



FOR RELEASE
April 12, 2012

Government of Yukon announces decision on oil and gas postings

WHITEHORSE—Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Brad Cathers has announced that oil and gas exploration rights will not be issued in any of the 12 areas of the Whitehorse Trough requested for posting in January.

The decision comes after the conclusion of a 60-day public review period, which followed a technical review of the 12 areas nominated for consideration by oil and gas companies.

"When the Yukon government received these requests for postings, I noted that it had come as a surprise," Cathers said. "As I said in February, government would need to decide whether to allow bids in all of the areas, some of the areas, or none of the areas, following the technical review and public consultation. What we heard during the public review period is that many Yukoners have concerns and questions about oil and gas exploration and development in the Whitehorse Trough at this time."

This oil and gas disposition process is now concluded. In the coming months, government will consider the issues raised during the public review.

"The recent public review was our first real opportunity to hear from Yukoners on the possibility of oil and gas exploration rights being issued in the Whitehorse Trough and we thank everyone who took part for their participation," Cathers added. "We also want to thank the staff of the oil and gas resources branch, who led the public review, for their hard work and service to the people of Yukon."

For more information on Yukon's oil and gas rights disposition process, visit yukonoilandgas.com.

-30-

Contact:

Elaine Schiman
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Mark Roberts
Communications, Energy, Mines & Resources
867-667-5307
mark.roberts@gov.yk.ca

News Release #12-064

