



# Mineral Titles

## Information Update

### No. 13 – Legacy Claim Conversion to Cell Claim

Revision Date: November 4, 2015

Located (ground staked) mineral and placer claims are termed “legacy” claims. The recorded holder of a legacy claim may convert that legacy claim into a cell claim comprised of the overlying cells that are partially or completely encumbered by the legacy claim, provided the cells are available for registration. The provisions respecting conversion are set out in [Section 3](#) of the Mineral Tenure Act Regulation.

#### The benefits of conversion include:

1. Providing secure title by eliminating mapping issues such as overlap and map location challenges;
2. Reducing overlap so as to reduce exploration costs to hold ground;
3. Acquiring additional ground that is available (unencumbered by another legacy claim) within the cells for no cost;
4. No loss of exploration work that has been recorded on the legacy claim, as the expiry date of the legacy claim is automatically assigned to the new cell claim;
5. No loss of exploration work carried out (but not yet recorded) on the legacy claim, as that work can be registered against the new cell claim within 12 months of completion of the work;
6. Conversion of adjoining legacy claims into one cell claim, thus providing for the consolidation of smaller titles into a larger one; and
7. Potential to significantly reduce the cost of a future lease survey.

#### Before you decide to convert, be aware of some possible results:

1. Immediate loss of ground if any portion of the legacy claim is overlapped by an existing cell claim; if you convert the legacy claim and another free miner has previously acquired one or more of the cells in a cell claim, the ground of the legacy claim within those cells will not be available and will be lost upon conversion, and it will become part of the other cell claim.
2. When two or more legacy claims are converted to one cell claim, the expiry date of the cell claim will be the earliest expiry date of the legacy claims. You may offset this by registering exploration and development work or a payment instead of exploration and development to advance any of the legacy claims forward to a later date, but this must be done prior to converting the legacy claims.
3. Pursuant to the July 1, 2012 Regulation changes – All valid claims in existence as of July 1, 2012 acquire a benefit of being treated as if they are in their first anniversary year with respect to the required assessment work requirements. As a conversion terminates the existing legacy claim and issues a new cell claim, this benefit that the original claim holds is not transferred to the resulting converted claim.
4. Loss of the use of immediate 100% 5-year PAC provision on mineral claims. The converted claim is a new cell claim, subject to claim maintenance provisions for new claims; this means work values will commence at year 1. The one-time 100% PAC credit can only be credited after 10 years of work has been registered on the cell claim, as per [Section 9\(4\)](#) of the Mineral Tenure Act Regulation.
5. Loss of claim name as you cannot assign a claim name to a converted cell claim.

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In the event of a discrepancy between this information and the provisions in the *Mineral Tenure Act* and Regulation, the provisions in the statute and regulations will apply.

Ministry of Energy and Mines  
Mineral Titles

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 1810 Blanshard St. (by appt. only)  
PO Box. 9322 Stn Prov. Gov't  
Victoria, BC V8W 9N3  
300 – 865 Hornby Street  
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2G3

Telephone: 1-866-616-4999

Fax: 604-660-2653

Email: [Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca)

[www.mineraltitles.gov.bc.ca](http://www.mineraltitles.gov.bc.ca)