



# Mineral Titles *Information Update*

## No. 24 – Cell Status After Registration of an Abandonment or Reduction Event on a Cell Claim

Revision Date: April 17, 2018

When an abandonment event is registered on a claim in Mineral Titles Online (MTO), the claim ceases to exist immediately upon registration. Similarly, when a reduction event is registered in MTO, the newly reduced claim area takes effect immediately upon registration. The cells that are abandoned or discarded through a reduction **become available no sooner than 10 am (PST) on the day that follows the good-to-date of the claim as indicated in MTO at the time of the abandonment or reduction event.**

This provision is intended to prevent recorded holders from registering abandonment or reduction events and then immediately registering a new cell claim(s) over the same cells.

The aim of this provision is to encourage exploration and development on claims that are held. The *Mineral Tenure Act* provides that a claim must be maintained by performing exploration and development work and registering that work during the first anniversary year of the claim. If circumstances arise where the recorded holder cannot perform exploration and development work, the *Act* provides for a payment in lieu of exploration and development.

The Mineral Titles Branch (MTB) realizes that there will be situations where a recorded holder has a legitimate business reason for abandoning or reducing a claim and registering a new claim or claims over some or all of the cells. In such cases, the recorded holder may wish to consider subdividing claims, or send a letter to MTB at the Vancouver address or an email to [Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca) and your case will be reviewed. For more information on subdivision of cell claims, please review [Information Update No. 35](#).

The MTB will conduct a review of cells that are unavailable due to abandonment or reduction registrations and may make some of these cells available at an earlier date. A notice will be posted on the MTB website of any cells to be made available at an earlier date. The posted notice will include a list of the cell key ID's for each cell that are to be made available early and the date and time for when the cells are to become available.