

participation in mineral exploration and development. The Exploration Operations Branch of the division explores for, investigates and assesses mineral occurrences in the province from the grass-roots level to a highly sophisticated operational base.

Saskatchewan. The Mineral Lands Branch of the Department of Mineral Resources disposes of Crown minerals, administers incentive programs to attract the mineral industry, and maintains records respecting areas let out by lease, permit, drilling reservation, claim or claim block. Recording offices, located at Regina, La Ronge, Uranium City and Creighton, assist the public in determining lands available.

Officers of the Mines Safety Branch of the Department of Labour make regular examinations of all mines to ensure proper conditions for health and safety. Safety education, particularly in first aid and mine rescue instruction, is also part of the work of this branch.

The Precambrian Geology Division of the Geological Sciences Branch conducts geological surveys in the Canadian Shield areas of the province and publishes maps and reports for the information and guidance of the industry. Resident geologists are stationed at Uranium City and La Ronge, which have core storage and examination facilities.

A new policy for northern Saskatchewan, announced in March 1975, provides for participation with industry in mineral development through the Saskatchewan Mineral Development Corporation.

Alberta. The Energy Resources Conservation Board is responsible for administering all aspects of the energy resources of Alberta, including their conservation, regulation and transmission. The board regulates coal mines and quarries and maintains standards of safety. The oil and gas industries are served similarly, but regulatory measures also prevent the waste of oil and gas resources. The board compiles periodic reports and annual records. The Workmen's Compensation Board maintains safety standards and pays the cost of training mine rescue crews.

The mining industry is served also by the Research Council of Alberta which has made bedrock and surficial geological surveys over many parts of the province. Groundwater and soil surveys and projects concerned with the uses and development of minerals are included in its responsibilities. The council has studied the occurrence of Alberta coals and their particular chemical and physical properties, the use of coals in the generation of power, and their upgrading and cleaning. Studies have also been made of glass sands, salt, fertilizers, cement manufacture and brick and tile manufacture.

The province, together with the Canadian Association of Oil Well Drilling Contractors and the Canadian Petroleum Association, maintains a supervisory and safety training program concerned with the drilling of oil and gas wells. Of assistance also to mining and oil companies are the special reductions provided for in the Alberta Income Tax Act.

British Columbia. The British Columbia Department of Mines and Petroleum Resources assists the mining industry through two established branches and two new divisions, Economics and Planning, and Mineral Taxation.

Inspectors of the Mineral Resources Branch are stationed throughout the province. They inspect coal mines, metal mines and quarries, examine prospects, mining properties, roads and trails, and carry out special investigations under the Mineral Act. Environmental Control inspectors conduct dust, ventilation and noise surveys and recommend improvements in environmental conditions. Other inspectors administer the Roads and Trails and Prospectors Grub-stake programs, and the reclamation sections of provincial mining statutes.

The Geological Division carries out a variety of geological studies and publishes data. It makes assessments of the mineral potential of land; collects, stores and disseminates geological statistical data; and records the exploration and mining activities of the industry. An inventory of mineral deposits is under way