



File: 10765-01/2018 policy changes
Cliff: 240718

October 26, 2018

All BC Timber Sales Registrants

Dear BC Timber Sales Registrant:

This letter provides important information regarding two pilot projects that BC Timber Sales (BCTS) has been engaged in since early 2017.

e-Bidding Pilot

BCTS has decided to extend the e-Bidding pilot for an additional year to October 31, 2019. This will allow further opportunity for registrants to test the e-Bidding system and provide us with user analysis and feedback that can be used to improve the service.

BCTS enterprises that register or renew their registration for the e-Bidding service through BC Bid until October 31, 2019 will continue to have the annual e-Bidding subscription cost covered by BCTS.

Timber Sale Licence (TSL) opportunities will continue to be advertised online on the BC Bid website at <http://www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca> to facilitate the e-Bidding process and through the Official Notices website at <http://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/pub/notices/>. However, all TSL tender information attachments will continue to **only** be available through BC Bid.

A short 1-minute YouTube video demonstrating how to search the BC Bid website for information on past TSL auctions (posted on BC Bid since the e-Bidding pilot commenced on April 1, 2017) can be found at the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLCYvmUPwKE> or you may search with the words “BC BID advanced search video” on the YouTube website.

Lastly, please note that during the e-Bidding pilot period BCTS will continue to accept tenders for TSLs either through e-Bidding submission or by the current paper-based tender method. However, in specific situations the Timber Sales Manager (TSM) may still require a bid deposit and in those cases applications will only be accepted by the paper-based tender form method at the Timber Sales Office that had advertised the TSL.

To Summarize:

- e-Bidding pilot extended to October 31, 2019;
- e-Bidding service registration costs will continue to be covered by BCTS until October 31, 2019;
- BCTS will continue to accept TSL tenders by e-Bidding or paper submission for the duration of the pilot

If you have not already done so, I encourage you take advantage of the free registration offer for BC Bid and to try out the e-Bidding approach to offering you timber sale opportunities and submitting your tender applications.

For further information regarding registering for and submitting e-Bids, please visit the following web page: <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/> .

No Bid Deposit Pilot

The No Bid Deposit Pilot has been very successful in streamlining the auction administration process for both BCTS and registrants. Therefore, as of October 31, 2018, it will be implemented on a permanent basis. This means that as of October 31, 2018, bid deposits will not be required for most TSL auctions. Bid deposits may still be required for specific TSL auctions at the discretion of the TSM on a case-by-case basis.

If you have any questions, please call your local timber sales office.

Sincerely,



Shawn Hedges R.P.F.
Director, Sustainability and Forestry
BC Timber Sales Headquarters

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