determined by the minister if:

- (a) the minister is satisfied that there is no arm's-length agreement for the sale of the helium and associated gases or that no arm's-length transaction has occurred;
- (b) the minister is satisfied that there was an arm's-length agreement for the sale of the helium and associated gases but that the royalty payer did not receive the price set out in the agreement;
- (c) there is a consideration for the sale of helium and associated gases in addition to or instead of the price specified in an arm's-length agreement; or
- (d) the minister is satisfied that one of the purposes of a transaction evidenced by an agreement for sale of the helium and associated gases is to reduce, unduly or artificially, the liability of a royalty payer to pay royalty on the production of helium and associated gases.

(4) Before determining a fair price pursuant to subsection (3), the minister shall consider the following:

- (a) the arm's-length prices received by the royalty payer for the sale of similar quality gases in similar markets;
- (b) the arm's-length prices received by other royalty payers for the sale of similar quality gases in similar markets;
- (c) the arm's-length prices received by the royalty payer for sales of similar quality gases in other markets;
- (d) any other price information provided by the royalty payer that the minister considers appropriate in the circumstances.

(5) If the minister determines a fair price pursuant to subsection (3), the minister shall provide notice of the price to the royalty payer.

(6) For the purposes of this Division:

- (a) related persons, as determined in accordance with the *Income Tax Act* (Canada), are deemed not to deal with each other at arm's length; and
- (b) it is a question of fact whether persons not related to each other, as determined in accordance with the *Income Tax Act* (Canada), were at a particular time dealing with each other at arm's length.

(7) The royalty excepted and reserved and the payments to be made with respect to helium and associated gases that are produced from or allocated to any Crown mineral lands on or after January 1, 1994 must be determined for each well, for each calendar month, by:

- (a) determining the Crown royalty share of helium and associated gases produced from a well for the calendar month by applying a rate equal to the amount by which 5% exceeds the SRC to the total production in the calendar month of helium and associated gases allocated to Crown mineral lands and produced from the well;
- (b) determining each royalty payer's share of the Crown royalty share, as determined pursuant to clause (a), of the helium and associated gases allocated to Crown mineral lands and produced from the well for the calendar month by applying the royalty payer's proportionate share to the Crown royalty share; and
- (c) calculating the payment required to be made by each royalty payer for the calendar month with respect to helium and associated gases allocated to Crown mineral lands and produced from the well for the calendar month by applying the royalty payer's wellhead price for the calendar month, as determined pursuant to subsections (2) and (3), to the royalty payer's share of the Crown royalty share as determined pursuant to clause (b).

(8) For each calendar month, the minister shall:

- (a) determine the royalties required by these regulations in accordance with subsection (7); and
- (b) provide to every royalty payer an invoice that sets out the royalties mentioned in clause (a) applicable to that royalty payer.

(9) The royalties required by these regulations must be paid:

- (a) on or before the 15th day of the second calendar month following the month of production; or
- (b) if the day mentioned in clause (a) is not a business day, on or before the last business day before the 15th day of the second calendar month following the month of production.

(10) For the purposes of these regulations, a remittance of royalty is deemed to have been received by the minister on the date shown in the ministry's records.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s9-26.

Election to apply credits

9-27(1) In this section, "**credits**" means credits earned by or transferred to a royalty payer pursuant to any of the following:

- (a) *The Petroleum Innovation Incentive Regulations;*
- (b) *The Oil and Gas Processing Investment Incentive Regulations;*

- (c) *The Oil Infrastructure Investment Program Regulations*;
 - (d) *The Critical Minerals Processing Investment Incentive Regulations*;
 - (e) *The Saskatchewan Critical Minerals Innovation Incentive Regulations*.
- (2) A royalty payer who holds credits that have been earned or transferred may elect to apply credits to helium and associated gases royalties that have been paid pursuant to these regulations by applying to the minister in an approved form and manner.
- (3) Subject to subsection (5), the minister shall refund all or any part of the helium and associated gases royalties paid by a royalty payer if the minister is satisfied that:
- (a) the royalty payer paid the helium and associated gases royalties; and
 - (b) the royalty payer holds credits equal to the amount to be refunded.
- (4) This section applies only to royalties with respect to helium and associated gases produced:
- (a) in the case of *The Petroleum Innovation Incentive Regulations*, during the period commencing on April 1, 2019 and ending on March 31, 2040;
 - (b) in the case of *The Oil and Gas Processing Investment Incentive Regulations*, during the period commencing on April 1, 2019 and ending on March 31, 2040;
 - (c) in the case of *The Oil Infrastructure Investment Program Regulations*, during the period commencing on April 1, 2020 and ending on March 31, 2035;
 - (d) in the case of *The Critical Minerals Processing Investment Incentive Regulations*, during the period commencing on April 1, 2024 and ending on March 31, 2040; and
 - (e) in the case of *The Saskatchewan Critical Minerals Innovation Incentive Regulations*, during the period commencing on April 1, 2024 and ending on March 31, 2040.
- (5) Subsection (3) only applies with respect to the helium and associated gases royalties paid:
- (a) during the month in which the royalty payer earns or receives a transfer of the credits; and
 - (b) during any subsequent month.

PART 10
Acquiring Mineral Dispositions

Sale of petroleum and natural gas, oil sands or oil shale rights

10-1(1) On the application of an interested person in the manner required by the minister or on the minister's own initiative, the minister may advertise for sale any mineral disposition with rights with respect to petroleum and natural gas, oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases that may be granted pursuant to these regulations.

(2) The maximum area that may be the subject of any application for a lease pursuant to subsection (1) is four surveyed sections or 1 036 hectares, more or less, of Crown mineral lands.

(3) The minister reserves the unqualified right to refuse any application made pursuant to this section.

(4) No land is to be advertised for rights with respect to petroleum, natural gas or petroleum and natural gas pursuant to a permit to be issued pursuant to Part 6 if the land is:

- (a) within 40 kilometres of any well that is cased for petroleum and natural gas production purposes at the time of the advertisement; or
- (b) the subject of a disposition for oil sands or oil shale rights.

(5) No land is to be advertised for rights with respect to oil shale or oil sands pursuant to a permit to be issued pursuant to Part 6 if the land is within 10 kilometres of any active oil shale or oil sands mining operation or EOR project at the time of the advertisement.

(6) An advertisement for the purposes of subsection (1) must contain the following:

- (a) the date of the sale;
- (b) the date and time after which the minister will not receive bids;
- (c) the pertinent terms and conditions under which the bids may be made;
- (d) a list of the petroleum, natural gas, petroleum and natural gas, oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases rights available for disposition at the sale;
- (e) any other information that the minister considers relevant.

(7) Bids submitted must be in accordance with the terms and conditions mentioned in clause (6)(c).

(8) The minister reserves the unqualified right to refuse any or all bids and the unqualified right to refuse to issue a mineral disposition to any or all persons submitting bids.

(9) The rights set out in subsection (8) are terms or conditions under which all bids are made.

(10) If there are any activities on Crown mineral lands that, in the opinion of the minister, may be adversely affected by the development of rights within, above or below these activities in those Crown mineral lands, the minister shall withdraw those rights from mineral disposition.

(11) The identity of applicants and bidders is confidential and is not to be made available to the public.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s10-1; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s24.

Disposition of interest without advertisement

10-2(1) Notwithstanding section 10-1, the minister may, without advertisement, lease interests in oil or natural gas, oil and natural gas, oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases rights:

- (a) if the rights are for oil or natural gas, oil and natural gas, oil sands or oil shale, in any area of less than 16 hectares that is required to complete a drainage unit, in accordance with subsection (2);
 - (a.1) if the rights are for helium and associated gases, in any area that is required to complete a drainage unit established pursuant to *The Oil and Gas Conservation Regulations, 2012*, in accordance with subsection (2);
 - (b) to the holder of a lease issued by the Crown in right of Canada before the transfer of the leased Crown mineral lands to the Crown in right of Saskatchewan, in accordance with subsection (3);
 - (c) to the holder of a lease respecting acquired oil and natural gas rights as defined in subsection 23(1) of the Act who applies to convert that lease to a Crown lease pursuant to subsection 23(11) of the Act, in accordance with subsection (4);
 - (d) to the holder of a lease whose lease includes the rights to only petroleum or only natural gas and if the excluded substance is owned by the Crown and is not the subject of an intervening right, in accordance with subsection (5);
 - (e) to the holder of an old oil shale lease who applies to convert that lease to a new oil shale lease, in accordance with subsection (6); or
 - (f) to the holder of a lease whose lease includes the rights to helium and associated gases or oil and natural gas, or oil or natural gas, as the case may be, and is capable of producing commercial quantities of both helium and associated gases and oil and natural gas or oil or natural gas, in the opinion of the minister, simultaneously from the same zone, in accordance with subsection (7).
- (2) The minister may issue a lease pursuant to clause (1)(a) or (a.1) if the applicant:
- (a) submits an application for a lease that demonstrates to the satisfaction of the minister that the applicant requires the lease to complete a drainage unit;
 - (b) submits an application fee and bid in accordance with subsections 10-1(8) and (11); and
 - (c) meets any other reasonable requirements determined by the minister.

(3) The minister may issue a lease pursuant to clause (1)(b) if the holder of the lease:

- (a) submits an application for a lease that demonstrates to the satisfaction of the minister that the holder has complied with the terms and conditions of the lease issued by the Crown in right of Canada;
- (b) surrenders the lease issued by the Crown in right of Canada; and
- (c) meets any other reasonable requirements determined by the minister.

(4) The minister may issue a lease pursuant to clause (1)(c) if the holder of the lease:

- (a) submits an application for a lease that:
 - (i) describes the acquired oil and natural gas rights to be converted to a lease;
 - (ii) includes a copy of the mineral titles for the acquired oil and natural gas rights that are the subject of the lease demonstrating that the mineral titles are free and clear of all registered interests pertaining to that lease; and
 - (iii) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the minister that the lease of acquired oil and natural gas rights is still in effect and that the holder has complied with the terms and conditions of the lease;
- (b) surrenders the lease of acquired oil and natural gas; and
- (c) meets any other reasonable requirements determined by the minister.

(5) The minister may issue or amend a lease pursuant to clause (1)(d) if the holder of the lease:

- (a) submits an application for a lease that surrenders or requests an amendment of the lease that includes any rights specific to only petroleum or only natural gas in exchange for a lease that includes rights with respect to both petroleum and natural gas for all zones;
- (b) submits an application fee and bid in accordance with subsections 10-1(8) and (11); and
- (c) meets any other reasonable requirements determined by the minister.

(6) The minister may issue a new oil shale lease pursuant to clause (1)(e) if the holder of the old oil shale lease:

- (a) submits an application for a new oil shale lease that surrenders the old oil shale lease; and
- (b) meets any other reasonable requirements determined by the minister.

(7) The minister may issue a lease pursuant to clause (1)(f) if the holder of the lease:

- (a) submits an application for a lease that includes any rights specific to either helium and associated gases or oil and natural gas, as the case may be;
- (b) submits an application fee and bid in accordance with subsections 10-1(8) and (11);
- (c) meets any other reasonable requirements determined by the minister.

(8) No bids or offers are required for the issuance of a lease pursuant to clause (1)(b), (c) or (e).

(9) A lease issued pursuant to this section:

- (a) must be in the form of a standard Crown lease;
- (b) if the minister considers that any additional terms and conditions are appropriate, must include those additional terms and conditions; and
- (c) is subject to Part 9.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s10-2; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s25.

Powers of minister

10-3(1) The minister may determine the configuration of the lands covered by the lease for any lease issued pursuant to this Part.

(2) The minister may place any environmental, drilling or developmental restrictions on a lease.

(3) If the minister is satisfied that a holder of a lease has contravened any term or condition of the lease, the minister may, after giving the holder written notice of the minister's intention and an opportunity to be heard, cancel the lease, and all interests in any lands affected by the lease revert to the Crown.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s10-3.

PART 11

General

SaskGrid system to be used

11-1 The SaskGrid system, with any necessary modification, is to be used to determine the boundaries of mineral disposition parcels.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-1.

Deemed areas

11-2(1) In this section, “**agreement**” means any agreement governed by these regulations.

(2) Notwithstanding any Act or law or provision in an agreement to the contrary, in an agreement a surveyed section, quarter-section and legal subdivision, as described in the SaskGrid legal subdivision feature layer, of land are deemed to contain 259.000 hectares, 64.750 hectares and 16.188 hectares respectively, unless the minister directs otherwise in a particular case.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-2.

No lease or assignment for royalty payer in default

11-3 No royalty payer who owes to the Crown any royalty with respect to a lease of petroleum, natural gas, petroleum and natural gas, oil sands, oil shale or helium and associated gases rights is entitled, until the royalty payer has paid all of that royalty:

- (a) to acquire any further lease from the Crown or acquire any further lease by assignment; or
- (b) to assign all or any of the royalty payer's leases.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-3.

Pooling and royalties payable

11-4(1) The holder of an exploration licence or a lease, as the case may be, may pool the licensed or leased area or part of the licensed or leased area with other mineral disposition lands to complete a drainage unit.

(2) If the licensed or leased area or part of the licensed or leased area is pooled in accordance with subsection (1):

- (a) the minister shall calculate the quantity of production from the mineral disposition lands in the pooled drainage unit to be allocated to the mineral disposition area on the basis of the ratio that the surface area of the mineral disposition area included in the pooled drainage unit bears to the total surface area of the mineral disposition lands in the pooled drainage unit; and
- (b) the holder of the exploration licence or the lease shall pay the royalties excepted and reserved in the exploration licence or the lease based on the allocation in clause (a).

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-4.

Disposition of undisposed rights by permit, exploration licence or lease

11-5 Notwithstanding anything in these regulations, undisposed rights with respect to Crown oil or gas, helium and associated gases, oil sands, oil shale or spaces may be disposed of pursuant to these regulations by permit, exploration licence or lease whether or not the rights with respect to Crown oil or gas, helium and associated gases, oil sands, oil shale, spaces or other minerals in the mineral disposition lands within, above or below the mineral disposition lands containing the undisposed Crown rights are disposed of.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-5; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s26.

Compliance with Acts and regulations required

11-6 No holder of a mineral disposition shall fail to comply with:

- (a) the Act and the regulations made pursuant to the Act;
- (b) *The Oil and Gas Conservation Act* and the regulations made pursuant to that Act; and
- (c) any other Act or regulation that applies to the holder's operation, plant, works, business or undertaking.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-6.

Good practices required

11-7 No holder of a mineral disposition shall:

- (a) interfere with:
 - (i) other oil and natural gas, helium and associated gases, oil sands or oil shale operations or any storage, injection or disposal operations; or
 - (ii) any other development operations including mining operations; or
- (b) in any manner cause:
 - (i) damage to public or private property; or
 - (ii) inconvenience or nuisance.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-7.

Accurate records required

11-8 No holder of a mineral disposition shall fail:

- (a) to keep accurate and detailed records, books and accounts of the holder's operations and of the expenditures made in connection with those operations; or
- (b) when requested to do so by the administrator, to provide to the administrator true copies of the records, books and accounts verified by affidavit within the period specified by the administrator.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-8.

Examination of records

11-9(1) Every holder of a mineral disposition shall make available to the minister during normal business hours at the address of the holder, or at any other place identified by the holder as a place where the records are kept, records related to:

- (a) any samples of mineral or other substances encountered during the operations carried out pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit, exploration licence, lease or other mineral disposition;
- (b) the quantity and place of origin of the oil and natural gas, helium and associated gases, oil sands or oil shale produced, used, saved and marketed from the lands covered by the permit, exploration licence or lease; and
- (c) any work reported in accordance with these regulations, including expenditures related to the work.

(2) No information obtained pursuant to subsection (1) with respect to old oil shale leases shall be made available to the public without the consent of the holder of the lease.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-9.

Minister's discretion

11-10 Unless a holder of a mineral disposition satisfies the minister that the holder is properly registered pursuant to a relevant Act to carry on business in Saskatchewan, the minister may refuse to:

- (a) issue a permit, exploration licence, lease or any other mineral disposition to the holder of the mineral disposition;
- (b) consent to the assignment or transfer of a permit, exploration licence, lease or other mineral disposition to the holder of the mineral disposition; or
- (c) register the assignment or transfer of a permit, exploration licence, lease or other mineral disposition to the holder of the mineral disposition.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-10.

Ineligible disposition owners

11-11(1) The administrator may approve a transfer of an inactive or insolvent mineral disposition holder's interest in a mineral disposition, in a manner determined by the administrator, to redistribute that interest among the remaining holders if:

- (a) the status of the holder of the mineral disposition on the Saskatchewan Corporate Registry, or any other corporate registry as determined by the administrator, has changed from "Active" to "Inactive", "Struck", "Dissolved" or "Cancelled"; and
- (b) an application has been made for transfer of the mineral disposition holder's interest.

(2) On receipt of the application for transfer pursuant to clause (1)(b), the administrator shall:

- (a) provide two months' written notice to the inactive or insolvent mineral disposition holder in accordance with section 11-13; and
- (b) require the inactive or insolvent holder of the mineral disposition to rectify or begin to rectify the mineral disposition holder's status on the corporate registry.

(3) If the inactive or insolvent mineral disposition holder mentioned in subsection (2) does not comply with this section within two months after receiving notice pursuant to this section, the administrator may redistribute the interest of the inactive or insolvent mineral disposition holder.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-11.

Assignment or conveyance of lease by administrator re *The Oil and Gas Conservation Act*

11-11.1(1) Subject to subsection (3), the administrator may assign or convey a lease that is held by a holder that is insolvent, bankrupt, defunct or that cannot be located to any person to whom a licence is to be transferred pursuant to section 10.1 or 10.2 of *The Oil and Gas Conservation Act*.

(2) The administrator shall, before assigning or conveying a lease mentioned in subsection (1):

(a) provide two months' written notice to the holder mentioned in that subsection in accordance with section 11-13; and

(b) require the holder mentioned in that subsection to rectify or begin to rectify the status of the lease in the registry.

(3) If the holder mentioned in subsection (2) does not comply with clause (2)(b) within two months after receiving notice pursuant to this section, the administrator may assign or convey the lease to the person to whom a licence is to be transferred mentioned in subsection (1).

(4) In addition to any other provision of these regulations providing for the extension of the term of a lease, the minister may grant an extension to the term of a lease acquired pursuant to subsection (1) for a period to be determined by the minister, not to exceed 12 months.

(5) An extension granted pursuant to subsection (4) is conclusively deemed not to have granted the person who took the assignment or conveyance of the lease pursuant to this section a new lease term, and that person must comply with any subsisting terms and conditions of the lease.

24 Feb 2023 SR 8/2023 s2.

Change of name

11-12(1) To ensure timely service in the registry, a holder of a mineral disposition whose name is changed shall:

(a) give written notice immediately of the change of name to the minister; and

(b) provide the minister immediately with evidence of the change of name in a form satisfactory to the minister.

(2) If a holder of a mineral disposition that is a corporation amalgamates with another corporation, the holder shall:

(a) give written notice immediately of the amalgamation to the minister; and

(b) provide the minister immediately with a certified copy of the certificate of amendment or certificate of amalgamation that:

(i) is issued to the holder pursuant to the statute that governs the corporation; and

(ii) is in a form satisfactory to the minister.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-12.

Service of notices or documents

11-13(1) Any notice or other document required by these regulations to be served may be served on a holder of a mineral disposition or on a secured party by sending a copy of the notice or document by registered mail addressed:

- (a) in the case of a holder, to the address for service supplied to Petrinex; and
 - (b) in the case of a secured party, to the address for service set out in the security notice.
- (2) A notice or other document served by registered mail is conclusively deemed to have been received on the seventh day following the day of its mailing.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-13.

Certified copies of search reports

11-14 For the purposes of section 27.55 of the Act, the minister may certify a copy of a search report requested pursuant to section 2-3 by:

- (a) affixing the minister's seal to the printout;
- (b) signing the printout; and
- (c) affixing to the printout the date on which it was prepared.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-14.

Right of entry not authorized

11-15 No permit, exploration licence, lease or other mineral disposition to which these regulations apply authorizes the holder to enter on or use the surface of the lands described in the permit, exploration licence, lease or other mineral disposition.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-15.

Methods of payment

11-16 Any payment required to be paid pursuant to these regulations must be paid:

- (a) subject to clause (b), by one of the following methods that is chosen by the minister:
 - (i) pre-authorized debit;
 - (ii) electronic transfer of funds;
 - (iii) cash or cash equivalent; or
- (b) in the case of exceptional circumstances that, in the opinion of the minister, prevent payment by the method chosen by the minister pursuant to clause (a), by any other method acceptable to the minister.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s11-16.

Relief from certain requirements re state of emergency declared March 18, 2020

11-17(1) The minister may, as a result of the declaration of a state of emergency on March 18, 2020, do all or any of the following:

- (a) with respect to holders of mineral dispositions that were active on March 18, 2020 and scheduled to expire in 2020, grant relief from the requirements of the provisions set out in subsection (2) for a 12-month period commencing on the expiration date of the mineral disposition;
- (b) for the purposes of Part VII of the Act, assign a registration date of March 31, 2020 to an instrument if:
 - (i) the instrument evidences a surrender of a mineral disposition issued or administered pursuant to these regulations; and
 - (ii) the administrator receives the instrument during the period commencing on April 1, 2020 and ending on July 31, 2020.

(2) Relief pursuant to subsection (1) is granted respecting the requirements of section 8-5, subsections 9-5(4) and (6) and section 9-12.

7 Aug 2020 SR 87/2020 s4.

Work reports – helium and associated gases dispositions

11-18(1) Unless a product is being produced and sold from the mineral disposition lands, within 90 days after April 1 of each calendar year or of the day on which the disposition was terminated, the holder of a helium and associated gases disposition shall submit to the minister in an approved form and manner a work report giving full particulars of all work carried out during the preceding year in relation to the disposition.

- (2) The work report submitted in accordance with subsection (1) must include:
 - (a) a description of the work performed;
 - (b) an analysis and interpretation of the results of any work conducted during the year;
 - (c) a map showing the location of any wells drilled by the holder of the disposition;
 - (d) a description of any mineral cores recovered during drilling operations;
 - (e) a summary of all chemical and mineralogical analyses of samples obtained; and
 - (f) any other information, data or material the minister may request.
- (3) No holder of a disposition shall fail to ensure that each work report submitted by it is accurate and complete.
- (4) In the case that no work was carried out, a statement of no work conducted to that effect and an explanation of reasons must be submitted.

12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s27.

Confidentiality of information

11-19(1) Subject to sections 112 and 113 of *The Oil and Gas Conservation Regulations, 2012*, the minister shall not make information or material submitted pursuant to section 7-5 and described in Part 2 of the Appendix available to the public until one year after the permit expires, is surrendered in its entirety or is cancelled.

(2) Subject to sections 112 and 113 of *The Oil and Gas Conservation Regulations, 2012*, the minister shall not make information or material submitted pursuant to section 11-18 available to the public until the earliest of:

- (a) 3 years after the date on which the information or material is received by the minister;
- (b) the date on which the holder provides written consent to the release of the information or material; and
- (c) the date on which the disposition for which the work was carried out expires, is surrendered in its entirety or is cancelled.

12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s27.

PART 12**Repeal, Transitional and Coming into Force****Sask. Reg. 559/64 repealed**

12-1 The Helium and Associated Gases Regulations, 1964, being Saskatchewan Regulations 559/64, are repealed.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s12-1.

RRS cC-50.2 Reg 7 repealed

12-2 *The Lease of Spaces Regulations* are repealed.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s12-2.

Sask. Reg. 555/64 repealed

12-3 The Oil Shale Regulations, 1964, being Saskatchewan Regulations 555/64, are repealed.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s12-3.

Sask. Reg. 8/69 repealed

12-4 “The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulations, 1969”, being Saskatchewan Regulations 8/69, are repealed.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s12-4.

Mineral dispositions continued

12-5(1) A permit issued pursuant to “The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulations, 1969” or The Helium and Associated Gases Regulations, 1964 that was valid on the day before the coming into force of this section is a legacy disposition as defined in clause 27.3(i) of the Act.

(2) An exploration licence issued pursuant to “The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulations, 1969” that was valid on the day before the coming into force of this section is a legacy disposition as defined in clause 27.3(i) of the Act.

(3) A lease issued pursuant to “The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulations, 1969”, The Helium and Associated Gases Regulations, 1964, The Oil Shale Regulations, 1964 or *The Lease of Spaces Regulations* that was valid on the day before the coming into force of this section is a legacy disposition as defined in clause 27.3(i) of the Act.

(4) If a lease was issued, or an application to convert a permit to a lease was received, before the coming into force of *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Amendment Regulations, 2026*, the holder of the lease shall pay to the minister on or before the anniversary date of the lease the following annual rent for the year that follows that anniversary date:

(a) \$1.24 per hectare per year to and including March 31, 2030, calculated based on the disposition area;

(b) commencing on April 1, 2030, the rent calculated in accordance with section 9-9.

(5) Subject to subsections (1) to (4), *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Regulations*, as those regulations existed on the day before the coming into force of *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Amendment Regulations, 2026*, continue to apply to any disposition for helium and associated gases issued before the coming into force of *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Amendment Regulations, 2026*.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s12-5; 12 Jne 2026
SR 38/2026 s28.

Applications received before implementation date

12-6(1) In this section, “**the former regulations**” means “The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulations, 1969”, The Helium and Associated Gases Regulations, 1964 or *The Lease of Spaces Regulations*.

(2) The minister shall evaluate any application for a mineral disposition received pursuant to the former regulations but not processed before the implementation date in accordance with the requirements of the former regulations.

(3) Notwithstanding the repeal of the former regulations, the former regulations remain in force for the purposes of evaluating applications for a mineral disposition described in subsection (2) and issuing the mineral disposition.

(4) A mineral disposition issued in accordance with subsection (3) may be registered as a legacy disposition.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s12-6.

Applications received before *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Amendment Regulations, 2026* come in force

12-6.1(1) Any application for a helium and associated gases permit or lease, other than an application to convert a permit to a lease, received but not approved before the day on which *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Amendment Regulations, 2026* come into force is void.

(2) Subject to section 12-6.2, on and after the day on which *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Amendment Regulations, 2026* come into force, a helium and associated gases permit shall be issued in accordance with section 6-1.

12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s29.

Transitional – former dispositions

12-6.2(1) The holder of a helium and associated gases disposition issued before the day on which *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Amendment Regulations, 2026* come into force may apply to the minister to surrender one or more unexpired existing dispositions in exchange for one or more new helium and associated gases permits issued pursuant to these regulations.

(2) An application mentioned in subsection (1) must:

- (a) be in a form and manner that is satisfactory to the minister;
- (b) include any information required by the minister; and
- (c) be submitted to the minister not later than April 1, 2030.

(3) The minister may issue one or more helium and associated gases permits if the holder of the dispositions mentioned in subsection (1):

- (a) has submitted an application pursuant to subsections (1) and (2); and
- (b) has:
 - (i) conducted significant exploration work, in the minister's opinion, to advance a helium project or the geological understanding of the province; or
 - (ii) submitted a cash bid satisfactory to the minister.

(4) If the minister issues a permit in accordance with subsection (3), no refund of rent is to be made to the holder of a helium and associated gases disposition surrendered pursuant to this section.

12 Jne 2026 SR 38/2026 s29.

Coming into force

12-7 These regulations come into force on the day on which they are filed with the Registrar of Regulations.

4 Nov 2016 cC-50.2 Reg 31 s12-7.

Appendix**PART 1****Fees**

Provision	Description	Amount (\$)
6-3(1) 6-13 6-13.1 8-2(1)(c) 8-10(c) 9-3(1)(c) 10-2(1)(a), (a.1), (d) and (f)	Application fee for disposition	\$600
2-2 2-3 4-1	Self-service activities in the registry, including transfers, registrations and searches	No charge
2-2 2-3 2-4 4-1 11-14	Time spent by the ministry in providing a service requested by a person that is not otherwise provided for in this Appendix, including: (i) providing a service that is otherwise a self-service activity in the registry; (ii) preparing a historical abstract; and (iii) preparing a copy of a record, including a certified copy of a record.	A minimum fee of \$50 per application or record plus \$50 for each half hour or portion of a half hour after the first hour, plus the cost of any good (DVD, flash drive, etc.) and \$0.25 per photocopy page or computer printout page

PART 2
Evidence of Permit Expenditures

Activity	Supporting Document Requirements
Airborne geophysical survey	(a) full operational data, including types and specifications of instruments used, type of aircraft, ground and altitude control used and terrain clearance; (b) position of all flight lines indicating direction of flight shown on a map; (c) presentation of data in either profile or contour form or any other form best suited to determine its significance; (d) a map including, if appropriate, indications of all anomalous instrument readings with a key to the symbols used; and (e) a complete digital listing, as received by the holder from the contractor, unless a different format or additional data or metadata are requested by the minister.
Drilling and logging	For wells drilled that are not subject to <i>The Oil and Gas Conservation Act</i> and <i>The Oil and Gas Conservation Regulations, 2012</i>: (a) maps showing the location of drill holes and collars; (b) information respecting the type of drilling and hole or core size; (c) the collar locations; (d) information respecting total depth, bearing and dip of the drill holes and any down hole surveys; (e) information respecting location of core storage; (f) complete geological drill logs and the name of the person who logged the core or samples; (g) assays or analyses clearly identified as to hole or core intervals, and if no assays or analyses are provided, the reason for their absence; (h) complete geophysical logs if run, identified as to type of equipment used; and (i) any other type of technical information obtained from core, cuttings or logging and copies of sections.

Activity	Supporting Document Requirements
Geochemical survey	(a) a detailed description of field sampling and analytical techniques; (b) relevant analytical values plotted at the sample locations on a map and contoured or presented in some other manner best suited to determine their significance; (c) sample locations with corresponding sample identification numbers shown on a map; and (d) a complete listing of final corrected topographic coordinates and associated attributes in digital form with metadata and other information as requested by the minister.
Geophysical ground survey	(a) full operational data, including the type of instruments used, spacing of readings and ground control used; (b) a map showing the value of each instrument reading, whether anomalous or not, plotted at the location of the corresponding observation point; (c) a complete listing of final corrected topographic coordinates of shot-hole locations and associated attributes (e.g., shot-hole lithology) in a manner acceptable to the minister; and (d) a presentation of data in profile or contour or any other form best suited to determine its significance, including contour maps on the most dependable and continuous reflecting horizon above, at and below the top of the Paleozoic, if information at those levels is available.
Prospecting	(a) a map of the area prospected showing locations of all traverses made and the locations at which samples were taken; (b) a description of specialized equipment employed and the nature and level of any instrument readings taken; and (c) a detailed description of observations made with respect to overburden, bedrock and mineralization, results obtained for all samples assayed or analysed, and conclusions arrived at.
Trenching and stripping	(a) maps showing locations of trenched or stripped areas, the dimensions of trenches or stripped areas and the locations from which any samples were taken; (b) a geological description of the exposed rock; and (c) assays or analyses clearly identified with sample locations within the trenched or stripped area.