

Recommendations for Gas and Oil Taxation

Gas Resource Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC)

Background

- Revenue's role in GTAC is to create recommendations on taxing gas and oil extraction
- Minnesota Statutes contain tax administration laws for iron, iron ore, and nonferrous minerals (such as copper or nickel) but not for oil or gases like helium
- Revenue researched how gas and oil were taxed in nine states where helium has been found to create six recommendations

Mining Tax History

- Two common types of taxes collected on mining in Minnesota and nationally:
 - Income tax
 - Severance tax for removing natural resources from the earth
- Minnesota's mining taxes on nonferrous minerals:
 - Occupation Tax, an income tax
 - Gross Proceeds Tax, a severance tax







Revenue's Recommendations

Recommendations are numbered DOR-1 through DOR-6

DOR-1: Incorporate Gas and Oil in Occupation Tax

- Current Law: Occupation Tax applies to all mining companies in Minnesota
- Recommendation: Create new statute definitions and modify existing definitions to incorporate gas and oil in Occupation Tax law
- Why recommend this?
 - The mining industry in Minnesota has had an Occupation Tax (in place of Corporate Income Tax) for many years
 - It promotes consistent application of the Occupation Tax across all types of mining companies in Minnesota

DOR-2: Incorporate Gas and Oil in Gross Proceeds Tax

- Current Law: Gross Proceeds Tax applies to all mining companies that mine nonferrous minerals (such as copper or nickel) in Minnesota
- Recommendation: Create new statute definitions and modify existing definitions to incorporate gas and oil in Gross Proceeds Tax law
- Why recommend this?
 - Non-ferrous mining in Minnesota is subject to Gross Proceeds Tax (in place of Property Tax)
 - It promotes consistent application of the Gross Proceeds Tax across all types of non-ferrous mining companies in Minnesota

DOR-3: Allow Different Gross Proceeds Tax Rates

- Current Law: A tax rate of 0.4% applies to gross proceeds of all non-ferrous mining companies in Minnesota
- Recommendation: Modify the tax rate section for Gross Proceeds Tax to allow for different tax rates for different minerals, gases (including helium), and oils
- Why recommend this?
 - Different tax rates would allow for comparable effective tax rates to be applied to different types of gases, minerals, and oils
 - Helps ensure fair and consistent tax rates

DOR-4: New Sales Report for Gross Proceeds Tax

- Current Law: Taxpayers have an automatic seven-month extension to file annual Gross Proceeds Tax returns by Dec. 1, but the extension only allows Revenue two weeks to verify and distribute tax revenue by Dec. 15
- Recommendation: Create new language requiring mining companies to report sales information on an informational report by the normal return due date of May 1
- Why recommend this?
 - The new informational report due May 1 would allow Revenue time to correctly verify, calculate, and make distributions to different parties
 - Maintains the automatic seven-month extension for filing annual returns

DOR-5: Apply Existing Exemptions and Exclusions

- Current Law: Law provides exemptions and exclusions for non-ferrous mining companies subject to Gross Proceeds Tax
- Recommendation: Modify these exemptions and exclusions to include gas and oil producers subject to Gross Proceeds Tax
- Why recommend this?
 - All non-ferrous mining companies subject to Gross Proceeds Tax should be treated the same regardless of what they mine, including gas and oil

DOR-6: Legislature Establishes Gas and Oil Distribution

- Current Law: Law contains a method to distribute proceeds from non-ferrous metals and minerals
- Recommendation: Exclude gas and oil proceeds from the existing distribution method and create blank distribution placeholders for the Legislature to determine the distribution of gas and oil proceeds
- Why recommend this?
 - Distribution of proceeds is a policy decision, and this recommendation ensures policymakers establish a distribution formula they deem appropriate for gas and oil proceeds



Thank You

Want more information? See Revenue's section in GTAC's draft of working recommendations dated November 15, 2024.

