



Department of

**Enterprise, Trade
and Investment**

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Minerals and Petroleum Licensing Statement 2006-07

**1 April 2006 -
31 March 2007**

Department of Enterprise,
Trade and Investment

Minerals and Petroleum Licensing Statement

1 April 2006 -
31 March 2007

April 2009

Your views on this document are welcome.

April 2009

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The background is a solid blue color with several overlapping, semi-transparent, wavy shapes in various shades of blue, creating a layered, abstract effect. The waves are smooth and fluid, moving across the page.

Foreword



Arlene Foster

Minister for Enterprise,
Trade and Investment

SEE ATTACHED ANNEX 1

April 2009

Arlene Foster MLA

Minister for Enterprise,
Trade and Investment

The background is a solid blue color with a series of overlapping, semi-transparent circular shapes that create a sense of depth and movement. A central, three-dimensional cylinder is also visible, rendered in a lighter shade of blue with a gradient, giving it a glass-like appearance. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

Mineral Licensing
1 April 2006 - 31 March 2007

Mineral Licensing

1 April 2006 - 31 March 2007

1

The information provided in this section has been prepared by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (“the Department”) to comply with section 50(1) of the Mineral Development Act (Northern Ireland) 1969.

There are twelve current Mineral Prospecting Licences (MPL) and four current Petroleum Prospecting Licences (PPL). Three MPLs and no PPLs were issued during the year ended 31 March 2007.

The details are set out on the following pages.

This position reflects an increase in licensing activity over the period detailed in the Triennial Report for April 2003 to March 2006. Over that period a total of thirteen prospecting licences and four mining leases were issued. Northern Ireland remains an attractive location for exploration companies looking for grass roots projects and mining companies wishing to invest in projects.

Table 1.1
Prospecting licences issued during the period
1 April 2006 - 31 March 2007

LICENSEE	LOCATION	LICENCE REF	SIZE (SQ KM)	MINERALS	DATE COMMENCED
Irish Salt Mining and Exploration Co. Ltd.	Ballycarry	ISME 1/06	14	All	31.08.06
Conroy Diamonds and Gold plc*	Newtownbutler	C 4/07	238	All	15.01.07
Conroy Diamonds and Gold plc*	Lisnaskea	C 5/07	250	All	15.01.07

*Concurrent licences issued by the Department and the Crown Estate Commissioners (see **Page 11**).



Mineral Licensing Position
on 31 March 2007

Mineral Licensing Position on 31 March 2007

2

The mineral licensing position on 31 March 2007 is set out overleaf. The locations of current licences are shown on the map below (**Figure 2.1**).

LICENCES FOR PRECIOUS METALS

Prospecting licences for precious metals are issued by the Crown Estate Commissioners (CEC)

and Companies wishing to explore for precious metals should apply simultaneously to CEC and the Department for licences. Once the Department issues its licence, CEC will normally issue a concurrent licence for a coterminus area. Such licences are marked on the tables with an asterisk.

Figure 2.1
Mineral Licensing Position on 31 March 2007

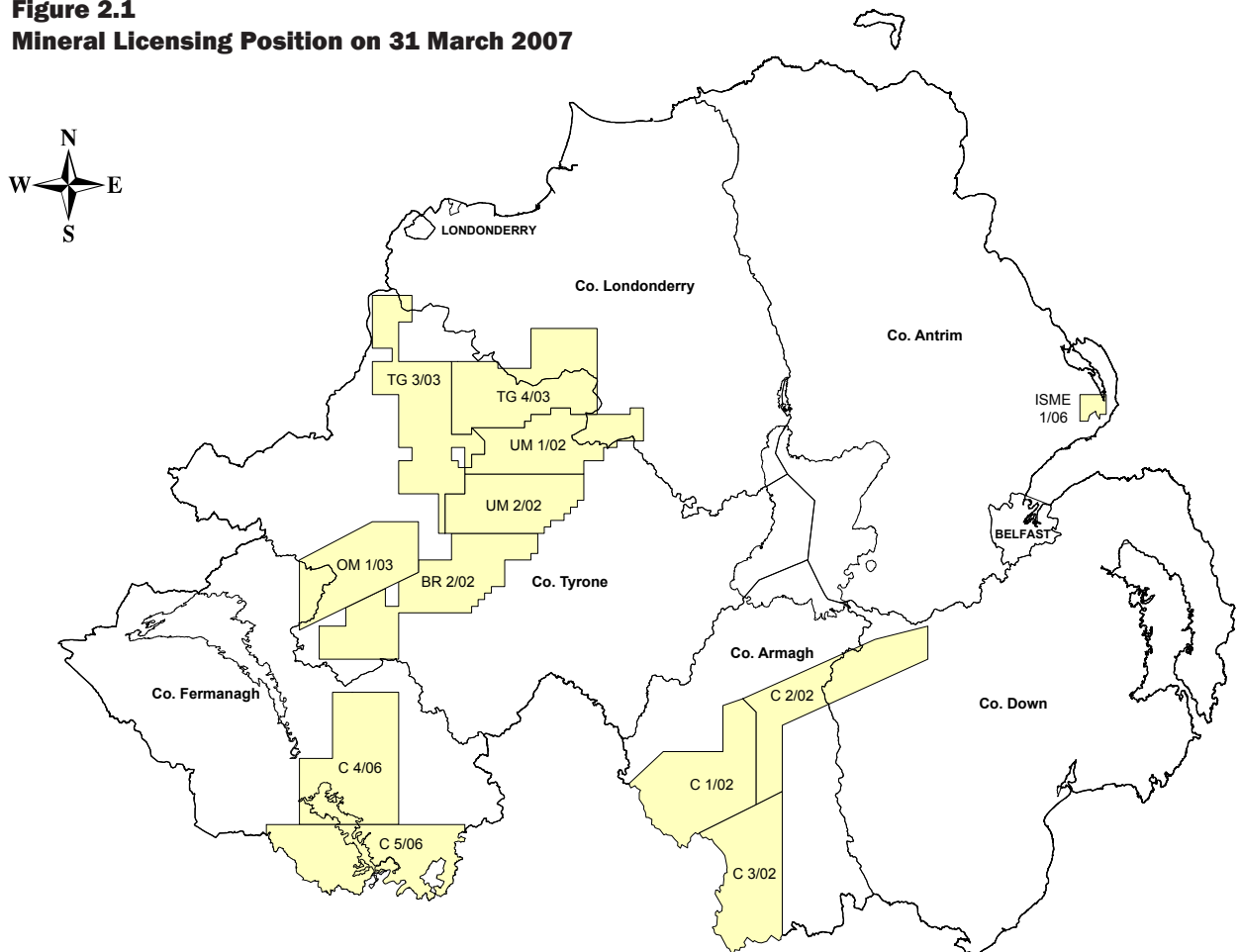
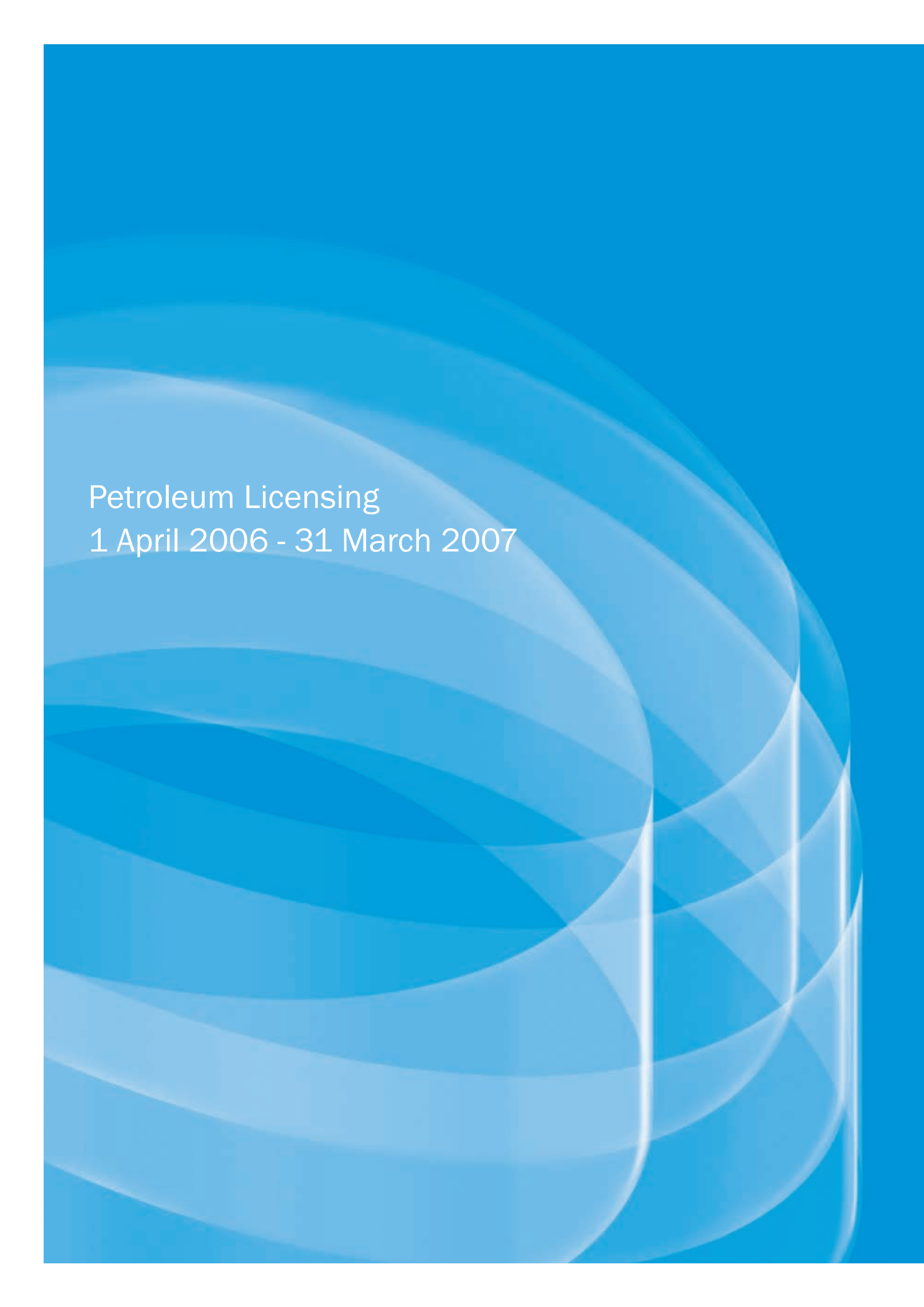


Table 2.1
Mineral Prospecting Licences held on 31 March 2007

LICENSEE	LOCATION	LICENCE REF	SIZE (SQ KM)	MINERALS	DATE COMMENCED
Ulster Minerals Limited*	Curraghinalt	UM 1/02	182	All	01.01.02
Ulster Minerals Limited*	Mountfield	UM 2/02	163	All	01.01.02
Conroy Diamonds & Gold plc*	Keady	C 1/02	242	All	14.10.02
Conroy Diamonds & Gold plc*	Tandragee	C 2/02	210	All	14.10.02
Conroy Diamonds & Gold plc*	Newtownhamilton	C 3/02	200	All	14.10.02
Belmore Resources Limited	Dromore	BR 2/02	250	All	08.11.02
Tournigan Gold Corporation*	Strabane	TG 3/03	247	All	24.04.03
Tournigan Gold Corporation*	Plumbridge	TG 4/03	244	All	24.04.03
Omagh Minerals Limited*	Cavanacaw	OM 1/03	189	All	18.07.03
Irish Salt Mining and Exploration Co. Ltd.	Ballycarry	ISME 1/06	14	All	31.08.06
Tournigan Gold Corporation*	Newtownbutler	TG 4/07	238	All	15.01.07
Tournigan Gold Corporation*	Lisnaskea	TG 5/07	250	All	15.01.07

Table 2.2
Mining Leases held on 31 March 2007

LESSEE	LOCATION	LICENCE REF	SIZE (HECTARES)	MINERALS	DATE COMMENCED
La Farge Cement (formerly Blue Circle Industries plc)	Whitehead	PC 1/61	10	Limestone or chalk	21.10.61
Irish Salt Mining and Exploration Co Ltd	Carrickfergus	ISM 1/01	86	Salt	08.03.01
Irish Salt Mining and Exploration Co Ltd	Carrickfergus	ISM 2/01	30	Salt	08.03.01
Irish Salt Mining and Exploration Co Ltd	Carrickfergus	ISM 4/01	68	Salt	08.03.01
Irish Salt Mining and Exploration Co Ltd	Carrickfergus	ISM 5/95	152	Salt	08.03.01

The background is a solid blue color with several overlapping, semi-transparent, curved bands that create a sense of depth and movement. The bands are light blue and curve from the bottom left towards the top right, eventually fading out on the right side of the page.

Petroleum Licensing
1 April 2006 - 31 March 2007

Petroleum Licensing

1 April 2006 - 31 March 2007

3

No new licences were issued during the year ended 31 March 2007, although PL 1/01 was granted a first renewal term over a reduced area. Connaught Energy Limited assigned its 100% interest in the two licences, CE 1/04 and CE 2/04, to its United Kingdom subsidiary Rathlin Energy Limited, with

effect from 15 January 2007. A significant area of prospective acreage remained open for licensing in Northern Ireland on 31 March 2007.

The petroleum licensing position at 31 March 2007 is shown in **Figure 3.1** overleaf.

Petroleum Licences issued during the period 1 April 2006 - 31 March 2007

LICENSEE	LOCATION	LICENCE REF	SIZE (SQ KM)	DATE COMMENCED
No licences were issued.	—	—	—	—

Figure 3.1
Petroleum Licensing Position on 31 March 2007

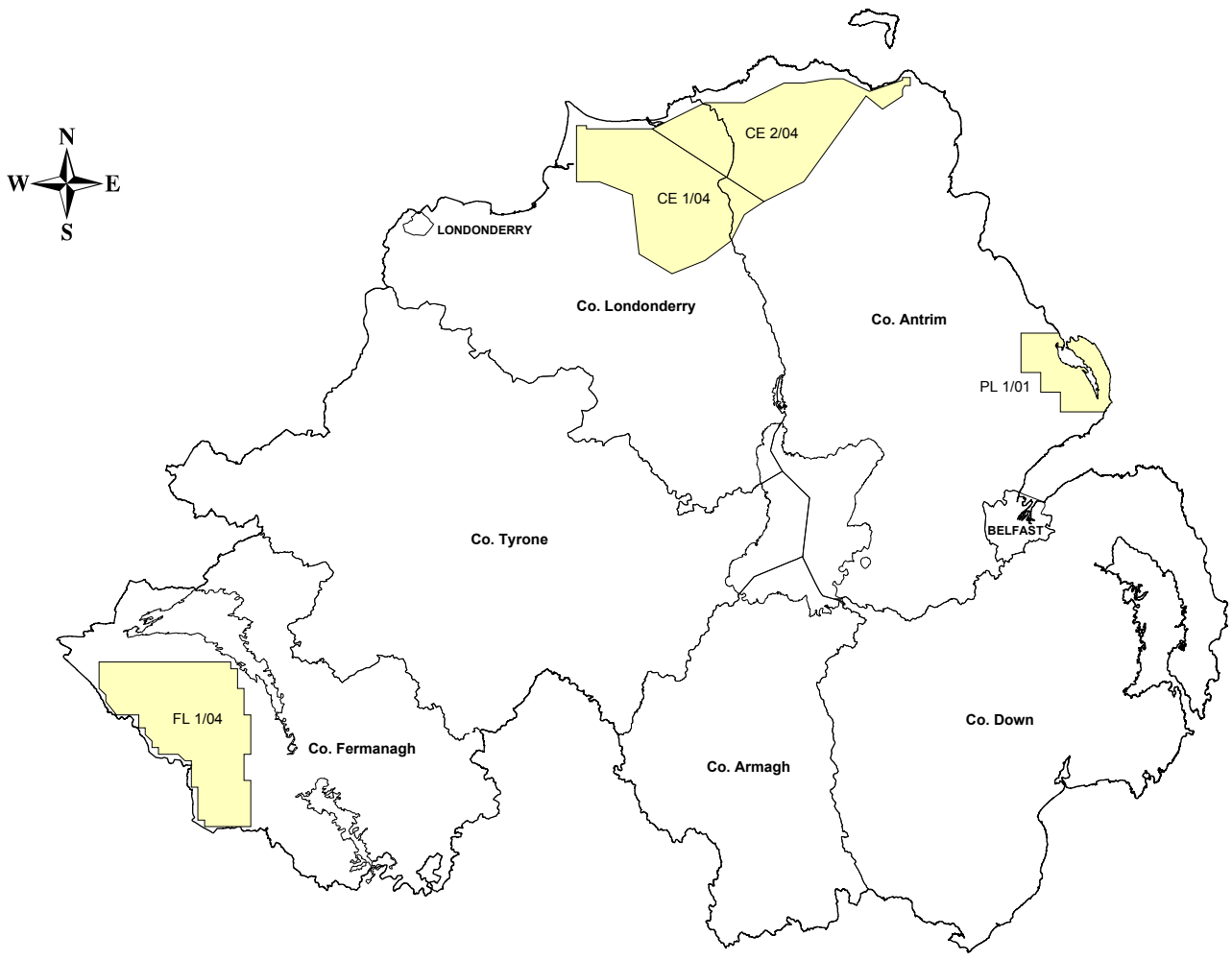


Table 3.1
Petroleum licences held on 31 March 2007

LICENSEE	LOCATION	LICENCE REF	SIZE (SQ KM)	DATE COMMENCED
Antrim Resources (NI) Ltd	Larne	PL 1/01	109	17.10.01
Finavera Ltd	Fermanagh	FL 1/04	350	01.12.04
Rathlin Energy Ltd.	Aghadowey	CE 1/04	342	31.12.04
Rathlin Energy Ltd.	Ballycastle	CE 2/04	342	31.12.04



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The background is a solid blue color with a series of overlapping, semi-transparent, curved bands that create a sense of depth and movement. The bands are lighter blue and curve from the bottom left towards the top right, resembling a stylized globe or a series of concentric arcs.

Statistics on Mineral Production

Statistics on Mineral Production

4

Although “common substances” are excluded from the Mineral Development Act (NI) 1969, the Department is responsible under the Quarries (NI) Order 1983 for the annual collection of statistics from mines and quarries on output, value and numbers employed.

These bulk mineral commodities are mostly won through quarrying and their production represents one of Northern Ireland’s major industries. They are largely natural sand, gravel and crushed rock aggregate plus rock for cement manufacture, all fundamental to our built environment. An “Inventory of Active Quarries, Pits and Mines in Northern Ireland” was first published by the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland (GSNI) in

April 1997 and an annual update is available from the GSNI office. Maps published by GSNI help in the identification and assessment of these important resources.

Table 4.1 overleaf shows the figures for output and selling value for 2006. Production figures for rock salt, chalk, diatomite, fireclay and granite have been combined into “others” to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

Table 4.2 overleaf shows the numbers employed in 2006. These figures include those employed both inside and outside the pit and also administrative and managerial staff.

Table 4.1
Mineral Production in Northern Ireland in 2006

MINERAL	QUANTITY (THOUSAND TONNES)	SELLING VALUE AT MINE OR QUARRY (£000)
Basalt and Igneous Rock (other than Granite)	6,087	20,029
Sandstone (including Greywacke)	6,211	22,815
Limestone	6,385	22,598
Sand and Gravel	5,150	19,643
Others	1,698	7,826
Total	25,530	92,912

Table 4.2
Number of Persons Employed at Mines and Quarries in Northern Ireland 2006

MINERAL	TOTAL EMPLOYED
Basalt and Igneous Rock (other than Granite)	214
Sandstone (including Greywacke)	312
Limestone	225
Sand and Gravel	247
Others	448
Total	1,446



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The image features a solid blue background with several overlapping, semi-transparent circular shapes that create a sense of depth and movement. The word "Annexes" is written in a clean, white, sans-serif font on the left side of the image.

Annexes

Annex A

Addresses of Companies Holding
Mineral Prospecting Licences
on 31 March 2007

Annex B

Addresses of Companies Holding
Petroleum Prospecting Licences
on 31 March 2007

Annex C

Key Contacts

Annex A

Omagh Minerals Ltd

56 Botera Upper Road
Omagh BT78 5LH

Tournigan Gold Corporation

12th Floor
Suite 2400
570 Granville
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada V6C 3P1

Lafarge Cement

Northern Region Estates Office
Hilton
Derby DE6 5GE

Conroy Diamonds & Gold plc

10 Upper Pembroke Street
Dublin 2 Ireland

Irish Salt Mining & Exploration Co Ltd

10 Old Fort Road
Kilroot
Carrickfergus BT38 9BT

Ulster Minerals

12th Floor
Suite 2400
570 Granville
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada V6C 3P1

Belmore Resources Limited

50 South Hill
Dartry
Dublin 6

Annex B

Antrim Resources (NI) Ltd

4050, Banker's Hall West
888 Third Street
SW Calgary
Alberta
Canada T2P 5C5

Finavera Ltd

Unit 4
M4 Business Park
Celbridge
Co. Kildare
Ireland

Connaught Energy

Suite 1520
840 7th Avenue
SW Calgary
Alberta
T2P 3G2

Annex C

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Geological Survey of Northern Ireland

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Stranmillis Court
Belfast BT9 5BF
Telephone: +44 (0) 28 9038 8462
Fax: +44 (0) 28 9038 8461

Land and Property Services

Department of Finance and Personnel
Colby House
Stranmillis Court
Belfast BT9 5BJ
Telephone: +44 (0) 28 9025 5755
Fax: +44 (0) 28 9068 3211

Planning Service

Department of Environment
Millennium House
17-25 Great Victoria Street
Belfast BT2 7BN
Telephone: +44 (0) 28 9041 6700
Fax: +44 (0) 28 9041 6802

Companies Registry

1st Floor
Waterfront Plaza
8 Laganbank Road
Belfast BT1 3BS
Telephone: +44 (0) 845 60 48 88
Fax: +44 (0) 28 9090 5291

Crown Mineral Agent (head office)

Wardell Armstrong LLP
Sir Henry Doulton House
Forge Lane
Etruria
Stoke on Trent ST1 5BD
Telephone: +44 (0) 8451 117777
Fax: +44 (0) 8451 118888



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