

GEOPHYSICAL REPORTING GUIDELINES AND INTERPRETATION NOTES SUMMARY

The *Geophysical Reporting Guidelines and Interpretation Notes* (Guidelines) provide guidance to operators on the filing of geophysical reports and the public disclosure of those reports after the expiry of a period of confidentiality known as the privilege period. These reports are an important resource for Northwest Territories residents, governments, and potential operators to understand the nature and extent of the petroleum resources found in the Northwest Territories.

The guidelines were prepared by an OROGO-led working group with technical support from staff of the National Energy Board (NEB) and the Northwest Territories Geological Survey (NTGS). Additional technical support was also provided by a private contractor.

The objectives of the guidelines are to:

- Support operator compliance with the *Oil and Gas Geophysical Operations Regulations*;
- Clarify how OROGO will administer the privilege period granted by section 91 of the *Petroleum Resources Act* to geophysical reports;
- Maintain a measure of consistency with the requirements of other Canadian regulators, where appropriate; and
- Fulfill the legislative purpose of the legislation and regulations, which have been commented upon by the courts in the federal context.

The guidelines were developed after a review of requirements in other Canadian jurisdictions with similar legislation and a public consultation period. The guidelines include:

- Summary of the purpose of the guidelines and legislative requirements;
- Weekly status reporting requirements;
- Final reporting requirements;
- Reporting requirements for companies that have purchased or reprocessed data for credit against their work requirements; and
- Confirmation how OROGO will administer public disclosure of the reports.

The guidelines, a question and answer document, and a summary of consultation and engagement results document are available at www.oro.go.gov.nt.ca. A French translation of the guidelines will be made available upon request.

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