

MINUTES

Coalbed Methane/Natural Gas in Coal Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee (the Committee)

Meeting Minutes

Red Deer Room, Red Deer Lodge

April 5, 2004

9:00 to 2:45

In attendance:

Mike Ekelund (chair)	Department of Energy
Peter Watson (alternate chair)	Department of Environment
John Hermans	Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Bob Willard	Alberta Energy & Utilities Board
Mary Griffiths	Alberta Environmental Network Society
Karl Zajes (alternate)	Alberta Surface Rights Federation
Don Bester	Butte Action Committee/Rimbey & District Clean Air People
Mike Gatens	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers / Canadian Society for Unconventional Gas / Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
Jim Harrison (alternate)	Freehold Owners Association
Brad Murray	Freehold Petroleum & Natural Gas Owners Association
Dave Bartesko (alternate)	Sustainable Resource Development
Gene Roach (facilitator)	Community Development
Karen Henderson (secretary)	Alberta Energy
Audrey Murray (presenter)	Alberta Energy
Sharla Rauschnig (presenter)	Alberta Energy
Tom Ross	Alberta Energy
Rhonda Wehrhahn (presenter)	Alberta Energy
Nga de-la-Cruz (presenter)	Alberta Environment
Barry Cole (observer)	Sustainable Resource Development

Absent:

Phyllis Kobasiuk	Alberta Association of Municipal Districts & Counties
Gene Rawe	Alberta Beef Producers
Sharil Baumgardner	Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Committee
Tom Nahirniak	Alberta Surface Rights Federation
John Jensen	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers / Canadian Society for Unconventional Gas / Small Explorers and

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting started at 9:00.

Review/Ratification of Documents

ACTION

The following documents were ratified by the Committee without amendment:

- *March 8, 2004 Minutes*
- *Proposed Working Group Structure Draft II*
- *The minutes of the Mineral Land Tenure Working group are to be added to the web once a review for consistency under the FOIP Act has been completed.*

Honouraria

Mike Ekelund advised that honouraria for working group members has been approved for those members who represent organizations that do not receive a wage, salary or other remuneration. The amount of honouraria is \$72 for up to and including four hours in any day; \$122 for over four hours and up to and including eight hours in any day; and \$188 for over eight hours in any day.

Minister's Statement in Hansard

Mike advised that during Legislative session on April 1, the Honourable Minister Murray Smith advised the EUB will provide relevant records on NGC drilling and production in Alberta.

Mineral Land Tenure Working Group Presentation

Rhonda Wehrhahn and Audrey Murray provided a Powerpoint presentation covering the working group's draft recommendations. Committee members were previously provided with a paper copy of the report.

ACTION

- *Mineral Land Tenure will work with the Surface/Air Issues Working Group to review the process of freeing up Crown rights on non-productive lands.*
- *EUB will present information on the orphan well fund at the next MAC meeting.*

Information Sessions

Sharla gave an update on the first three information sessions. After the Pincher Creek session on April 15th, the feedback will be summarized and forwarded to the committee for review and ratification. Once approval is granted, the document will be posted to the web.

In response to a question from the Rocky Mountain House session regarding recreational users of the land, the committee felt that Sustainable Resource Development as well as some of the committee members provided appropriate representation for these users. As to the question of whether the public should be represented on the Royalty Issues

Working Group, the Chair indicated that was the role of Alberta Energy – to represent the people of Alberta.

Note: After the committee meeting, an additional information session was added for Grande Prairie, Wednesday, May 19, 2004, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Clarkson Hall.

ACTION

- *Information session maps identifying the locations of NGC wells will be brought to the next committee meeting.*
- *Alberta Energy is working on posting the maps to the DOE website in a pdf format.*
- *Members will advise Karen if they plan on attending any of the four remaining meetings.*
- *If media is present at information sessions, attendees should be advised that their comments may be recorded.*
- *Dave Bartesko will talk with the Land Agent Registrar about issues raised at the information sessions regarding the failure of land agents to fully disclose their company's intent to undertake NGC development on the landowner's property.*
- *A summary will be prepared of the major issues and concerns raised at the information sessions. All issues and concerns will be forwarded to the appropriate working group.*
- *Some of the common questions asked at most of the sessions are to be written up with answers in the summary document.*
- *Bob Willard will follow up on getting relevant feedback from the information sessions to Industry Landowner Relations.*
- *Surface/Air Issues Working Group will prepare, for the next committee meeting, issues they would like reviewed by the Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA), who is currently looking at flaring/venting issues. Dave Bartesko will advise CASA of the working group's intent.*
- *The committee already has indirect representation for the recreational user and this issue has only been raised once so far. Leave committee membership as is and revisit should the issue be raised again.*
- *Once summaries have been provided to committee members, forward any questions it appears were not recorded to Karen.*

Surface/Air Issues Working Group

Dave Bartesko provided an update. Between e-mails and those attending, there are about 58 members representing about 28 organizations. They have so far drafted eight preliminary suggestions on surface/air issues and four preliminary suggestions on other NGC issues.

ACTION

- *Dave will provide a list of issues identified by the working group to Karen.*
- *He will provide an ongoing verified attendance list for honouraria to Karen.*
- *The Surface/Air Issues Working Group will target recommendations to the committee by October 1 and will try to focus on issues unique to NGC development.*

Water Issues Working Group

Nga de-la-Cruz provided an update of their first meeting on March 12. Approximately 20 people attended and Ian Peace of Residents for Accountability in Power Industry Development has asked to attend future meetings.

The Terms of Reference was distributed to Water Issues Working Group members to be ratified at their next meeting.

Alberta Environment has been asked to provide a presentation to the Water Issues Working Group on how groundwater diversion applications are processed.

ACTION

- *The Water and Surface/Air Issues Working groups will discuss the potential for a joint meeting to ensure issues that overlap with other working groups are suitably addressed.*
- *Dave Bartesko and Dave Trew will contact those who offered and then declined membership in the working groups to see if they would like electronic copies of working group documents.*
- *Dave Trew will see if one of the authors of the Water Act would be prepared to speak to the working group.*
- *Nga will provide information on water diversion permits, including examples to the Water Issues Working group. She will provide the geological location of the two applications before Alberta Environment for groundwater diversion permits to both the Water Issues Working Group and to Karen for the next committee meeting.*
- *The Alberta Environment presentation for the information sessions contained a flow chart on when approval is given for water diversion. Nga will forward this information on to Quinn Goretzky to either be put on a poster or handouts at future information sessions.*
- *The May meeting will start with coffee at 9:00 and the meeting at 9:30.*

Next Meeting (9:30 May 10, Red Deer Lodge)

The following will be addressed at the next meeting:

- Update on the information sessions with summary document (if available)
- Update on the Water and Surface/Air Impact Issues Working Groups
- EUB presentation on the orphan well fund
- Update on posting of NGC well drilling maps to the web
- AENV will present information on how water diversion permits are processed, including examples
- Bob Willard will provide a status update on availability of NGC well information from EUB

Future Meetings

June 7	October 4
July 12	November 1
August 16	December 6 (if required)
September 13	