

2,005-1.

Ottawa, August 26, 1931.

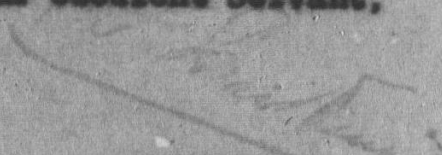
Sir,-


I desire to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, in which you inquire under what conditions a member of the Band might stake a claim for gas and oil on the Caughnawaga Reserve.

A member of the Band would not be entitled to stake any such claim, and action could only be taken in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Act and of the Regulations approved by Order in Council and governing the disposition of the petroleum and natural gas rights on Indian Reserves. Any oil or gas deposit is considered the property of the Band in common, and a surrender would first be necessary, to be followed by the leasing of such privileges in accordance with our regulations. Copy of the Departmental Regulations is enclosed for your information.

Enclosure.

Your obedient Servant,


A. F. MacKenzie,
Secretary.


Louis A. Jacobs,
Box 37,
Caughnawaga, Que.