



Mineral Titles

Information Update

No. 5 – Bulk Sampling

Revision Date: July 9, 2018

Bulk sampling is an exploration and development activity conducted on a mineral claim to investigate the metallurgical properties of an ore body, to test extractive milling methods, mill equipment, and potential markets. A mineral claim holder may carry out bulk sampling as part of a standard exploration and development program, prior to making a decision to move to production.

“Bulk sampling” and “production” serve different purposes. Bulk sampling is a one-time extraction of ore for testing, while production is a continuous process for profit.

[Section 17\(3\)](#) of the Mineral Tenure Act Regulation provides that a bulk sample of up to 10,000 tonnes of ore may be extracted from a mineral claim not more than once every five years.

The annual production limit on a mineral claim is restricted to a maximum of 1,000 tonnes of ore from each cell in a mineral cell claim or each unit in a legacy mineral claim. Except for a bulk sample, production in excess of this limit can only occur on a mining lease.

A Notice of Work must be submitted to and approved by the regional Inspector of Mines prior to commencement of work.

Bulk sampling is recorded for assessment credit as:

Technical work - Costs related to assay, extractive mineralogical studies and mineral processing analysis of the samples can only be credited as technical work, and a technical report must be submitted in accordance with section 16 of the Regulation. Costs for trenching and test pits can be included in the report. GST may be included in acceptable approved costs, where it has been paid in the purchase of goods and services. For further information, please contact the Mineral Titles office.

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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