

Frequently Asked Questions

Bulletin 2021-10: 2021/22 Interim AER Administration Fees (Industry Levy)

April 2021

Q1. Why is the invoice issued only for 50% of the AER revenue requirements?

A1. We are in the process of developing a revised methodology for calculating the levy. The current administration fees were calculated using the existing methodology and will provide the AER with the funds to operate until the revised methodology has been completed. Once that occurs, the AER will bill the full-year amounts under the revised methodology, providing credit for amounts paid under the interim billing.

Q2. Will I receive another invoice?

A2. Yes. This is an interim billing that will be credited towards your final invoice, which will be issued in the fall.

Q3. Will the Government of Alberta provide a grant in 2021/22?

A3. No. The government grant last year was a one-time relief in response to the economic impacts of COVID-19 and record low commodity prices.

Q4. When are the administration fees due?

A4. May 12, 2021

Q5. Who is responsible for paying the administration fees?

A5. The invoice is sent to the operator of a facility (well, oil sands scheme, or coal mine) as of December 31, 2020, and is payable by that operator. Should the operator fail to pay the fee, the approval holder (if different from the operator) is responsible for paying the invoiced amount and any assessed penalty.

Q6. What are the administration fees for?

A6. The administration fees support the AER's operations. The fees are allocated according to industry sector—oil and gas, oil sands, and coal—and are based on our operational requirements for the specific sector.

Q7. Who is responsible for paying the fees if wells or facilities were sold after December 31, 2020?

A7. The operator on record as of December 31, 2020, is responsible for paying the 2021 administration fees, even if the wells or facilities were sold after that date.

Q8. Where can I get a copy of my invoice?

A8. Invoices will be mailed out on April 12, 2021, and addressed to the chief financial officer or controller. To request an extra copy or electronic version of your invoice, please contact AdminFeeCoordinator@aer.ca.

Q9. Can I get my invoice emailed in the future?

A9. Yes. The AER is considering sending levy invoices to approval holders by email in the future. This would speed up the delivery time and ensure safer delivery. At this time, we ask that you send to AdminLevyReview@aer.ca the corporate email address that you would prefer for receiving levy invoices. Ideally, this would be a shared email address that would not require frequent updates due to staff changes.

Q10. Can I pay by credit card?

A10. No.

Q11. Will I be charged a penalty if I do not pay the invoice by the due date?

A11. Payments are due May 12, 2021. A late-payment penalty of 20 per cent will be charged on the portion of the AER administration fee that remains unpaid after May 12, 2021.

Q12. What if I disagree with details on my invoice?

A12. Send an email explaining what you disagree with to the administration fee coordinator at AdminFeeCoordinator@aer.ca.

Q13. How do I appeal the administration fees?

A13. Any appeal must be emailed to Mike Dalton, vice president of finance and chief financial officer, at mike.dalton@aer.ca.

Payment of all invoices is required by May 12, 2021, regardless of whether an appeal has been filed. Following a decision on the appeal, adjustments will be applied as needed.