Stacks Tenure Transaction*

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Abstract

Miner tenure is updated by a tenure transaction in the Stacks chain. A tenure transaction is a special type of transaction. Miners are elected to produce blocks in the Stacks chain by the stackers.

1 Tenure transaction

Currently, there seems to be no v2 API for tenure transactions. So we use the v1 API:

https://api.mainnet.hiro.so/extended/v1/tx?type=tenure_change&limit=1
For example, try:

Listing 1: Curl command for getting the current tenured transaction

Windows > curl.exe "https://api.mainnet.hiro.so/extended/
v1/tx?type=tenure_change&limit=1"

This endpoint gets the last tenure transaction. The response is a JSON transaction object in Listing 2. The tenure transaction is a special type of transaction. Its tx_type has the value tenure_change. The tenure transaction is used to change the consensus hash for the next tenure on the Stacks chain. The consensus hash is a hash of the block header. The consensus hash is used to determine the next block producer.

^{*}These notes use github co-pilot AI.

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Listing 2: Tenure transaction

```
1
       "tx_id": "0xeda08c23df80be0cf6fde074e
2
          6c7651f117f306a426f92fd660dbd0d18643942".
3
       "nonce": 18469,
4
       "fee_rate": "0".
5
       "sender_address": "
        SP3MCVE3HJP6T8QS4A9R0ETVJVGRZJA04MKJTPHG5",
       "sponsored": false,
7
       "post_condition_mode": "deny",
8
       "post_conditions": [],
9
       "anchor_mode": "on_chain_only",
10
       "block_hash": "0xd3c4d7b45303f0450bf2e015e
11
           b7bafc9b8dd05096089664b87613e95209981f9",
12
       "block_height": 749062,
13
       "block_time": 1741635624,
14
       "block_time_iso": "2025-03-10T19:40:24.000Z",
15
       "burn_block_time": 1741635606,
16
       "burn_block_height": 887215,
17
       "burn_block_time_iso": "2025-03-10T19:40:06.000Z",
18
       "parent_burn_block_time": 1741635353,
19
       "parent_burn_block_time_iso": "2025-03-10T19:35:53.000Z
20
       "canonical": true,
21
       "tx_index": 0,
22
       "tx_status": "success",
23
       "tx_result": {
24
         "hex": "0x0703",
         "repr": "(ok true)"
26
27
       "event_count": 0,
28
       "parent_block_hash": "0
29
       xd523a4e7e3d719752caba280e9fa77521
          16cbb7c49abbcd5c9b93a3cdf8e385b",
30
       "is_unanchored": false,
31
       "microblock_hash": "0x",
32
       "microblock_sequence": 2147483647,
33
       "microblock_canonical": true,
34
       "execution_cost_read_count": 0,
35
       "execution_cost_read_length": 0,
36
       "execution_cost_runtime": 0,
37
       "execution_cost_write_count": 0,
38
```

```
"execution_cost_write_length": 0,
39
       "events": [],
40
       "tx_type": "tenure_change",
41
       "tenure_change_payload": {
42
         "tenure_consensus_hash": "0
43
          x626ae97693d16ea81e2bb97a454f78fbc97008c0",
         "prev_tenure_consensus_hash": "0
44
          x68209d52defca5f053ffda848aa3f86f972095a7",
         "burn_view_consensus_hash": "0
45
          x626ae97693d16ea81e2bb97a454f78fbc97008c0",
         "previous_tenure_end": "0
46
          x5ddc1865e9cdfcc02d8a7d4d028586fb
           7a5e9af3a431f063fd31ce8cdb4b9f30",
47
         "previous_tenure_blocks": 17,
48
         "cause": "block_found",
49
         "pubkey_hash": "0
50
          xe8cdb871958da45f245270076b72dc31f92804a4"
51
52
```

Listing 3 shows the key fields of a tenure transaction. The tenure transaction has a tx_type of tenure_change. The tenure_change_payload has the following fields:

- tenure_consensus_hash is the consensus hash for the next tenure.
- prev_tenure_consensus_hash is the consensus hash for the previous tenure.
- burn_view_consensus_hash is the consensus hash for the burn view.
- previous_tenure_end is the end of the previous tenure.
- previous_tenure_blocks is the number of blocks in the previous tenure.
- cause is the cause of the tenure change. It can be block_found or timeout. The cause is block_found if a block was found in the previous tenure. The cause is timeout if no block was found in the previous tenure.
- pubkey_hash is the public key hash of the block producer.

Cosider a tenure transaction and its prev_tenure_consensus_hash field. This field can be used to find the previous tenure transaction. Hence the previous miner.

Listing 3: Tenure part

```
"tenure_change_payload":
1
       "tenure_consensus_hash": "0x626ae97693d16ea81e2bb97a
2
         454f78fbc97008c0",
3
       "prev_tenure_consensus_hash": "0x68209d52defca5f053f
4
         fda848aa3f86f972095a7",
5
       "burn_view_consensus_hash": "0x626ae97693d16ea81e2bb
6
         97a454f78fbc97008c0",
       "previous_tenure_end": "0
       x5ddc1865e9cdfcc02d8a7d4d028586fb
         7a5e9af3a431f063fd31ce8cdb4b9f30",
9
       "previous_tenure_blocks": 17,
10
       "cause": "block_found",
11
       "pubkey_hash": "0xe8cdb871958da45f245270076
12
         b72dc31f92804a4"
13
14
```

References

- [1] How transactions work: https://docs.stacks.co/concepts/transactions/transactions
- [2] api.hiro.so endpoint documentation: https://docs.hiro.so/stacks/api/transactions
- [3] Kenny Rogers, Nakamoto in 10 minutes: https://docs.stacks.co/nakamoto-upgrade/nakamoto-in-10-minutes 2025-03-10.
- [4] https://tc39.es/ecma262/