March 4, 2014

OIL SANDS INFORMATION BULLETIN 2014-06

Subject: Decimal Places for Bitumen Density

This Information Bulletin is to clarify the number of decimals used when reporting bitumen densities under the *Bitumen Valuation Methodology (Ministerial) Regulation (BVM)*.

Currently Oil Sands Regulations and AER Directives do not explicitly detail the number of decimal places to be used when reporting bitumen densities. However, they do reference current industry standards of measurement, including ASTM D5002 and ASTM D1298 among other standards.

Under the authority of section 6(1)(c) of the *Oil Sands Royalty Regulation, 2009*, we are prescribing that all bitumen densities, for the purpose of BVM, be reported to the nearest 0.1 kg/m³: (i.e. to a maximum of one decimal place, e.g., 1008.9 kg/m³).

However, if one decimal place is beyond the level of accuracy or error associated with the test method employed, the density should be reported to the nearest whole numbers (e.g., 1009 kg/m³).

Questions regarding this Information Bulletin may be directed to:

Charles Ward
Director, Measurement & Valuations
Oil Sands Operations
Oil Sands Division
Phone: (780) 644-7023
Charles.Ward@gov.ab.ca

Authorized by: Hans Custers
Acting Executive Director, Oil Sands Operations
Oil Sands Division