

Dear Mr. Gummo,

Further to the August 28, 2009 letter you received from the Ministry of Energy and Resources (ER) regarding proposed amendments to *The Crown Minerals Act* (the Act) that are necessary to support the implementation of new electronic, web-based mineral land tenure systems (e-Tenure), please note that **[the Bill is now available for viewing](http://www.legassembly.sk.ca/bills/pdfs/3_26/bill-125.pdf)** on the Legislature of Saskatchewan web site (www.legassembly.sk.ca). The direct link to Bill 125 is:

http://www.legassembly.sk.ca/bills/pdfs/3_26/bill-125.pdf

As you will recall, the legislative amendments are required to provide for new regulation-making powers tied to e-Tenure and to govern:

- the conversion of pre-existing dispositions to new electronic registries;
- the creation of an electronic mapping system as the legal basis for the registry;
- the assignment of legal status to the electronic records and documents required to operate the system; and,
- the allocation of risks and liabilities related to the use of a web-based electronic registry.

While it is anticipated that an e-Tenure system for oil and gas will be developed as part of the Crown Land Administration and Management System initiative and integrated with the current Process Renewal and Infrastructure Management Enhancements (PRIME) Project, a 'go-live' date is not expected for several years. However, given that other commodities (such as potash, uranium, gold, and coal) are moving towards e-Tenure systems in the near future, the legislative changes described above that would apply to e-Tenure systems in general are required.

ER would like to assure current petroleum and natural gas, oil shale and oil sands mineral disposition owners that at such time as an oil and gas e-Tenure system is implemented, the goal is to simply improve ER's service to industry and is not in any way, shape or form intended to negatively affect the rights and privileges they currently enjoy under their existing and future dispositions.

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