

Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch Policy Division 300 Water Street Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7 Ministère du Développement du Nord, des Mines, des Richesses Naturelles et des Forêts

Direction des politiques de planification et d'exploitation des ressources Division de l'élaboration des politiques 300, rue Water Peterborough (Ontario) K9J 3C7

Notice: Changes under the Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act related to compressed air energy storage and updates to Provincial Standards

Hello,

We are writing today to inform you of changes that have been recently approved to the regulation and standards under the Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act.

In January 2021, we let you know of a posting on the environmental and regulatory registries seeking feedback on proposals related to:

- compressed air energy storage projects (CAES) in porous rock reservoirs
- administrative changes to the parties who may act as financial trustees, and
- updates to technical standards

After reviewing the feedback received, these proposals have been approved with modifications that include:

- providing additional flexibility for CAES applications and operations, and
- requiring any party carrying out consultation under the regulation to take all reasonable steps to protect personal information gathered during the consultation process.

More details on the changes made to the original proposal can be found in the registry decision notice at: https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-2935.

The changes related to CAES, trustees and the protection of personal information came into effect on July 1, 2022.

Changes to the technical standards that must be followed by operators under this act will come into effect on July 1, 2023 and the revised Provincial Standards documents will be made publicly available in advance.

Should you have any questions about these changes, please contact Andrew Ogilvie at resources.development@ontario.ca or 705-761-5815.

Sincerely,

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Andrew Ogilvie, Manager, Resources Development Section

c. Alain Belanger, A/Manager, Petroleum Operations Section