Oil Tax Reform: Gross Revenue Exclusion

House Finance Committee
April 6, 2013

Department of Natural Resources
• Joe Balash, Deputy Commissioner
• Bill Barron, Director, Division of Oil & Gas
There are three ways to qualify:

1. Production from a Unit formed after 2003
   - Nikaitchuq Unit, Oooguruk Unit

2. Production from a PA formed after 2012 which is in a unit formed prior to 2003
   - New PA at Prudhoe Bay

3. Production from acreage that was added to an existing participating area by DNR on and after January 1, 2014, and the producer demonstrates to DNR that the volume of oil or gas produced is from acreage added to an existing participating area
**Leasing & Unitization**

**Leasing** is the primary mechanism by which the State grants exclusive rights to explore and develop the oil and gas mineral rights of the State to private parties

- Competitive bidding
- Terms and conditions have varied over time
- Tracts are generally 3x3 miles, except in prime shale areas

**Unitization** is the mechanism to join contiguous leased tracts together into a unit in order to

- Protect the interests of all parties, including the state
- Ensure proper reservoir management, and
- Enhance recovery of reserves
**Unitization**

- Tract 1
- Tract 2
- Tract 3
- Tract 4
- Tract 5
- Tract 6
- Tract 7
- Tract 8
- Tract 9
- Tract 10
- Tract 11
- Tract 12

- Co A
- Co B

- Proposed Unit Boundary
- Delineated Reservoir
- Tract Boundaries
WHAT is a PARTICIPATING AREA (PA)?

A set of tracts within a Unit, overlying a reservoir which is on sustained production

• North Slope: 18 State Units, 38 PAs
• A unit may have multiple reservoirs at different depths – each PA is defined vertically as well as horizontally
• Leases approved for inclusion into a PA may not be severed
• PA provides mechanism to allocate costs and revenues

Regulations

11 AAC 83.351 PA Formation, Expansion, Contraction
11 AAC 83.343 Plans of Development
11 AAC 83.371 Allocation of Production and Costs
11 AAC 83.303 Protect all parties
# North Slope PAs

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EVALUATION and APPROVAL of PAs

11 AAC 83.351: PA Formation, Expansion, Contraction

• PA may include only the land capable of producing or contributing to production of hydrocarbons in paying quantities
• PA must be contracted to exclude acreage incapable of contributing to production of hydrocarbons in paying quantities

11 AAC 83.303 Criteria

• Promote conservation
• Prevent waste
• Protect all parties
Operator submits application no later than 90 days prior to sustained production

Submittal includes Exhibits C and D, legal description with allocation factors, and map

- Allocation factors allocate production to each tract

Must include Exhibits E and F if Net Profit Share (NPS) leases included

- NPS leases require accounting of costs and revenues to determine “pay out”. Exhibits E and F provides methodology and basis for cost allocation, used by Royalty Accounting and Audit
PA Exhibits C and D
Once development activities commence and/or a PA is formed, a Plan of Development (POD) is required under 11 AAC 83.343

- Describes plans to develop the reservoir
  - Development activities: facilities, pipelines, offshore production islands, gathering lines, and permanent drill sites
- POD is submitted annually for review and approval
- If POD deemed insufficient for approval, DNR may propose modifications. If Operator agrees to modification, POD approved
  - If modifications not accepted by Operated and reviewed, POD not approved, current POD may expire
TRACT ALLOCATION FACTORS

11 AAC 83.371

• Approval of PA includes approval of Allocation Factors (Tract Factors or TF) to protect all parties
  – Exhibit C designates each PA tract a TF
  – Bases for calculating TF proscribed in Operating Agreement sometimes Unit Agreement or approval decision
    • Acreage
    • Original Oil in Place (OOIP)
    • Recoverable
    • Value Based

• Working Interest Owners receive revenue based on TF
  – Equity negotiations

• State of Alaska receives royalties based on TF
  – Commercial interest evaluation
Revisions to Division of Interest: Reallocations

- Production is reallocated
  - As PA expands of contracts
    - Development wells identified and committed to in Plan of Development
    - Expansion of Milne Point Unit Sag River PA
    - Contraction of Milne Point Unit Sag River PA
  - As basis for allocation changes
    - Field matures, more technical information gathered and evaluated, production is reallocated
    - Revised Exhibit C designates each PA tract a TF
    - Bases for calculating TF proscribed in Operating Agreement sometimes Unit Agreement or approval decision
      - Acreage, OOIP, Recoverable, Value Based

- Resource Evaluation, Commercial, Royalty Accounting, Audit Sections
  - Evaluation of protection of State’s Interest
  - Protection of all parties
KUPARUK RIVER UNIT (KRU)
Questions?