

Minutes for Committee Ratification

Coalbed Methane/Natural Gas in Coal Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee (the Committee)
Meeting Minutes
Gull Lake Room, Red Deer Lodge
January 13, 2005
9:30 to 4:00

In attendance:

Mike Ekelund (chair)	Department of Energy
John Hermans	Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Phyllis Kobasiuk	Alberta Association of Municipal Districts & Counties
Gene Rawe	Alberta Beef Producers
Bob Willard	Alberta Energy & Utility Board
Mary Griffiths	The Pembina Institute
Don Bester	Butte Action Committee/Rimbey & District Clean Air People
Mike Gatens	Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CSUG)/ Canadian Society for Unconventional Gas / Small Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
Dave Trew (<i>alternate</i>)	Alberta Environment
Else Pedersen (<i>alternate</i>)	Freehold Petroleum & Natural Gas Owners Association
Barry Cole (<i>alternate</i>)	Sustainable Resource Development

Others

Karen Henderson (secretary)	Alberta Energy
Ken Hoppins (observer)	Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties
Paul Batke (presenter)	Alberta Energy
Sharla Rauschning (observer)	Alberta Energy
Matthew Foss (presenter)	Alberta Energy
Barry Rodgers (presenter)	Alberta Energy
Terry Vaughn (facilitator)	Community Development
Tom Byrnes (observer)	Energy & Utility Board
Sari Shernofsky (observer)	

Absent:

Peter Watson (co-chair)	Alberta Environment
Dave Bartesko	Sustainable Resource Development
Sharil Baumgardner	Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Committee
Tom Nahiriniak	Alberta Surface Rights Federation
Deryl Hurl	Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen
Gene Roach	Community Development
Robert Donick	The Coal Association of Canada

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting started at 9:30.

Additional Meetings

The MAC agreed to schedule meetings on February 14 and March 14. Members should be prepared for these meetings to run beyond 4:00.

Review/Ratification of Minutes

ACTION

- *Minutes from December 6 were accepted.*

Out-of- Scope Issues

The Chair distributed a revised interim handout that summarized the issues previously identified as out-of-scope for the consultation. The list will be updated to incorporate further out-of-scope issues as identified in the working group reports.

ACTION

- *Karen Henderson will incorporate the out-of-scope issues as identified in the working group reports and ensure each is addressed in sufficient detail.*
- *Letters will be sent by the Chair of the MAC to the appropriate group/organization for their information.*

Best Practices Manual

Mike Gatens provided a draft table of contents of the best practices manual to the MAC.

ACTION

- *MAC members are to forward their comments to Mike before the January 24 MAC meeting.*
- *Karen will send out an electronic copy of the document to MAC members.*

Surface/Air Issues Working Group (SAWG)

Barry Cole provided a handout updating the status of SAWG. Their report was provided electronically to the MAC on January 11. The SAWG did not identify any issues unique to NGC. Categories of issues identified included land management, environmental health, economics, communicating information, “agents” (licensed land, permit or mineral) and land enjoyment. The SAWG has no further meetings planned but MAC members can forward any comments about the report to Keith Beraska or Dave Bartesko.

ACTION

- *Dave Bartesko will make a presentation on the SAWG report at the January 24 MAC meeting.*
- *Karen will send out an electronic copy of Barry Cole’s handout to the MAC members.*

Water Working Group

Dave Trew advised the Water working group has made some editorial changes since presenting the draft report to the MAC on December 6. The MAC approved an extension to January 21 to submit the final report.

DECISION

- *The Water working group will submit their report to Karen Henderson for distribution to the MAC members by January 21*

Process for Review of Working Group Reports

Terry Vaughn provided a handout to the MAC to assist with review of working group recommendations. Mike Ekelund asked the MAC to consider the following when reviewing each recommendation:

- Is the recommendation in scope?
- Where does the recommendation fall within the established issue matrix i.e. specific to NGC, highly related to NGC or general to oil and industry?
- Does the recommendation belong in the MAC report? Should it be in the best practices manual? Or elsewhere?
- Should the issue be referred to another group or organization or to another government department?
- Is there anything missing?

ACTION

- *Karen will send out an electronic copy of Terry's handout to MAC members.*

Review of Mineral Land Tenure Recommendations

The MAC began discussion and review of recommendations contained in the Mineral Land Tenure report. Recommendations relating to the following issues were reviewed:

- Checkerboard mix of Crown/freehold titles
- Split Crown/freehold or split freehold/freehold mineral titles
- In-situ gasification
- Zone specific mineral rights
- P&NG land size postings
- Retaining mineral rights

The MAC will continue review of recommendations at the January 24 meeting.

Royalty Working Group

Barry Rodgers and Matthew Foss of Alberta Energy provided a Powerpoint presentation on the Royalty working group report. While the potential resource for NGC is significant, production so far in Alberta has been very small. Copies of the report were distributed to the MAC members. The MAC suggested the following; including information on the Ardley coal zone; where appropriate, indicate that the analysis only addresses saline water; including an explanation as to what is meant by the phrase "short-term".

Future Agenda Items

- Continued review of Mineral Land Tenure working group recommendations
- Review of Water working group recommendations
- Presentation of SAWG recommendations
- Review of Royalty working group recommendations
- Update on out-of scope issues
- Review of best practices scoping document

Next Meeting (9:30 January 24, Red Deer Lodge)

Future Meetings

February 7
February 14 (new meeting)
February 22
March 7
March 14 (new meeting)