

March 24, 1998

## **Ammonite Shell Information Bulletin 98-1**

**Subject: AMMONITE SHELL TENURE REVIEW PROJECT;  
MORATORIUM ON NEW AMMONITE SHELL AGREEMENTS**

This is to advise you of the progress being made in the ammonite shell tenure review and to advise you of a moratorium on the issuance of new agreements, which was effective March 2, 1998. The Department of Energy has decided that new applications for ammonite shell agreements will not be accepted until the review is completed and any application in process prior to March 2, 1998 will be held until completion of the review.

The Departments of Energy and Community Development commenced the review of the Ammonite Shell Regulation and the various government policies that govern ammonite shell collection by holding a public meeting August 6, 1997. The review is being conducted through a consultation process, using a committee composed of members of industry, landowners and other government agencies to identify issues and concerns with the existing systems and regulations.

The committee met twice in the fall of 1997, identifying and discussing a wide range of issues concerning ammonite. Following the second meeting, Energy and Community Development agreed to commence preparation of a series of suggestions on ammonite shell tenure, for presentation to the committee and general ammonite industry in the Spring of 1998. All ammonite clients and people interested in ammonite will have the opportunity to review and comment on proposed alternative courses of action. The input received from those who choose to comment will be used to direct the changes to the ammonite tenure regime. A second circulation may be made if the input received suggests significant changes from the original proposals. The review is scheduled to be completed before year's end.

For further information on these topics, please contact Brian Hudson, Manager, Mineral Agreements at (403) 427-9077.



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