

March 5, 2018

Updates to the Northwest Territories' Petroleum Legislation

Under the mandate of the 18th Legislative Assembly, the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) is committed to developing and proposing amendments to the *Petroleum Resources Act* (PRA) and *Oil and Gas Operations Act* (OGOA) as part of the work to evolve the GNWT's legislative, regulatory and policy systems to advance the territorial vision of land and resource management.

As the first step towards a larger review, the GNWT is currently undertaking amendments to both the PRA and OGOA, aimed at modernizing the legislation to improve transparency and ensure the Northwest Territories (NWT) is ready to responsibly benefit from petroleum production in the future. This is not an overhaul — it is the work that needs to be done to address the NWT's immediate needs.

In order to facilitate discussion regarding these amendments, ITI has released an Engagement Paper entitled "Have Your Say! Updates to the NWT's Petroleum Legislation – Engagement Paper". This Engagement Paper, which is attached to this email and posted at www.Engage-ITI.ca/PetroLeg in the document library on the right hand side, summarizes each proposed amendment by identifying the issue as it relates to a current provision or provisions of the PRA or OGOA, provides background information, recommends actions, and provides the reasoning for the recommendations.

ITI is committed to providing meaningful opportunities for involvement in the process of updating the PRA and the OGOA to address the unique challenges, circumstances, and opportunities of the NWT with made-in-the-North solutions that are effective and sustainable.

ITI staff plan to travel to Fort Liard, Fort Simpson, Hay River, Inuvik, Norman Wells, and Yellowknife from **March 13 to April 12, 2018** to seek input from the public on these amendments. **See the schedule attached to this email for dates and locations.**

For those who cannot attend the engagement sessions we have a wide range of options available to ensure full participation in the PRA and OGOA engagement process. Written feedback can be submitted by email, fax, or through the engagement website. The website facilitates comments and questions with survey, comment submission, and QuSTEION and Answer functions.

Please take note that this public engagement period does not replace formal consultations on Aboriginal and Treaty rights as they relate to the PRA and OGOA. This will take place further into the legislative process.

To follow-up on engagement activities, or to submit feedback by email on the amendments to the PRA and OGOA, please contact:

Menzie McEachern
Director, Mineral and Petroleum Resources
Industry, Tourism and Investment
Email: EngagePetroleum@gov.nt.ca
Telephone: 1-867-777-7481
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For further information or to submit written comments, please visit our website:

English: www.Engage-ITI.ca/PetroLeg

French: www.Participation-MITI.ca/loispétrolières

A hard copy letter of this communication will follow by mail.

- 3 -

ITI looks forward to your community's feedback and to ongoing discussions as this initiative progresses.

Sincerely,



Pamela Strand
Assistant Deputy Minister
Industry, Tourism and Investment

Attachment

- c. Mr. Menzie McEachern
Director, Mineral and Petroleum Resources
Industry, Tourism and Investment