

Communication from the French Government concerning Directive 94/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conditions for granting and using authorisations for the prospection, exploration and production of hydrocarbons ⁽¹⁾

(Notice regarding an application for an exclusive licence to prospect for oil or gas designated the 'Sancerre licence')

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2007/C 122/07)

By request of 31 October 2006, Thermopyles SAS, a company with registered offices at 190 rue de Fontenay, F-94300 Vincennes, applied for an exclusive five-year licence, designated the 'Sancerre licence', to prospect for oil or gas in an area of approximately 545 km² covering part of the departments of Cher and Nièvre.

The perimeter of the area covered by this licence consists of the meridian and parallel arcs connecting in turn the points defined below by their geographical coordinates, the original meridian being that of Paris.

Points	Longitude	Latitude
A	0,70° E	52,70° N
B	0,50° E	52,70° N
C	0,50° E	52,40° N
D	0,80° E	52,40° N
E	0,80° E	52,60° N
F	0,70° E	52,60° N

Submission of applications

The initial applicant and competing applicants must prove that they meet the requirements for obtaining the licence, specified in Articles 4, 5 and 6 of Decree No 2006-648 of 2 June 2006 concerning mining rights and underground storage rights (*Journal officiel de la République française* of 3 June 2006).

Interested companies may, within ninety days of the publication of this notice, submit a competing application in accordance with the procedure summarised in the 'Notice regarding the granting of mining rights for hydrocarbons in France' published in *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 374 of 30.12.1994, p. 11, and established by Decree No 2006-648 of 2 June 2006 concerning mining rights and underground storage rights. Competing applications must be sent to the Minister responsible for mines at the address below. Decisions on the initial application and competing applications will be taken within two years of the date on which the French authorities received the initial application, i.e. by 7 November 2008 at the latest.

Conditions and requirements regarding performance of the activity and cessation thereof

Applicants are referred to Articles 79 and 79(1) of the Mining Code and to Decree No 2006-649 of 2 June 2006 on mining and underground storage operations and the regulations governing mining and underground storage (*Journal officiel de la République française* of 3 June 2006).

Further information can be obtained from the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Finance and Industry (Directorate-General for Energy and Raw Materials, Directorate for Energy and Mineral Resources, Mining Legislation Office), 61, Boulevard Vincent Auriol, Télédod 133, F-75703 Paris Cedex 13, (telephone: (33) 144 97 23 02, fax: (33) 144 97 05 70)

The abovementioned laws and regulations can be consulted at:

<http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr>

⁽¹⁾ OJL 164, 30.6.1994, p. 3.