



Mineral Titles

Information Update

No. 21 – Amalgamation of Cell Claims

Revision Date: November 4, 2015

Amalgamate means to join 2 or more cell claims into one cell claim. Section 24.2 of the *Mineral Tenure Act* and Section 5 of the Mineral Tenure Act Regulation provide that adjoining cell claims that are held by the same recorded holder may be amalgamated. Amalgamation applies only to cell claims; legacy claims cannot be amalgamated or included in an amalgamation. The following outlines the criteria for amalgamation of cell claims:

- mineral cell claims may be amalgamated with other mineral cell claims, and placer cell claims may be amalgamated with other placer cell claims, but mineral and placer cell claims cannot be amalgamated with each other
- the cell claims to be amalgamated must adjoin, which means that they must share a common boundary other than at a corner; must all be held by the same recorded holder; if there are 2 or more recorded holders, each of the recorded holders must hold the same percentage of interest in each of the cell claims; and, the individual registering the amalgamation must be an authorized agent in Mineral Titles Online (MTO) for the other recorded holders
- an entire cell claim must be amalgamated

Please be aware of the following before you decide to amalgamate your cell claims:

- upon registration of the amalgamation in MTO, a new cell claim is created as of the date of the registration and the former cell claims are terminated
- the expiry date of the new cell claim created by the amalgamation is the earliest of the expiry dates of the amalgamated claims:

Example: Claim “A” has an expiry date of April 8, 2007.

Claim “B” has an expiry date of July 1, 2009.

Claim “C” has an expiry date of September 14, 2012.

The amalgamated Claim “D” will have an expiry date of April 8, 2007.

- exploration and development work performed on the cell claims prior to the registration of the amalgamation **cannot** be registered after the amalgamation is completed. Exploration and development work must be registered on the cell claims prior to the amalgamation.
- effective July 1, 2012 the Mineral Tenure Act Regulation changed to allow all valid claims in existence as of July 1, 2012 to be treated as if they are in their first anniversary year with respect to assessment work requirements. As an amalgamation results in the termination of the pre-existing cell claim the above would not be available to the amalgamated claim
- if you intend to apply for a lease in the future, please take note, that only an entire claim can be taken to lease.

NOTE: An amalgamation is **not** the same as the former Notice to Group option that was repealed in January 2005.

Please ensure that you understand all of the above before you register an amalgamation. **The amalgamation cannot be cancelled once registration has been completed.**

If you have any questions or concerns about amalgamation, please email Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca.