

## Draft Minutes for Committee Ratification

Coalbed Methane/Natural Gas in Coal Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee (the Committee)  
Meeting Minutes  
Red Deer Room, Red Deer Lodge  
July 13, 2004  
9:30 to 2:00

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### In attendance:

Mike Ekelund (chair)	Department of Energy
Peter Watson (alternate chair)	Department of Environment
John Hermans	Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Sharil Baumgardner	Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Committee
Bob Willard	Alberta Energy & Utilities Board
Tom Nahirniak	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
Allen Wright (alternate)	The Coal Association of Canada
Brad Murray	Freehold Petroleum & Natural Gas Owners Association
Dave Bartesko (alternate)	Sustainable Resource Development
Gene Roach (facilitator)	Community Development
Quinn Goretzky (alternate secretary)	Alberta Energy
Sharla Rauschning (presenter)	Alberta Energy
Rhonda Wehrhahn (presenter)	Alberta Energy
Barry Rodgers (presenter)	Alberta Energy
David Pryce (observer)	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
Barry Cole (observer)	Sustainable Resource Development
Absent:	
Phyllis Kobasiuk	Alberta Association of Municipal Districts & Counties
Gene Rawe	Alberta Beef Producers
Karen Henderson	Alberta Energy
Mary Griffiths	Alberta Environmental Network Society
Deryl Hurl	Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen
John Jensen	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers / Canadian Society for Unconventional Gas / Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
Robert Donick	The Coal Association of Canada

## **Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting started at 9:30.

## **Review/Ratification of Documents**

### ***ACTION***

*The following documents were ratified by the Committee.*

- *June 7 Minutes*

## **Orphan Wells Update**

Mike Ekelund will schedule a separate meeting in September 2004. Members will be advised of the details.

## **Thank You Event**

“Thank You” lunches will be held in Edmonton on August 17 and Calgary on August 19 for those who worked on the CBM/NGC Information Sessions. MAC members are invited and should advise Karen Henderson if they plan to attend.

## **Additional Meeting Dates**

Additional meetings are scheduled on October 25 and November 8.

## **Information Sessions Summary Document Status**

Sharla Rauschnig reported that the Information Session Synopsis (first 8 pages of the summary) will be posted to the DOE NGC website on July 14, 2004. The full summary, including a list of all questions, is being prepared by the technical writer and will be forwarded to relevant departments and the EUB for response.

## **Royalty Working Group**

Barry Rodgers provided an update on the preparations for the next Working Group meeting. Data collection from industry is almost complete and analysis has begun. The next Working Group meeting will discuss the initial analytical findings. The MAC requested that royalty principles be incorporated into the Working Group’s recommendation report. Royalty recommendations will be submitted to the MAC by October 2004.

### ***ACTION***

- *A Working Group meeting will be held during the week of July 19 to July 23.*
- *Royalty principles will be added to the Royalty Working Groups report.*
- *A status update on the Royalty Working Group’s progress will be provided at the next MAC meeting*

## **Expanded Land Tenure Working Group**

Rhonda Wehrhahn distributed a written update and the Tenure Working Group Terms of Reference to the MAC. She reported that the second meeting of the expanded Land Tenure Working Group was held on June 16th. The Working Group identified a number of issues that need to be addressed:

- Notification to surface landowners
- Notification to coal owners
- Multiple agreements and its impact to the surface

Tenure recommendations could be ready by October 2004 although a November deadline is preferable.

### ***ACTION***

- *A status update on the Expanded Land Tenure Working Group's progress will be provided at the next MAC meeting.*

### **Surface/Air Issues Working Group (SAWG)**

Dave Bartesko provided an update on the July 6<sup>th</sup> SAWG meeting. SAWG has three drafting subcommittees in place. A draft document should be ready by the end of July, and sent on to Working Group members for comment. Meetings, facilitated by Gene Roach, have been scheduled for September 7-8, September 27-28 and October 5-6 (if necessary). The final draft report will be provided to the MAC by October 19<sup>th</sup>. SAWG issues have been bundled into three categories – surface density, communications (e.g. regulatory, landowners, industry, government) and quality of life.

The MAC secretary was given a technical noise decision document recommending the transfer of these issues to the noise-related group led by the EUB. The MAC approved the transfer. SAWG will continue to investigate nuisance noise (e.g. increased traffic noises) related to NGC. The EUB group will not provide a report to MAC because the NGC consultation will be completed before their process concludes.

### ***Decision***

- MAC ratified the recommendation to transfer technical noise issues to the noise-related group led by the EUB.

### ***ACTION***

- *D. Bartesko will revise the technical noise decision document including comments from Working Group. D. Bartesko will forward a copy to the EUB. A copy will be sent to the MAC secretariat for distribution.*
- *D. Bartesko will submit a package of information concerning NGC technical noise issues to the EUB.*
- *A status update on the SAWG Working Group's progress will be provided at the next MAC meeting.*

### **Water Issues Working Group**

Peter Watson provided an update on the Water Working Group's June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. At the meeting, the 'preliminary draft report' and the issues framework were discussed. The major issues are:

- Data for applications
- Understanding cumulative effects of NGC development on water
- Fresh water disposal
- Overall capacity to regulate fresh water in relation to NGC activities

The Working Group's target date to have draft recommendations to the MAC is October 1, although additional time may be required for editing and fine-tuning the language of the document.

### ***ACTION***

- *A status update on the Water Issues Working Group's progress will be provided at the next MAC meeting.*

### **Canadian Bankers Association**

Tom Nahirniak submitted a Canadian Bankers Association report *Your Business, Your Bank and the Environment* to the MAC for information purposes. The issue of bank valuation of

contaminated agricultural land was briefly discussed. SAWG reconfirmed that this is part of its review. Environment also mentioned this issue is before the Oil and Gas Reclamation and Remediation Advisory Committee (OGRRAC).

**ACTION**

- *Environment will provide information from the OGRRAC concerning this issue at the next meeting.*
- *SAWG will address this issue in their report.*
- *EUB will send a copy of the Sour Gas Land Value Report to the MAC secretariat for distribution to the MAC.*
- *The SAWG Chair will reinforce the need to look at the communication of testing/evaluation of the short/long-term impacts of NGC activity in well and spacing applications by the drafting sub-committees.*

**Additional Public Input**

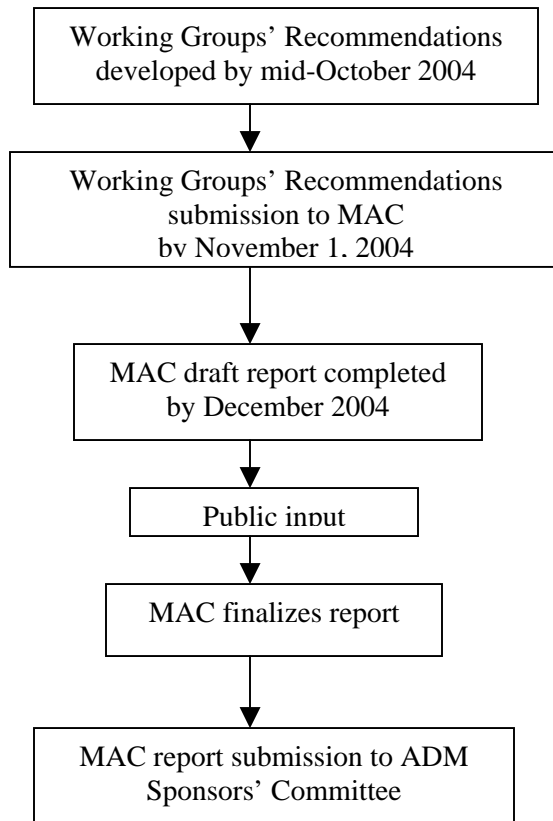
The MAC agreed that additional public input should be sought after the draft MAC recommendations are complete. Based on this decision, Mike Ekelund directed the NGC steering committee to develop a public consultation options document for MAC discussion and at the next meeting.

**ACTION**

- *A draft options document will be discussed at the next MAC meeting.*

**Timelines**

The following workflow diagram outlines the key milestones and the initial deadlines determined by the MAC:



## **Report Format**

Sharla Rauschnig distributed and discussed a draft Working Group report format.

The MAC report will be based on a similar format to the Working Group report. Some additional items in the introduction of the MAC report will be a NGC primer, a list of stakeholders involved in the consultation, and an indication of issues broader than the scope of the NGC consultation.

## ***ACTION***

- *The MAC recommended moving the Glossary and Appendix to Part Two. They also directed that “Findings” be organized by issue.*
- *Sharla will update the document and the secretariat will distribute it to Working Group Chairs.*

## **Future Agenda Items**

- *Process for follow up on recommendations and when to disband the MAC.*
- *The secretariat will ask Tony Lemay (AGS) to provide a presentation on NGC and water after the Water Working Group submits their recommendations to the MAC.*

**Next Meeting (9:30 August 16, Red Deer Lodge)**

## **Future Meetings**

September 13  
October 4  
October 25  
November 1  
November 8  
December 6 (if required)