

New obligation for the holders of an exclusive lease to mine surface mineral substances

Transmitting a copy of the environmental authorization or declaration of compliance

This notice enters into force on August 17, 2026. It renders null and void any previous notice on the same subject. The notice is in relation to [section 71 of the Regulation to amend the Mining Regulation](#) (CQLR, chapter M-13.1, r.2) (hereinafter "MR"), which came into force on July 15, 2026, following its publication in the Gazette officielle du Québec on June 30, 2026, and results [from section 142 of the Mining Act](#) (CQLR, chapter M-13.1) (hereinafter "MA"), as amended by An Act to amend the Mining Act and other provisions, which came into force on November 29, 2024. These sections mention the following:

71. The holder of an exclusive lease to mine surface mineral substances, except for a peat lease, in force on 14 July 2026 must, as the case may be, send to the Minister a copy of the ministerial authorization issued under section 22 of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2) or the declaration of compliance filed under section 31.0.6 of that Act within the month following the issue or filing of the authorization or declaration.

142. The Minister shall grant a lease in respect of a given parcel of land to any person who meets the requirements and pays the rental prescribed by regulation.

No lease, other than a peat lease, may be granted before, where applicable, the ministerial authorization provided for in section 22 of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2) has been obtained or the declaration of compliance provided for in section 31.0.6 of that Act has been filed.

[...]

Pursuant to section 71 of the MR, **any holder of an exclusive lease to mine surface mineral substances (hereinafter "BEX"), other than a peat lease, in force on July 14, 2026,** must send to the Minister a copy of the ministerial authorization issued under [section 22 of the Environment Quality Act](#) (chapter Q-2) (hereinafter "EQA") or the declaration of compliance filed under [section 31.0.6 of the EQA](#) **within the month following the issue or filing of the authorization or declaration.**

The ministerial authorization or declaration of compliance shall be transmitted as follows:

- **For BEXs under the management of the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts**, the document must be sent by email to the Centre de services des mines at services.mines@mrnf.gouv.qc.ca;
- **For BEXs under the management of a regional county municipality (RCM) or a municipality** that is signatory to the delegation agreement on sand and gravel management with the Department, the document must be transmitted to the RCM or the municipality concerned. To find out which municipality or RCM you should contact, please consult the [list of delegated RCMs](#);
- **In all cases, the subject of the transmission must indicate** the document type, BEX number and identification of the BEX holder.

For any BEX application in process on July 14, 2026, or for any BEX application filed on or after July 15, 2026, the lease may not be finalized until, if applicable, the ministerial authorization under section 22 of the EQA is issued or the declaration of conformity under section 31.0.6 of the EQA has been filed in accordance with section 142 of the MA.

It is important to note that if the documents required by section 71 of the MR are not obtained within the prescribed time frame, sanctions may be imposed, ranging from non-renewal to revocation of the applicable BEX(s).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Centre de services des mines

Telephone: 418-627-6278

Toll-free: 1-800-363-7233 (toll-free in Canada and the United States)

Email: services.mines@mrnf.gouv.qc.ca

Opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.