

Draft Regulation

Mining Act
(chapter M-13.1)

**Petroleum, natural gas and underground reservoirs
—Revocation**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation to revoke the Regulation respecting petroleum, natural gas and underground reservoirs, appearing below, may be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation revokes the Regulation respecting petroleum, natural gas and underground reservoirs (chapter M-13.1, r. 1) following the coming into force of the Petroleum Resources Act (2016, chapter 35, s. 23), the Regulation respecting petroleum exploration, production and storage licences, and the pipeline construction or use authorization, the Regulation respecting exploration, production and storage activities on land and the Regulation respecting exploration, production and storage activities in a body of water. The Act and the Regulations must come into force at the same time.

Study of the matter shows that the draft Regulation will have an impact on enterprises currently holding rights to search and produce petroleum and gas or operate an underground reservoir to the extent that they will be subject to the regulations pertaining to the Petroleum Resources Act.

Further information on the draft Regulation may be obtained by contacting Marie-Eve Bergeron, Director, Bureau des hydrocarbures, Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles, 5700, 4^e Avenue Ouest, bureau A-422, Québec (Québec) G1H 6R1; telephone: 418 627-6385, extension 8131; toll free: 1 800 363-7233, extension 8131; fax: 418 644-1445; email: marie-eve.bergeron@mern.gouv.qc.ca

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to Luce Asselin, Associate Deputy Minister for Energy, Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles, 5700, 4^e Avenue Ouest, bureau A-407, Québec (Québec) G1H 6R1.

PIERRE ARCAND,
*Minister of Energy and
Natural Resources and
Minister responsible for the Plan Nord*

**Regulation to revoke the Regulation
respecting petroleum, natural gas and
underground reservoirs**

Mining Act
(chapter M-13.1, s. 306)

1. The Regulation respecting petroleum, natural gas and underground reservoirs (chapter M-13.1, r. 1) is revoked.

2. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

103135

Draft Regulation

Petroleum Resources Act
(2016, chapter 35)

**Petroleum exploration, production and storage
in a body of water
—Making**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation respecting petroleum exploration, production and storage in a body of water, appearing below, may be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation sets the conditions for the granting and exercise of the authorizations required for petroleum exploration, production and storage in a body of water, except a marine environment, and sets the fees payable. The draft Regulation also determines the protective and safety measures that must be implemented. In addition, it establishes the content of the permanent well or reservoir closure and site restoration plan, the time at which the work planned in the plan must be carried out, and the duration, form and terms of the related guarantee.

Study of the matter shows that the draft Regulation will have an impact on enterprises currently holding rights to explore for and produce petroleum and gas or operate an underground reservoir that will have to obtain authorizations to carry out certain activities that were not regulated, in particular the carrying out of stratigraphic surveys, fracturing and reconditioning. The enterprises will also have to furnish a guarantee representing the totality of the costs for well or reservoir closure and site restoration. They will have to contend with greater accountability, in particular in respect of the information sent to the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. The additional requirements may impose, in certain cases, a significant burden.