

An Overview of the Canadian Oil and Gas Evaluation Handbook

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The first edition of Volume 1 of the Canadian Oil and Gas Evaluation Handbook (COGEH) was published in 2002 by the Calgary Chapter of the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE) to act as a standard for the evaluation of oil and gas properties. Subsequently, COGEH has been included within the references for both the APEGGA Practice Standard for the Evaluation of Oil and Gas Reserves for Public Disclosure, and National Instrument 51-101, Standards of Disclosure for Oil and Gas Activities.

The intent of COGEH is to establish the business protocols necessary to properly prepare a reserve or resource estimate. The handbook discusses items such as business practices, qualifications of reserve evaluators and auditors and definitions explaining the differences between evaluations, audits and reviews. Most importantly, the handbook also includes the Canadian definitions of oil and gas reserves and resources.

In 2005 an expanded set of guidelines was published in Volume 2 of COGEH, which also included various evaluation examples. A second edition of Volume 1 was published in 2007 which updated and clarified a number of topics and fully adopted the classification system detailed within the Petroleum Resources Management System (PRMS), a system published by the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE). Also in 2007, Volumes 3 of the handbook was published to discuss the evaluation of coalbed methane accumulations and international properties. In late 2010, an additional chapter within Volume 3 will be added to discuss the evaluation of bitumen reservoirs.

This presentation will further describe how the handbook is utilized by the evaluation community. In addition, some perspectives regarding items of future development of the handbook, such as unconventional resources, will also be discussed.