

Office of the Regulator of Oil & Gas Operations





OROGO and Public Access to Geo-Scientific Information

42nd Annual
Yellowknife Geoscience Forum

November 25, 2014



Background

- As a result of devolution on April 1, 2014, the Government of the Northwest Territories assumed responsibility for regulating oil and gas operations in the onshore NWT, excluding the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and retained federal lands
- Existing federal Acts and regulations were mirrored as part of devolution, resulting in the:
 - *Oil and Gas Operations Act* (OGOA) and regulations
 - *Petroleum Resources Act* (PRA) and regulations

Background

- Cabinet appointed the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment as GNWT's Regulator of oil and gas operations effective April 1, 2014
- The Regulator is responsible for regulating oil and gas operations for the primary purposes of ensuring:
 - Safety
 - Environmental protection
 - Conservation of oil and gas resources



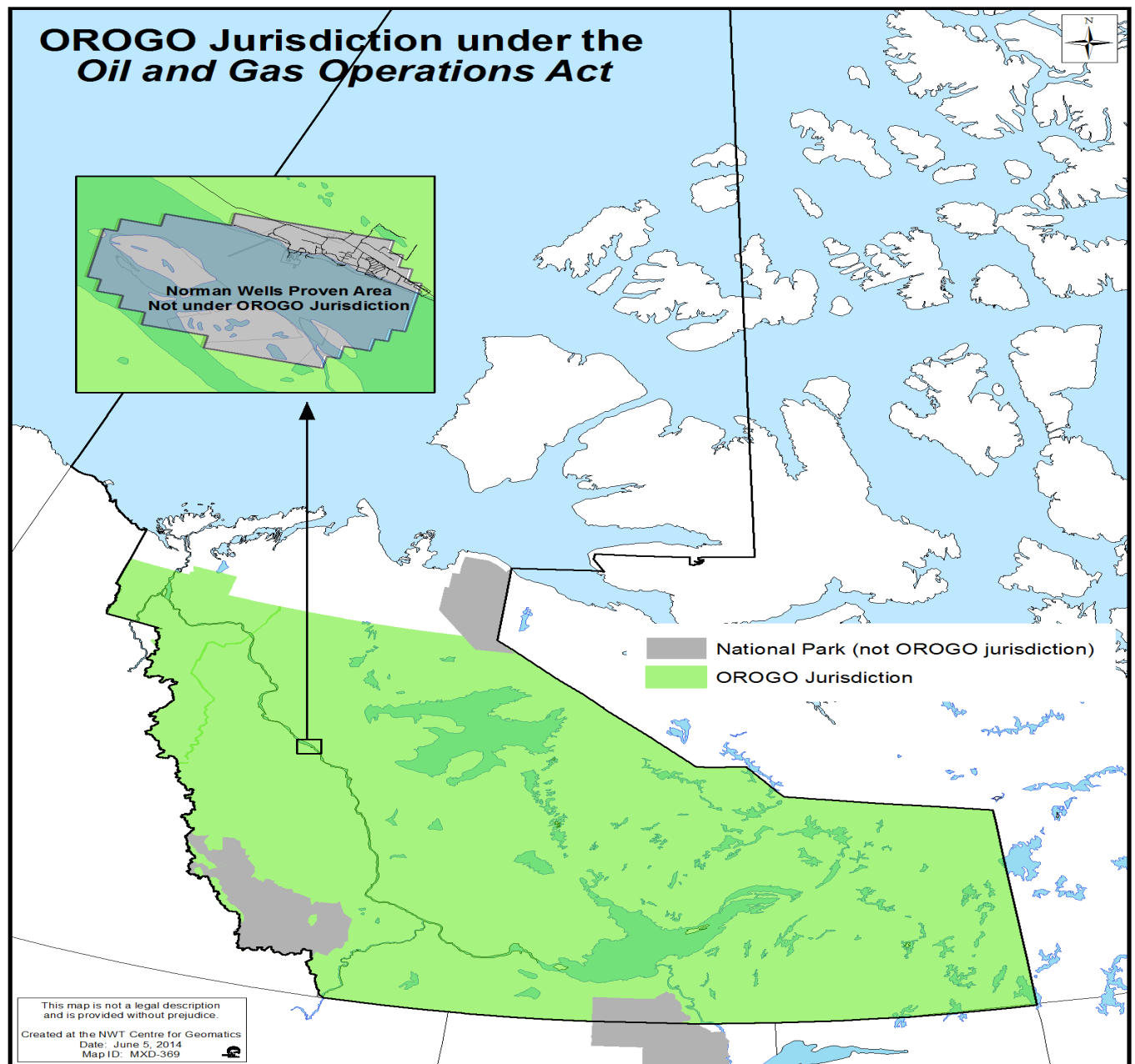
Statutory Mandate

- Under OGOA, the Regulator's mandate includes:
 - Issuing authorizations and approvals for oil and gas activities
 - Conducting inspections of oil and gas facilities
 - Incident response
- Under PRA, the Regulator's mandate includes:
 - Making significant discovery and commercial discovery declarations

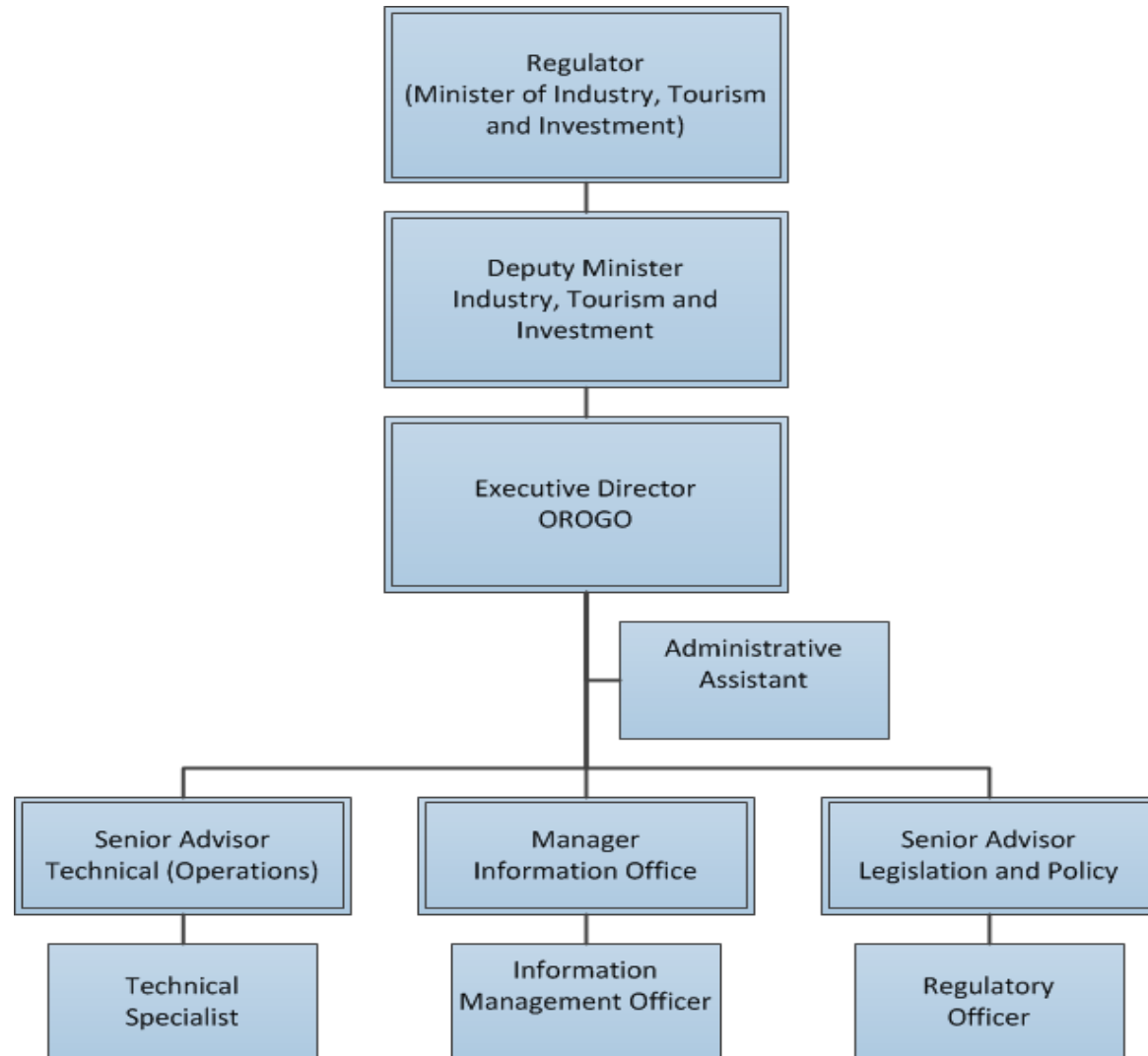




OROGO Jurisdiction under the *Oil and Gas Operations Act*



Organizational Chart



OROGO Information Office

- OROGO is establishing its own Information Office
- The Information Office will be the custodian of access to all publicly available geo-scientific information relating to the area under OROGO's jurisdiction
- Ms. Kristen Cameron will take on the position of Manager, Information Office early in 2015



Accessing Well and Geophysical Data

- Access to well and geophysical data is currently administered on behalf of OROGO by the National Energy Board's Frontier Information Office
- Available at the NEB's office in Calgary:
 - Well history reports
 - Geophysical reports
 - Sampling reports
- Information from 2008 onward is available electronically at NEB's office in Calgary – earlier information is available on micro-fiche.

Accessing Well Materials

- The *Oil and Gas Drilling and Production Regulations* require operators to submit cutting, fluid and core samples to the Regulator
- These materials are housed at the Geological Survey of Canada core facility in Calgary
- The NEB continues to administer access to these materials on behalf of OROGO on an interim basis



Studying Well Materials

- To study well materials, you must apply in writing to OROGO in accordance with the NEB's existing application requirements
- It may take up to 21 days to process your application
- Access may be granted with conditions
- OROGO requires submission of a “report of study” within 6 months of your access to the samples



Future Plans

- OROGO is reviewing all of these services from multiple perspectives
 - Physical location
 - Technology to access
 - Application requirements
- We are looking for views from users on what works and what should change



Questions?