

GAS ROYALTY OPERATIONS INFORMATION BULLETIN

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March 2017

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

New and Revised Meter Station Factors

The department has published in <u>Information Letter 2017-10</u>, new and revised Meter Station Factors. Meter Station Factors for new meter stations are identified in **Schedule B** and are effective for the production periods January to December 2016. Meter Station Factors identified in **Schedule A** are effective the January 2017 production period and subsequent production periods until otherwise changed.

If you have any questions, please contact Terry Rayne, Director, Pricing and Analysis at (403) 297-5467 or e-mail at terry.rayne@gov.ab.ca.

MONTHLY INFORMATION

Re-Allocation of Assigned Volumes (RMF2s)

As per the <u>Alberta Natural Gas Royalty Guidelines (2009)</u>, Chapter III, Section 2.2.1, Royalty clients may submit an RMF2 form if they wish to reassign all or part of their Crown and/or freehold volumes of gas and gas products allocated to well events, well groups, units, or injection schemes. The RMF2 Listing report identifies the royalty clients' active RMF2s currently in our system as well as the date that the form was last used to re-assign volumes.

Royalty Clients should review their RMF2 reports issued each month, and are requested to submit termination dates for those RMF2s that are no longer required. The number of unused documents continues to increase. Part 3.4 of the RMF2 form requires a Termination Date be completed and it should be defined for a reasonable timeframe. The RMF2 is not intended for the facilitation of sales activity between clients. In those instances, the OAF can be changed in order to facilitate a smooth transition of responsibility for the production volumes. As a reminder, the department will require definite termination dates applied to each form (Part 3.4). If the termination date is not on the form, it will be returned to the submitter. The Department expects that this will reduce the number of obsolete documents in our system.

If you require any additional information please contact VCR at VCR@gov.ab.ca.

Pricing for Gas and Gas Products

For pricing on gas, gas products, and transportation information for January 2017, please refer to the Information Letter.

The monthly default sulphur price for **January 2017** is **\$47.40**. Below are the annual sulphur default prices:

2012	2013	2014	2015
\$95.61	\$51.02	\$82.94	\$101.09

January 2017 Royalty Due April 30, 2017

Royalty clients are to remit the total amount payable shown on the April 2017 Statement of Account by April 30, 2017. If the amount payable includes accrued current period interest, the interest has only been accrued to the statement issue date. Clients must also include the additional interest that has accrued from the statement issue date to the date of payment, using the per diem amount provided. Current period interest will not be charged on current invoice charges for the production month of January if it is paid in full by April 30, 2017.

The April 2017 Statement of Account shows your amount payable as of the Statement issue date. It includes any outstanding balances from your previous statement, your January 2017 invoice amount and any applicable current period interest charges. It also identifies refunds resulting from overpayments.

Note: If the due date falls on a non-business day, the next business day will apply as the due date except for the month of March due to the Government of Alberta's fiscal year end. In this situation, the due date will apply previous to the non-business day as the due date.

Cheques are made payable to the Government of Alberta and must contain the G94 account number as reflected on the Statement of Account.

February 2017 VA4 due April 15, 2017

The VA4 forms for the production month of February 2017 are due in the department offices by April 15, 2017.

Note: If the due date falls on a non-business day, the next business day will apply as the due date for VA4 forms.

Petrinex Deadline Submissions

The Petrinex deadline for SAF, OAF, and Volumetric submissions are posted on the Petrinex website "Reporting Calendars" under Calendars. Changes to this calendar will be posted on the Petrinex website home page in "Broadcast Messages."

Interest Rate March 2017

Alberta Energy's interest rate for March 2017 is **3.70%**

December Provisional Assessment Charge

The summary of Provisional Assessment Charges for all production periods in the December 2016 billing period was:

First Time Provisional Assessment	Reversals of Provisional Assessments (Net)	Net Provisional Assessment
\$1,137,239.39	(\$2,943,067.47)	(\$1,805,828.08)

December Penalty Charges

The penalty table below shows at the form level, the total penalty charges and reversals, for the December 2016 billing period.

Forms	Penalty Charges	Penalty Reversals	Net Penalty Charges for 2016/12
AC2	\$25,200	(\$49,200)	(\$24,000)
AC5	\$600	\$0	\$600
NGL*	\$0	\$0	\$0
VA3	\$0	\$0	\$0
VA4	\$100	\$0	\$100
Total	\$25,900	(\$49,200)	(\$23,300)

^{*} NGL Price Reporting

<u>Production Allocation Discrepancy (PAD) Potential Royalty Impact</u>

As of the December 2016 billing period, the potential royalty dollar impact is estimated as \$2.8 million, for the production months of July through December 2016.

NOTE: These values are not intended to show that Crown royalty has been understated but do illustrate the consequences of incorrect reporting.

Well Event Measured Depth Determination Letter

The department has issued a "Well Event Measured Depth Determination Letter" under the Report Package DOE – Gas to facility operators via Petrinex on March 1, 2017. This letter shows the confirmed Measured Depth (MD) of each active well event that will be used to calculate the Depth Factor (DF) of the quantity component rate under the Alberta Royalty Framework formula. A well event that is not listed on the letter and does not have a confirmed MD will receive a DF of 1. When the changes to the MD are confirmed by the department, a letter is issued to a facility operator who reports changes through Petrinex to a well event attributes affecting MD. All changes to the MD are applied on a go forward basis only. Facility operators are advised to submit well event attribute changes by the last day of the calendar month in order for timely determination of MD.

NGDDP Confidential Wells

Wells designated as "confidential" will be reviewed prior to the removal of the "confidential" status, if the directional surveys and completion reports are provided to the department. Send directional surveys and completion reports to GasRoyaltyPrograms@gov.ab.ca

If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn Wieliczko in Gas Royalty Features at 780.422.9270.

INFRASTRUCTURE DATA

Business Associate ID Listing

The BA Identifiers Report is a directory of Business Associate (BA) names, codes, status (e.g. struck, active, amalgamated, etc.), status effective dates, and effective August 2004, and includes Working Interest Owner (WIO) role start/end dates.

This report is also published daily on the Petrinex website.

The Department reminds Business Associates to review their WIO role to ensure that the start and end dates are reflected correctly. If the BA does not have an active WIO role, the operators cannot allocate volumes to the BA for the relevant production periods through the SAF/OAF allocations.

- If a BA has a WIO role, then that BA can receive SAF/OAF allocations from the WIO role start date forward.
- If a BA has a WIO role with an end date, then they can only receive SAF/OAF allocations
 from the WIO role start date until the end date. Any SAF/OAF allocations after the end date
 will be rejected.
- If a BA does not have a WIO role start date, then that BA cannot receive SAF/OAF allocations.

Please contact Client Registry/Crown Land Data at 780.422.1395 or CrownLandDataSupport@gov.ab.ca if you have any questions regarding the information supplied in this article.

Client Status Changes

Clients must ensure that all royalty documents are completed using only valid client names and IDs. It is critical that royalty clients use current legal client names and their appropriate IDs on all documents to ensure accurate royalty calculation and to prevent provisional assessment and penalties. Rejects will occur when invalid IDs are used.

If you require information regarding client status changes, names, or IDs, please contact Client Registry/Crown Land Data at 780.422.1395 or CrownLandDataSupport@gov.ab.ca.

Nova Tolls - Multiple Gas Reference Prices

Royalty information related to the implementation of the Factor Model negotiated with industry for determining Multiple Gas Valuation Prices is provided on the Natural Gas website's Royalty Related Information page under Facility Royalty Trigger Factors and Meter Station Ties.

REMINDERS

Monthly Sulphur Corporate Average Price Calculation – VA4 Form

The department requires royalty clients with an annual sulphur production of 30,000 tonnes or greater in the 2016 production year to file VA4 forms monthly, beginning with the January 2017 production month. The VA4 form is due on or before the 15th day of the second month following the respective production month. A royalty client whose annual sulphur production is less than 30,000 tonnes may choose to file the VA4 forms monthly beginning with January's production month; however, if this choice is made, the client must file VA4 forms for the entire year. The department will use the VA4 forms to determine each client's monthly Sulphur Corporate Average Price (S-CAP) and the monthly sulphur default price. We calculate each month's sulphur default price as the weighted average unit value of all arm's length sales for all clients who filed VA4 forms for that month. The department will value and invoice the Crown royalty share of sulphur production monthly using the respective S-CAP price for clients who file VA4 forms, and the sulphur default price for clients who chose not to file VA4 forms. The VA4 form is subject to \$100 in late filing penalties for each month or part of the month the form is past due. The VA4 form for the production month of January 2017 is due in the department by March 15, 2017.

Royalty clients who file monthly VA4 forms must file annual VA3 forms. The VA3 form remains the primary sulphur valuation tool and the S-CAP determined from each VA3 will replace the entire year's monthly prices determined from the VA4 forms. The VA3 is due on or before April 15th of the year following the year of production. Interest is charged/paid on the Crown royalty difference when adjusting from monthly to annual valuation. The VA3 form is subject to a one-time \$1,000 late filing penalty.

The following royalty clients must submit VA4 forms effective with the 2017 production year, which includes any pricing information for each of its consolidated/amalgamated entities:

Client		Client	
ID	Client Name	ID	Client Name
0JL8	Apache Canada Ltd.	A0A7	Nuvista Energy Ltd.
0HE9	Canadian Natural Resources Limited	A5R5	Pengrowth Energy Corporation
A68P	CQ Energy Canada Resources Partnership	A2F0	Shell Canada Energy
0026	Encana Corporation	A6GD	Sinopec Daylight Energy Ltd.
0Z0H	Harvest Operations Corp.	A2TG	TAQA North Ltd.
0R46	Husky Oil Operations Limited		

For questions and further information, please contact the Pricing & Analysis Team at GasValuation. Energy@gov.ab.ca, (403) 297-5467 or (403) 297-5427.

Modernized Royalty Framework (MRF) Migration

The **Modernized Royalty Framework (MRF)** migration is scheduled to commence at 4:30 pm on March 2, 2017 and expected to be completed by March 6, 2017. During this migration period of March 2 to 6, 2017 inclusive, **NO** files of any kind submitted by Industry through Petrinex will be processed. All incoming files from Petrinex will be held for processing until such time the MRF Migration and backups are completed on March 6, 2017.

Control Assurance Audit on Raw Gas Allocation (RGA) Submissions

In order to properly calculate and assess royalty, Gas Royalty Operations must ensure that correct and accurate submissions are received from our royalty clients. These royalty clients are identified to the Crown through owner allocation factor (OAF) submissions or through the reassignment of volumes via the RMF2 submission. The RGA is a Crown submission used to identify the sellers and purchasers for in-network gas sales and is designed for royalty assessment purposes only. Please note the following information and clarification on reporting Alberta gas sales.

- All RGA submissions are subject to audit.
- All gas sales are deemed to occur at the outlet of the sales facility.
- For gas sales, the reported RGA in-stream components (ISCs) should reflect the ratio of any
 products processed out of the raw gas combined with the ISCs contained within the
 processed gas.
- If the gas is sold prior to processing at a recognized conventional gas plant within or outside of Alberta (British Columbia, Saskatchewan or Montana), the volumes are eligible to be assessed using the 80 percent gas reference price rule.
- The general rule is that the gas must be sold to valid unrelated parties (at arm's length) in order to be assessed as a gas sale. This is true for both processed and unprocessed gas. The exception to the rule is that if gas is disposed outside of Alberta and the purchaser does not exist as a working interest owner on Petrinex and the Mineral Revenue Information System (MRIS). In these cases, the seller should contact the Gas Royalty Operations, Control Assurance team for direction on how to submit the RGA.
- When an RGA submission form is received by Gas Royalty Operations, a listed purchaser cannot also exist as a seller of gas for the same production entity in the same production period. Otherwise, there is an overstatement of volumes being assessed as gas sales when only the net sale volumes are eligible. In these situations, all RGA submissions containing these purchaser(s) will be deemed invalid sales submissions and the entire RGA will be ignored for royalty assessment purposes. The corrective action is to amend the RGA(s) to ensure that no royalty clients are listed as purchasers when they are also a seller.

Questions on RGA submissions can be forwarded to the Control Assurance team at ControlAssurance.Energy@gov.ab.ca

Allowable Cost (AC) and Sulphur Corporate Average Price Calculation (VA3) Submissions for Production Year 2016

This is a reminder for royalty clients that Allowable Cost (AC1, AC2, AC3 and AC5) and Annual Corporate Average Price Calculation - Sulphur (VA3) submissions for the 2016 production year are due on the following dates:

Form Type	Due Date	Penalty
AC1	March 01, 2017	-
VA3	April 18, 2017	\$1,000/One time only
AC2	May 01, 2017	\$100/Form/Month upon due date to a maximum of \$600
AC3	May 15, 2017	-
AC5	May 15, 2017	\$100/Form/Month upon receipt to a maximum of \$600

All allowable cost submissions (initial and amended filings for current and prior production years) by Facility Cost Centre (FCC) operators are required to be completed on Petrinex. It is mandatory for operators to submit their capital and operating costs (AC2) and for custom users to submit their custom processing fees (AC5) on Petrinex. A reallocation of capital and/or operating costs (AC3) is optional. Even though these submissions remain voluntary for non-operators, they are strongly encouraged to use Petrinex to submit and retrieve their AC2, AC3 and AC5 data.

Annual allowable cost submissions are processed nightly except during an invoice run cycle. New facility cost centre set-ups are processed within four (4) hours of receipt if received in the morning, with an overnight turnaround if received in the afternoon. Processing of new facility cost centre set-ups continue during an invoice run cycle.

The business rules and submission method for VA3 submissions remain the same with notification from the department informing clients that their submissions have been processed. Sulphur Corporate Average Price submissions are processed as they are received, except during an invoice run cycle.

Due to the April 15th deadline falling on a weekend, the deadline for filing the VA3 for the production year 2016 will be April 18, 2017.

The department encourages timely submissions to allow sufficient turnaround time for corrections. The font size on faxed forms must be 10 pt or greater and should not be bold. Penalties will apply where valid system acceptable submissions are not received by the filing deadline. Barring the department's responsibility, inability to submit annual cost submissions on Petrinex and/or illegible script will not reverse a penalty once imposed.

If you have any questions regarding the above forms and their respective reporting requirements, please contact:

Form	Contact Phone #	Contact E-mail
VA3	Pricing & Analysis Team	GasValuation.Energy@gov.ab.ca
	403-297-5467 or 403-297-5427	
AC1, AC2, AC3,	Volumetrics and Cost Reporting	VCR@gov.ab.ca

AC5	Unit 780-422-8727	

<u>Capital and Operating Cost Allowance Filing - Expected AC2</u> <u>Reports on Petrinex</u>

The Crown deducts allowances for costs incurred and paid in Alberta for compressing, gathering and processing its royalty share of gas and gas products. Annual capital and operating cost allowances are combined on the AC2-V4 with an ability to allocate these cost allowances among working interest owners and multiple delivery facilities. The FCC operator, on record at year end, is responsible for filing the AC2-V4.

The Expected AC2 Report identifies the FCC operator as of a specific date and is generated to help FCC operators in verifying their status as well as the effective date. It also identifies whether a valid AC2 was submitted for a production year.

The Expected AC2 Report is grouped by an Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) Facility and related FCC. The report displays the following:

- Facility ID and Facility Name,
- FCC ID and FCC Name,
- "Y"(yes) and "N"(no) Indicators to identify whether or not the FCC is fully depreciated,
- The FCC Operator Effective Date,
- "Y"(yes) and "N"(no) Indicator to determine whether or not an AC2 was submitted for the production year, and
- All consolidated/amalgamated companies have been included within this report, where applicable.

The information in the report reflects the department's records as of the file preparation date and does not reflect submissions subsequently received and/or processed. Any submission (AC1, AC2, Invoice Consolidation Concurrence – ICC1, etc.) that is processed after the report date is not shown. Please note that absence of a company name or FCC from these reports is not an acceptable reason to waive a penalty once assessed.

The Expected AC2 Report is available in PDF, TXT and CSV formats and is generated weekly during the Gas Cost Allowance reporting season. Expected AC2 reports will be available on Petrinex weekly, from the first week of February 2017 to the last week of May 2017.

If you are not the operator of the FCC identified on the report, please submit a Facility Cost Centre Set-Up/Change (AC1-V2) identifying the change in operator and its effective date. An AC1 submission identifying an FCC change in operator is due on or before the last day of the month following the production month in which the change occurred.

Please note that FCCs that are shut-in or terminated for an entire production year will not appear on the report. Operators of fully depreciated (zero remaining useful life) FCCs remain responsible for AC2-V4 submissions. Submissions are required to ensure the department has correctly identified Capital and Operating Cost Allowance allocations to working interest owners and/or other delivery facilities as well as Custom Processing Adjustment Factors for the FCC.

AC2-V4 submissions filed on Petrinex can be entered online or by batch. If a system acceptable AC2-V4 submission is not received and processed by the filing deadline (April 30th of the year following the production year to which it relates), a penalty will be assessed.

Due to the April 30th deadline falling on a weekend, the deadline for filing an AC2-V4 for the production year 2016 is May 01, 2017.

For access to or use of Petrinex, contact the Petrinex Service Desk at 1-800-992-1144.

Custom Processing Allowance Fees Paid – Expected AC5 Reports on Petrinex

Royalty clients that have incurred and paid for compressing, gathering and/or processing gas and gas products on a fee-for service basis, in Alberta, are required to submit an AC5-V4 to the department by May 15th of the year following the production year to which it relates. This includes custom processing fees associated with freehold, purchased, and out-of-province volumes. The Expected AC5 Report provides a complete list of the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) facilities and related Facility Cost Centres (FCCs) where the operator has allocated custom user volumes to the royalty client in Parts 6 and 10 (Custom Processing Adjustment Factor) of a Capital & Operating Cost Allowance AC2-V4 submission.

This report is generated to help royalty clients in identifying the AER facilities and FCCs that require the royalty client to file an AC5-V4. The information in the report identifies the department's records as of the file preparation date and does not reflect submissions subsequently received and/or processed.

The Expected AC5 Report is grouped by AER Facility and related FCC. The report displays the following:

- FCC ID, FCC Name & FCC Type,
- Operator ID and Name allocating custom user volumes, and
- Allocated Custom Processing (CP) volumes in 10³m³.

In addition, as of the report generation date, there are "Y" (yes) and "N" (no) indicators for the previous and current production years that identify whether:

- the department has received a valid AC5 submission for the royalty client, and
- the AER facility has been reported on the AC5 submission.

If a system acceptable AC5-V4 submission is not received and processed by its filing deadline (May 15th of the year following the production year to which it relates) it is subject to penalty charges upon receipt. Please note that the absence of a company name or an FCC from these reports will not be an acceptable reason for a waiver of penalty.

The Expected Custom Processing Fees Paid (AC5) report is available in PDF, TXT and CSV formats. The Expected AC5 report will be available on Petrinex weekly from the first week of February 2017 to the last week of May 2017.

Operators of FCCs must use Petrinex to retrieve the report. Non-operators and other royalty clients that currently submit and receive hard documents will continue to receive the Expected AC5 report by mail. Electronic filers are required to submit their Allowable Cost forms via Petrinex.

The deadline for filing an AC5-V4 for the production year 2016 is May 15, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact the Volumetric & Cost Reporting Unit at (780) 422-8727 or email VCR@gov.ab.ca.

For access to or use of Petrinex, contact the Petrinex Service Desk at 1-800-992-1144.

BUSINESS CONTACTS

Quick Reference

Group	Email
Petrinex Service Desk	Petrinexsupport@Petrinex.ca
Client Registry / Crown Land Data	CrownLandDataSupport@gov.ab.ca
Volumetric & Cost Reporting	VCR@gov.ab.ca
Management Information	ManagementInformation.Energy@gov.ab.ca
Gas Royalty Accounting	GasRoyaltyAccounts.Energy@gov.ab.ca
Gas Royalty Rapid Transit Payments	G94Deposit@gov.ab.ca
Gas Royalty Features	GasRoyaltyPrograms@gov.ab.ca

Petrinex Service Desk

The focal point for communications regarding preparations for, access to, or utilization of Petrinex is the Petrinex Service Desk, or Petrinex Support.

Phone: 403.297.6111 or 1.800.992.1144

Fax: 403.297.3665

Email: Petrinexsupport@Petrinex.ca

Website: www.Petrinex.ca

Volumetric & Cost Reporting

Volumetric & Cost Reporting (V&CR) is the Front Line of contact for inquiries relating to volumetric and cost reporting as well as gas royalty calculation processes. V&CR is made up of three teams as shown below:

Team	Team Lead
Volumetrics	Nicole Karpan
Costs	Sheruna Naidoo
Process Support	Penny Calen

Gas Royalty Voicemail: 780.422.8727

Fax: 780.427.3334

Alberta Toll Free: 780.310.0000 Gas Royalty Email: VCR@gov.ab.ca

Hours of operation are 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Voice messages left after 4:30 p.m. will be answered the next business day.

Management Information

All inquiries or requests that relate to royalty information (e.g. Information Letter, Information Bulletin and other Department of Energy's Natural Gas website publications) and questions related to Commercial Storage, Soldier Settlement, and Farm Gas should be forwarded to the Management Information Team at ManagementInformation. Energy@gov.ab.ca.

Gas Royalty Accounting

All inquiries or requests that relate to royalty accounting (e.g. Transfers, Refunds, Interest, Statement of Account, Collections and Royalty Deposits) should be forwarded to the Royalty Accounting Team at GasRoyaltyAccounts.Energy@gov.ab.ca.

Gas Royalty Features

All inquiries or requests that relate to royalty programs (e.g. Natural Gas Deep Drilling Program, New Well Royalty Rates and Otherwise Flared Solution Gas Royalty Waiver Program) should be forward to the Royalty Features team at GasRoyaltyPrograms@gov.ab.ca.

Reference Prices and Valuation Allowances Calculation Information

For information related to Natural Gas and Natural Gas Liquids reference prices, and Sulphur valuation submissions (VA3 and VA4), contact the Pricing & Analysis Team located at the Alberta Energy office in Calgary:

Pricing & Analysis 300, 801 – 6 Avenue SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 3W2 Telephone: 403.297.5514 Fax: 403.297.5400

Email: GasValuation.Energy@gov.ab.ca

Alberta Energy Internet Webpage

Prices, Royalty Rates and Transportation Information are available on the Alberta Energy Internet webpage: www.energy.alberta.ca. From "Our Business", navigate to "Natural Gas", "About Natural Gas", "Prices", and "Alberta Natural Gas Reference Price (ARP)". In addition, both the Gas Royalty Information Bulletins and Information Letters are also available under "Our Business", navigate to "Natural Gas", "Legislation, Guidelines & Policies".

Richard Stokl Director, Gas Royalty Operations Royalty Operation