

Questions and Answers

Designation of Crown Mineral Lands for Disposition of Mineral Permits

1. Where is the area designated for the disposition of Mineral Permits?

The area is located in the [reopened Crown Reserve CR-963](#), covering approximately 1.5 million hectares in the Hudson Bay area. It includes Township 42 to 45, Range 30; Township 42 to 53, Range 31; and Township 42 to 50, Range 32, West of the First Meridian; and Township 42 to 53, Range 1 to 12, West of the Second Meridian.

2. Why was CR-963 reopened?

CR-963 was established to preclude issuing mineral dispositions. Minerals may be incidentally recovered during the oil shale products exploration and development process, as the definition of “oil shale products” includes the rights to other minerals. CR-963 is reopened to allow issuing mineral dispositions independent of oil shale.

3. Will companies be able to bid for oil shale dispositions in the designated area?

Companies will be able to acquire lands for oil shale products through public offering as long as lands are available. Oil shale and mineral dispositions are not allowed to overlap. Saskatchewan's Oil and Gas Public Offerings are held online through the Integrated Resource Information System. Public offering schedule can be found here: [Schedule of Public Offerings | Public Offerings | Government of Saskatchewan](#)

4. What type of mineral disposition will industry be able to acquire in the designated area?

Following the required notification period, the designated area will become open for mineral permit staking only.

5. What is a mineral permit?

A mineral permit is a Crown mineral disposition issued under *The Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations* that grants exclusive rights to explore for minerals such as base and precious metals, diamonds, uranium, and rare earth elements. It has an area from 10,000 hectares to 50,000 hectares, a nonrenewable term of two years, and may be converted to mineral claim upon meeting regulatory requirements.

If a holder wishes to extract, recover, remove, or produce minerals they would need to convert to claim and then from claim convert to lease.

6. What are other types of mineral dispositions?

There are two other types of mineral dispositions: mineral claim and mineral lease.

A mineral claim is a Crown mineral disposition issued under *The Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations* that grants exclusive rights to explore for minerals such as base and precious metals, diamonds, uranium, and rare earth elements. It has a maximum area of 6,000 hectares, a term of one year, and is renewable from year to year upon meeting regulatory requirements.

A mineral lease grants the holder the exclusive right to explore for, mine, work, recover, procure, remove and dispose of granted Crown minerals.

7. How can industry acquire mineral permits?

By regulation, Crown mineral lands must be advertised at least 10 business days prior to becoming available for mineral permit applications. At the specified date and time, industry will select lands and submit their applications in the Mineral Administration Registry Saskatchewan (MARS) system (<https://mars.isc.ca>). Detailed instructions for submitting an application are published in the MARS Client Help Manual on the MARS website.

8. How will a permit application be processed?

For those who have used MARS before, the staking will be similar to a MARS mineral claim reopening. Application priority will be assigned based on the time stamp of when the application is submitted, and pending funds being received by the Government. Upon review by the Mineral Tenure Unit, the applicant's permit request will be approved or denied and a notification will be provided.

9. How much time do I have to submit the funds after I submit my permit application?

Application fee of \$0.30 per hectare, or a minimum of \$3,000.00 must be submitted within 15 minutes once the staking application has been submitted. If the application fee is not received the application will be void.

A person will have up to three business days for the performance cash deposit of \$30,000 to be received by ER after the date that the application is submitted. If the performance cash deposit is not received the application will be void.

10. What costs are associated with permits?

As per [The Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations](#)

- Registration fee for a permit: \$0.30 per hectare minimum of \$3,000.00
- Performance cash deposit for permit: \$30,000.00
- Expenditure requirements for permit: \$5.25 per hectare during the term

11. What if I have more questions about CR 963, mineral or oil shale dispositions?

For any inquiries, please contact the Ministry of Energy and Resources (ER) Service Desk:

Email: er.servicedesk@gov.sk.ca

Phone: 1-855-219-9373