

July 16, 2001

**INFORMATION BULLETIN 2001- 02**

**SUBJECT: Oil Sands Tenure Regulation – Guideline Development**

In late 2000, the Department invited industry representatives to participate in a joint Department-Industry Business Design Team to assist in the development of the business rules. These rules provide guidance for conducting business under the Oil Sands Tenure Regulation.

The Business Design Team, as well as its sub-committees, met several times over the last six months. Significant progress has been made towards further describing the minimum level of evaluation necessary for oil sands agreements and defining the production level necessary to achieve status as a producing lease once continued. In the coming months, the Business Design Team will develop recommendations regarding the business rules for Continuations and for defining the Research, Exploration, and Development Costs that may be eligible for application as credits against escalating rent on a lease. Our goal is to have a complete set of oil sands tenure business rules developed by the end of 2001.

The Department and the Business Design Team have created an Internet site ([www.energy.gov.ab.ca/sands/consult/index.htm](http://www.energy.gov.ab.ca/sands/consult/index.htm)) where **draft** business rules can be viewed. In addition, the Terms of Reference and the membership (including e-mail addresses) of the Business Design Team and its sub-committee are available. I encourage you to visit our Internet site and provide any comments to Business Design Team members, or to oil sands tenure at [OilsandsTenure.Energy@gov.ab.ca](mailto:OilsandsTenure.Energy@gov.ab.ca).

If you require further details, please contact:

Steve Tkalcic  
Director, Oil Sands Operations  
Alberta Department of Energy  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor, North Petroleum Plaza  
9945 - 108 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2G6

Linda White  
Business Unit Leader  
Oil Sands Development Business Unit