



Mineral Titles

Information Update

No. 30 – Cell Availability upon Automatic Forfeiture of Tenure

Revision Date: November 4, 2015

[Section 35](#) of the *Mineral Tenure Act* provides that if a recorded holder does not perform and register exploration and development work, or make payments instead of exploration and development as required by [Section 29](#) of the *Act*, the recorded holder's claim forfeits to and vests in the government at the end of the day on the expiry date of the claim.

At the end of each day a review of all claims is conducted in Mineral Titles Online (MTO) to identify those claims with an expiry date for that day. Each claim is verified as to whether exploration and development work, or payment instead of exploration and development work was registered and the applicable prescribed payments received on or before 12 Midnight (PST). In the event neither of these two registrations was successfully completed, the claim forfeits.

MTO 'geoprocesses' or re-statuses each cell related to those forfeited claims to determine if they should be made available or unavailable for mineral or placer claim acquisition. Cells previously held by a forfeited cell claim or that were wholly encompassed by a forfeited legacy claim typically become available at 10:00:01am (PST) on the day the forfeiture event was registered.

One of the primary goals of MTO is to provide security of tenure through clear and concise mapping. From time to time service interruptions do occur. As computer systems personnel are not employed 24 hours a day, the 10:00am (PST) cell availability allows Mineral Titles and systems staff to administer and possibly rectify issues that may have occurred during non-business hours.

The daytime cell acquisition aligns with most business regimes and the ability of the Ministry to diagnose and resolve any potential systems issues during business hours is beneficial.

Mineral Titles would like to remind clients to register their exploration and development work, or make payment instead of exploration and development work for their tenures **well in advance of the good-to-dates of their claims**. This would offer both peace of

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.

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mind to the title owner that their claims would remain in good standing and avoid unscheduled service interruptions and potential forfeiture of their claims.