



This fact sheet gives an overview of the AER's responsibilities for part 8 of the *Mines and Minerals Act*.

What is the Mines and Minerals Act?

The *Mines and Minerals Act* governs the management and disposition of rights for Crown-owned mines and minerals, including the levying and collecting of bonuses, rental, and royalties. The act is jointly administered by Alberta Energy, Environment and Sustainable Resource Development and now the Alberta Energy Regulator.

What is part 8 of the *Mines and Minerals Act*?

Part 8 of the *Mines and Minerals Act* specifically relates to the exploration for mines and minerals in Alberta. Under the *Responsible Energy Development Act*, jurisdiction for this part of the act shifts to the Alberta Energy Regulator from Environment and Sustainable Resource Development.

What is changing within the act as it moves to the Alberta Energy Regulator?

The legislation—part 8 of the act—remains intact as it moves to the Alberta Energy Regulator. Where applicants go to apply and who issues the approvals will change from Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development to the Alberta Energy Regulator.

How does part 8 of the *Mines and Minerals Act* fit into the AER becoming a full life-cycle regulator?

Long before wells are drilled, coal is mined, or oil sands' bitumen extracted, the first step is determining what's in the ground and whether it can be developed. Interested parties must explore the surface and subsurface through geophysical—also known as seismic—exploration. This is the first step in any energy development.

The Alberta Energy Regulator ensures the safe, efficient, orderly, and environmentally responsible development of hydrocarbon resources over their entire life cycle. This includes allocating and conserving water resources, managing public lands, and protecting the environment while providing economic benefits for all Albertans.



Who should I contact if I have questions?

If you have questions about the transition of part 8 of the *Mines and Minerals Act* to the AER, please call 1-855-297-8311; you can also e-mail inquiries@aer.ca.
