

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0233

Filing of mineral exploration documents.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Miller, Boswell, Cohee,
Illoway, Latta and Meyer and Senator(s) Peck

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to minerals; requiring documents related to
2 mineral exploration be reported to the Wyoming geological
3 survey board as specified; providing for the collection and
4 confidentiality of documents as specified; providing
5 penalties for violations of reporting requirements;
6 specifying application; and providing for an effective
7 date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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11 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-2-807(e) by creating a new
12 paragraph (iii), 16-4-203(d) by creating a new paragraph
13 (xiii) and 35-11-404 by creating new subsections (o) and
14 (p) are amended to read:

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1 **9-2-807. Geological survey board; created;**
2 **membership; term; qualifications; removal; vacancies;**
3 **election of officers; meetings; quorum; compensation;**
4 **expenses; duties.**

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6 (e) The board shall:

7
8 (iii) Collect and preserve all logs, surveys,
9 assays and other documents filed under W.S. 35-11-404(o).
10 All documents filed under this paragraph shall be held
11 confidential for a period of three (3) years after initial
12 receipt by the state geologist and confidentiality may be
13 extended in one (1) year increments upon receipt by the
14 state geologist of a written request by certified mail,
15 return receipt requested, from the person or legal entity
16 who filed the documents requesting that confidentiality be
17 extended. All requests must be received prior to December
18 31 of the year following expiration of the period of
19 confidentiality. All logs, surveys, assays and other
20 documents shall become the property of the state to be
21 retained within the permanent files of the Wyoming
22 geological survey board for the use of the staff and public
23 after the period of confidentiality has expired.

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1 **16-4-203. Right of inspection; grounds for denial;**
2 **access of news media; order permitting or restricting**
3 **disclosure; exception.**

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5 (d) The custodian shall deny the right of inspection
6 of the following records, unless otherwise provided by law:

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8 (xiii) Documents filed with the geological
9 survey board at the office of the state geologist subject
10 to the provisions of W.S. 9-2-807(e) (iii).

11
12 **35-11-404. Drill holes to be capped, sealed or**
13 **plugged; mineral exploration reporting requirements.**

14
15 (o) A person who has sunk a drill hole pursuant to
16 subsection (a) of this section shall file with the
17 geological survey board at the office of the state
18 geologist all logs, surveys, assays or other factual
19 documents relating to exploration within ninety (90) days
20 from the date the exploration is completed. The
21 requirements of this subsection shall not apply to drilling
22 done pursuant to an active mine permit filed with the
23 Wyoming department of environmental quality.

24

1 (p) In addition to the penalties in subsection (k) of
 2 this section, the administrator of the land quality
 3 division may recommend to the director that a person who
 4 violates the provisions of subsection (o) of this section
 5 or who willfully and knowingly authorizes, orders or
 6 carries out a violation of subsection (o) of this section
 7 be denied any request for a drilling, exploration or mining
 8 permit until all documents required to be filed under
 9 subsection (o) of this section have been filed.

10
 11 **Section 2.** This act shall not apply retroactively to
 12 require filing logs, surveys, assays or other documents
 13 relating to exploration commenced on or before the
 14 effective date of this act.

15
 16 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2003.

17
 18 (END)