

The Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) manages the province's property assessment system developed in consultation with municipalities, stakeholders and the provincial government.

SAMA also provides assessment and other related services to most cities, towns, villages and rural municipalities in the province. SAMA's appraisers value approximately 850,000 properties in Saskatchewan for assessment purposes.

## 2017 REVALUATION

SAMA conducts revaluations based on a four-year cycle. 2013 was the year of the last revaluation, and the 2017 Revaluation will see assessed values updated to reflect a new base date of January 1, 2015. The legislated base date means that 2017 values reflect a property's value as of January 1, 2015.

## VALUATION STANDARDS

For the 2017 Revaluation, Saskatchewan will use a **regulated property assessment valuation standard** for valuing oil and gas property. Legislation also requires that assessments are to be calculated using mass appraisal, be of the applicable base date, and equity must be considered by the appraiser as a dominant and controlling factor in assessment preparation.

The formulas, rules and principles for the valuation of oil and gas equipment are found in the *Saskatchewan Assessment Manual (2015 Base Year)*.

SAMA also accesses a data file through the Ministry of the Economy to help maintain the physical inventory of oil and gas equipment.

## COST APPROACH

The assessed value for oil and gas equipment is based on a depreciated replacement cost system.

The assessment of petroleum resource production equipment (RPE) includes the fixtures, machinery and appliances used to:

- ▶ bring oil and gas to the surface, including enhanced recovery
- ▶ store oil and gas
- ▶ transport oil and gas from a well site to a battery or gas handling site, or
- ▶ compress gas.

Provincial legislation also specifies that certain RPE located at a battery or gas handling site is not assessable. This includes fixtures, machinery and appliances that are used to:

- ▶ separate, treat, process, dehydrate or store petroleum oil or gas
- ▶ transport petroleum oil or gas within the battery or gas handling site, and
- ▶ dispose of petroleum oil and gas waste products.

The assessed value of oil and gas RPE is determined by taking into consideration four factors:

- ▶ replacement cost new;
- ▶ depreciation;
- ▶ downtime; and
- ▶ low production

## REPLACEMENT COST NEW

The replacement cost new for most assessable oil and gas RPE is determined using the standard unit method. This method is based on the cost of acquiring substitute equipment of equal utility. The following well characteristics are used to determine the substitute equipment needed for a well:

- ▶ well area;
- ▶ well type;
- ▶ crude type;
- ▶ horizontal/vertical completion;
- ▶ depth;
- ▶ rated volume;
- ▶ facility type; and
- ▶ days operated.

The models within the standard unit method are periodically reviewed to ensure they reflect the typical practices employed by the petroleum industry. Recent technological advances include pumping equipment efficiencies, which allow for reduced capital expenditures to produce similar volumes. The latest advances in horizontal drilling techniques increases individual pumping capacities thereby reducing the need for smaller inefficient vertical wells which minimizes the footprint of the industry within a municipality.

Exceptions include the cost new of RPE at gas storage wells and observation wells and the replacement cost new of flow lines and tanks, which are determined using unit-in-place cost tables from the *Saskatchewan Assessment Manual*.

## DEPRECIATION AND DOWNTIME

Physical deterioration is accounted for in the valuation of oil and gas RPE through a lifetime depreciation allowance of 40 percent. A downtime allowance of 10 percent is also applied to all oil and gas resource production equipment.

## LOW PRODUCTION

A production adjustment factor is applied to oil and gas wells that produce below a specific threshold. Qualification for the adjustment is determined annually based on the well's average oil or gas production for the three preceding years. The value of qualifying wells is reduced by 25 percent.

## PROPERTY ASSESSMENT DOES NOT EQUAL PROPERTY TAX

SAMA's role in determining assessed value for properties is just the first part of a process established by provincial legislation. The second part is application of provincial government established tax policy, such as property classes and percentage of value, and statutory exemptions. The third and final part of the process involves municipalities annually determining the local mill rate based on local budget needs. The province sets the mill rate for the education sector. Municipalities then multiply the taxable assessment by the local mill rate\* to produce property tax levies, also known as your property tax bill.

(SAMA)		(Province)		(Municipalities and Government)		(Taxpayer)
ASSESSED VALUE	X	PERCENTAGE OF VALUE & EXEMPTIONS	X	MILL RATES*	=	PROPERTY TAXES

\*Municipalities have the authority to use a series of tax tools ranging from mill rate factors to minimum taxes. For more information on tax tools and exemptions see the Ministry of Government Relations website.

SAMA's *Saskatchewan Assessment Manual (2015 Base Year)* is available on SAMA's website.

SAMA has Information Sheets available on the assessment process for different types of properties. For further information visit SAMA's website, or contact your local municipality or any SAMA office.

Please note that for jurisdictions where SAMA provides valuation services, individual property assessed value information is available on SAMA's website at [www.sama.sk.ca](http://www.sama.sk.ca), by clicking the SAMAVIEW link.

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Melfort SK S0E 1A0

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**TF:** 800-216-4427 (in Sask.)

### MOOSE JAW

228 Main Street North, 4th Floor  
Moose Jaw SK S6H 3J8

**P:** 306-694-4425 **F:** 306-694-4505  
**TF:** 866-398-7889 (in Sask.)

### NORTH BATTLEFORD

303, 1101-101st Street  
North Battleford SK S9A 0Z5

**P:** 306-446-7665 **F:** 306-446-7568  
**TF:** 800-824-2570 (in Sask.)

### REGINA

330 – 2505 11th Avenue  
Regina SK S4P 0K6

**P:** 306-924-8080 **F:** 306-924-8088  
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### SASKATOON

300-333-25th Street East  
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### SWIFT CURRENT

203 - 350 Cheadle Street West  
Swift Current SK S9H 4G3

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### WEYBURN

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### YORKTON

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