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Revisions to the Guide to the Mine Financial Security Program

The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has revised the *Guide to the Mine Financial Security Program* based on the recommendations from the three-year review of the program. The Mine Financial Security Program collects security for oil sands and coal mine operations approved under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA)*.

The primary changes to the guide are summarized below. For a complete list of the changes, see the Changes to the Guide section in the guide.

- Added deemed netback eligibility requirements for a new mine operation.
- Clarified that a simple average instead of a weighted average is to be used in determining three-year average annual netback and three-year average annual sales.
- Added the process for joint venture approval holders to apply for a deemed netback.
- Set out the legislation under which *EPEA* approvals holder are required to provide the data used in their calculations to the AER upon request.
- Explained when *EPEA* approval holders can request a security reduction or refund and how the process works.

The revised guide, which is effective immediately, is available on the AER website, www.aer.ca, under Abandonment & Reclamation > Liability Management > Mine Financial Security Program > Supporting Documents.

Future reviews of the Mine Financial Security Program may include evaluating the changes noted above.

For any questions about this bulletin, send an email to MFSPSubmissions@aer.ca.

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