



ASSESSMENT REPORTS

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MINERAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS

Title to a mineral claim is maintained either by paying cash or recording exploration and development work which adds information to the mineral data base. Value credited for assessment work is determined from the content and cost of original work done on the claims as described in an assessment report.

Utilizing assessment reports to access exploration credit was started in 1947 in British Columbia. Since that time more than 12 500 assessment reports have been accepted by the Resource Data and Analysis Section. Most reports are held confidential for one year from the date of filing, but if requested confidential periods to three or five years for regional surveys and drilling/assay reports are given.

Assessment report locations are plotted on paper and mylar index maps of 1:125 000 and 1:250 000 scale. The mylar maps are filmed in January and June and paper prints are available for purchase from the Victoria and Vancouver offices. Assessment reports from 00001-07899 are on aperture cards and are available for viewing and copying in Victoria and Vancouver. Assessment Reports 07900-09999 are on microfiche and are available for viewing at all District Geologists' offices in Vancouver and in Victoria; the microfiche can be reproduced on paper in Victoria. All original assessment reports that have passed the confidentiality period are available for reading and reproduction in Victoria; District Geologists' offices also have copies of all original assessment reports for their respective areas. The Publications Distribution office in Victoria stocks the 'Assessment Report Index,' a computer printout list of assessment reports sorted by NTS map-area and report number. A sequential numerical index and an alphabetical claim index are also available from Resource Data and Analysis Section in Victoria.

As availability of staff and funds allow, old assessment reports on microfilm aperture cards are being converted to microfiche; eventually the entire file will be available on microfiche.

PORTABLE ASSESSMENT CREDITS (PAC)

The PAC program was initiated in 1978 to encourage companies to file exploration reports where expenditures were in excess of work requirements to keep claims in good standing, and from regional surveys

where claim tenure was not involved. The expenditures credited to a PAC account may be used in the future in three ways:

- (1) for up to 30 per cent of the value of required assessment work on a claim,
- (2) to have recording fees refunded, and
- (3) to extend claim title for up to 5 years if at least 10 years of work requirements have been previously recorded.

Please refer to the Mineral Act Regulations for details.

In six years of operation (1978 to 1983) approximately 500 companies and individuals have participated in the PAC program submitting \$60 million worth of extra exploration results to the government data base, while about \$17 million has been debited from the accounts.

COAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS

The Coal Act requires that any exploration work done for credit on coal licences be described in an assessment report; licences may otherwise be kept in good standing by making cash payments. Since the moratorium on issuance of coal licences was lifted in 1978, a dramatic increase in coal exploration has occurred. As a result, Coal Act Regulations were revised in 1979 to give a detailed outline of the format and type of information required in assessment reports. A coal data base, COALFILE, has been created from information in these reports (see article by Kenyon, this volume).

The library of assessment reports dates back to the turn of the century, but the bulk of the approximately six hundred reports were submitted within the last six years. The reports are held confidential for three years from the date of submission, and specified analysis data is permanently confidential. Reports on forfeited licences are not confidential.

Assessment reports contain information on the type of work done on a property. This includes mapping, drilling, underground work, logging and sampling, reclamation, and various types of surveys. Histories of the properties and reserve and resource data may also appear. Both the Geological and Inspection Branches must recommend acceptance of the reported costs of various types of work before the Coal Administrator will accept the report.