



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 18
(2011, chapter 13)

An Act to limit oil and gas activities

Introduced 12 May 2011
Passed in principle 19 May 2011
Passed 10 June 2011
Assented to 13 June 2011

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Under this Act, oil and gas activities in the St. Lawrence River upstream of Île d'Anticosti and on the islands situated in that part of the river are prohibited.

The holder of a licence to explore for petroleum, natural gas and underground reservoirs is exempted from performing the exploration work required by law and the term of such licences is suspended.

Bill 18

AN ACT TO LIMIT OIL AND GAS ACTIVITIES

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. No mining right provided for under Divisions IX to XIII of Chapter III of the Mining Act (R.S.Q., chapter M-13.1) may be issued for the part of the St. Lawrence River west of longitude 64°31'27" in the NAD83 geodetic reference system or for the islands situated in that part of the river.

2. Any mining right referred to in section 1 and issued for the zone described in that section is revoked.

However, where part of a territory under a licence or lease is in that zone, the licence or lease remains valid but the area situated in that zone is withdrawn from the territory under the licence or lease.

Section 180 of the Mining Act applies, with the necessary modifications, to work performed in the territory covered by the revoked licences.

This section does not apply to the lease to operate an underground reservoir bearing the number 1990BR301.

3. The holder of a licence to explore for petroleum, natural gas and underground reservoirs is exempted from performing the work required under the Mining Act until the date determined by the Minister, which date may not be later than 13 June 2014. In that case, the term of the licence is deemed to be suspended in accordance with section 169.2 of that Act. At the end of the exemption period, the expiry date of the licence is deferred to the end of the period for performing the work that remains to run after the lifting of the suspension.

The time limit for filing the report that the holder of a licence to explore for petroleum, natural gas and underground reservoirs who performs work during the exemption period provided for in the first paragraph must submit under the second paragraph of section 177 of the Mining Act is deferred to six months after the new expiry date of the licence determined under the first paragraph.

4. The application of sections 1 and 2 entails no compensation from the State.

5. This Act comes into force on 13 June 2011.

