TAX

A Guide to Netherlands Oil and Gas Taxation

2013 edition

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About this book

The relevant rules are laid down in a number of tax laws. Most importantly, any company doing business in the Netherlands, including businesses taking part in the Dutch upstream sector, are subject to corporate income tax (or "CIT") based on the Corporate Income Tax Act of 1969 (the "CITA"). Also, value added taxes, wages taxes and various other levies need to be considered when doing business in the Dutch oil and gas industry.

Part I covers the most relevant generally applicable rules and regulations for the Netherlands, starting with CIT (1.1). A brief outline of other relevant taxes will be summarized from 1.2 onwards. These rules are especially relevant when international investment projects are positioned around business activity in the Netherlands.

Specifically for upstream activities, the Mining Act of 2003 provides for a well-developed tax regime, akin to CIT. This is largely due to the State profit share (or "SPS") levied on upstream business profits. In addition, surface rentals and royalties may be levied based on this Mining Act. These special levies including SPS are explained in Part II.

Part III provides a number of basic tax planning opportunities involving Dutch and non-Dutch oil and gas investments.

This publication aims to provide general information only, and it cannot, therefore, be relied upon as sufficient advice for actual investment decisions. It has been last updated in June 2013.

Foreword

The Netherlands have significant oil and gas resources onshore and offshore compared to the relative modest size of the country. Although the domestic exploration and production activities are more or less stable, the Netherlands continues to attract investors in the industry. This can amongst others be explained by the attractive tax regime for cross-border investments and well developed infrastructure that complete the politically and economically stable country as many investors perceive it.

This publication provides an overview of the relevant tax rules that a typical investor in the oil and gas industry would take into account when considering to invest in or via the Netherlands.

For information on any aspect of oil and gas taxation, please ask your usual contact at KPMG Meijburg & Co who will be happy to assist. Alternatively, please contact any of the Netherlands firm's specialists:

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