

and natural gas may be carried out under an exploration licence followed by an operating lease; the exploration licence covers a period of five years and an acreage of not over 60,000 acres, whereas the operating lease extends over a 20-year period and an acreage not over half the acreage of the permit. In Nova Scotia, mining rights to certain minerals, including petroleum, occurring under differing conditions may be held by different licensees. Provision is sometimes made for royalties. Acts or regulations govern methods of production. In the search for petroleum and natural gas, an exploration permit or reservation is usually required; however, in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia leases usually follow the exploration reservation whether or not any discovery of oil or gas is made. In Alberta, exploration costs are applicable in part on the first year's lease rental, in Manitoba they may be applied to the lease rental for a period of up to three years and, in British Columbia and Saskatchewan, credit is given for up to 24 months' rental, having regard to the amount of excess credit established. In other provinces, the discovery of oil or gas is usually prerequisite to obtaining a lease or grant of a limited area, subject to carrying out drilling obligations and paying a rental, a fee, or a royalty on production.

Quarrying regulations define the size of holdings and the terms of lease or grant. In Nova Scotia, sand deposits of a quality suitable for uses other than building purposes and limestone deposits of metallurgical grade belong to the Crown; gypsum deposits belong to the owner of the property. Under the New Brunswick Quarriable Substances Act, 1968, quarriable substances (ordinary stone, building and construction stone, sand, gravel, peat and peat moss) are vested in the owner of the land in or on which they lie; the Minister with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council may designate a shore area lying outside Crown land to be subject to the Act; and no person shall take or remove or cause to be taken or removed more than one half cubic yard of a quarriable substance from Crown land or a designated shore area without obtaining a permit or lease. On Quebec public lands and on those granted to individuals after January 1, 1966, the stone, sand and gravel, like other building materials, belong to the Crown; quarries located on land granted to individuals prior to 1966 remain in the possession of the owners of the surface; the right to exploit all building materials except sand and gravel may be acquired by ordinary staking-out and the right to work sand and gravel beds is set by regulation. In Saskatchewan, sand and gravel on the surface and all sand and gravel obtainable by stripping off the overburden or other surface operation belong to the owner of the surface of the land. In Alberta, sand, gravel, clay and marl recovered by excavating from the surface belong to the owner of the surface of the land. Copies of mining legislation including regulations and other details may be obtained from the provincial authorities concerned.

Sources

- 12.1 - 12.2.1 Minerals and Metals Division, Mineral Development Sector, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.
- 12.2.2 Supplied by the respective provincial government departments.
- 12.3 - 12.3.3 Minerals and Metals Division, Mineral Development Sector, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.
- 12.3.4 Supplied by the respective provincial government departments.