

EXCHANGE OF NOTES (JANUARY 18, FEBRUARY 17 AND MARCH 13,  
1943) BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA RECORDING AN AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE  
DRILLING OF OIL WELLS IN NORTHWESTERN CANADA.

I

Mr. Hugh L. Keenleyside, Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs  
of Canada, to the United States Minister to Canada

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Ottawa, January 18, 1943.

Dear Mr. Moffat,

I wish to refer again to your note of December 28, 1942, No. 818 on the proposals for drilling exploratory oil wells in the Northwest Territories. The question has arisen as to the best means of avoiding the possibility of the intervention of any one whose interest is not identical with that of the Canadian Government or of the United States Government, and who might make application for oil and gas rights in that part of the Northwest Territories under discussion.

It would facilitate the drafting of regulations if the United States authorities would indicate more definitely the particular districts, within the very large area described in your note No. 818, paragraph 2, which seem to be the most promising. These districts could then be reserved for exploration by nominees of the United States Government.

Yours sincerely,

HUGH L. KEENLEYSIDE,  
Assistant Under Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.

II

*The United States Chargé d'Affaires to Canada  
to Mr. H. L. Keenleyside*

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ottawa, February 17, 1943.

Dear Mr. Keenleyside:

I sent to the State Department for its comments the text of your letter to Mr. Moffat of January 18, 1943, regarding a more strict delimitation of the districts in which wildcatting would be done in the Northwest Territories in order that such districts might be reserved for exploration by nominees of the United States Government.

I have now received a reply to the effect that, while we are wholly in accord with your suggestion, it is nevertheless believed to be desirable that in any regulations which may be adopted there be nothing which would forbid operations anywhere within the broad general area mentioned in our note