the newsletter of the Mineral Land Regulation and Reclamation program

# ENGAGe

Exploration, Non-aggregate, Gas/oil, Aggregate, Geothermal

## **DOGAMI Permit Fee Changes – Effective January 1, 2021**

Fall 2020

In a special session this summer, the Oregon Legislature passed HB 4302, updating DOGAMI permit fees for all programs. It has been over 5 years since any DOGAMI permit fees were increased, and this legislation modifies the application and renewal fee structure to fairly and adequately support current services and staff.

Beginning January 1, 2021, an **Application Fee of \$2,000** will be required with all standard permit application forms. This includes applications for Aggregate, Exploration, Oil & Gas, and Geothermal permits, providing consistency across permit types. Exclusion Certificate application fees, DEQ water quality permit application and renewal fees, and cost-recovery projects are not included in this change.

Beginning with permit renewals due in January 2021, Annual Renewal Fees will increase as follows:

Aggregate Permit Renewal		<u>Oil &amp; Gas Permit Renewal</u>	\$1,160
with production \$1,460 <i>plus</i> \$0.0			
no production	\$1,200	<u>Geothermal Permit Renewal</u>	\$2,725
Exploration Permit Renewal	\$1,460	Exclusion Certificate Renewal	\$165

This change in fees will be reflected in your 2021 renewal notice. DOGAMI will be reaching out directly to current permittees with more information.

#### **Reminder: Update DOGAMI on land ownership changes**

Landowners are a very important part of operating a mining operation. They provide permission (via signature on the Operating Permit application) for the applicant to mine on their land. Without that initial permission, DOGAMI can't move forward with processing or approving an application. Mining operations can last decades, and over time landowners may change. <u>Whenever a change occurs in landownership, it is the permittee's responsibility to notify DOGAMI</u>. To document a landownership change, DOGAMI requires a listing packet (also known as a TRIO) from a title company, proving the new ownership. Permittees can mail or even email the TRIO to DOGAMI, making sure to label it with the DOGAMI site number, and a note letting us know about the landownership change. Please contact us for land ownership changes to other types of permits issued by DOGAMI.

If you'd like to receive our newsletters via email, sign up for our listserv at: <u>listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/mlrr.newsletter</u>

> Contact Us at 541-967-2039 email: mlrr.info@oregon.gov Website: www.oregongeology.org/mlrr

Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation 229 Broadalbin St. SW, Albany, OR 97321



#### **Policy Updates:**

DOGAMI continues to align our business processes with that of other State agencies and businesses within the industry, we want to give you a couple of very important reminders. In July of 2019, we started implementing Civil Penalties as part of our enforcement program. With this came the revamping of our renewal process – most notably with regards to when we send out permit renewal notices. Permit Renewal Notices are now sent out approximately 30 days before they are due (instead of 60 days). Oregon Statute requires us to accept a complete renewal packet – which means that we <u>must</u> receive BOTH the check *and* the Permit Renewal Notice form within the allotted timeframe. If we do not receive both the check and the renewal form, your site is eligible to be issued a Notice of Violation at 30 days delinquent, and a Civil Penalty at 60 days delinquent.

This prompts us to remind you of our check holding policy. If the check is not received with the Permit Renewal Notice, or there is some reason that it is incomplete (forgot to sign it, etc.) – <u>we will only hold</u> your check for up to 2 weeks before sending it back to you.

### **Protecting Cultural Resources:**

DOGAMI has developed an effective partnership with the Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS), Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and the nine federally recognized Tribal governments in Oregon that emphasizes working cooperatively to address mutual concerns. DOGAMI includes all Tribes in the review and comment process regarding proposed mineral extraction and energy development projects statewide. This process helps identify proposed development projects that have the potential to impact cultural and historic sites, and to then develop mitigation strategies. Permit holders for mineral and energy development projects are now better informed of their responsibilities to report unanticipated discoveries. DOGAMI has actively sought to meet with individual Tribal staff to ensure communication and coordination occurs between the appropriate individuals.

<u>What does this mean for permittees and applicants</u>? Essentially, ORS 358.905 and ORS 97.740 protect archaeological sites, objects, and human remains on federal, state, and private lands in Oregon. Therefore, if any cultural material is discovered during excavation activities, all work should cease immediately until a professional archaeologist can evaluate the discovery. Applicants should familiarize themselves with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), familiarize yourself with the Tribes in the project area, and preemptively reach out to them regarding your project or any future projects. They are important partners to have in any project, and they are genuinely happy to build a relationship. If you need help determining who to reach out to, DOGAMI is happy to help you make the initial connection with the correct Tribal contact.

Take our customer satisfaction survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020\_Stakeholder\_Satisfaction\_Survey\_DOGAMI\_MLRR\_ENGAGe