

Proposed Working Group Structure

Introduction

Based on feedback from the Natural Gas in Coal (NGC) pre-consultation, the technical knowledge and experience of the NGC Steering and Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) Sponsor Committees, and an independent expert on consultations, it is recommended that the Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee (MAC) create working groups to investigate and develop recommendations on issues associated with the development of NGC in Alberta.

Purpose of Work Groups

Each working group would develop appropriate, comprehensive recommendations to address issues specifically associated with NGC development in Alberta, to be forwarded to the MAC.

Working Groups and Consultation Structure

Membership in working groups should reflect expertise in the specific area of focus.

Government representatives will chair the working groups and provide information on existing regulatory requirements. The working groups would review information from the NGC pre-consultation, information sessions and other sources. [Those present can also forward written concerns. Input from the information sessions will be summarized and forwarded to the respective working group.](#) The MAC would coordinate the working groups to ensure the list of potential NGC issue categories is addressed without overlapping efforts.

Proposed Working Groups

Based on the potential NGC issue categories, initial working groups will be created for:

1. Water - Environment employee chair
2. Surface/Air impacts - Sustainable Resource Development employee chair

These working groups may split into smaller, more focused groups as the consultation proceeds.

Currently the Department of Energy and industry are working together on a NGC royalty review committee and a mineral land tenure committee.

3. Royalty review committee (collecting economic information and evaluating the existing royalty regime for NGC) – additional members may be invited to attend as appropriate.
4. Mineral land tenure committee (addressing day-to-day operational NGC development requirements and issues associated with mineral leasing) – a draft of the committee's recommendation report will be forwarded to the MAC for their consideration. Feedback will be provided to the Mineral land tenure committee as appropriate.

Potential Future Working Groups

Regulatory Processes

To address the issues identified under the “regulatory processes” category, representatives from the Energy and Utilities Board (EUB), Environment and Sustainable Resource Development could provide details of relevant regulations as needed by the initial working groups and could be available as information resources. At a later time, if required, a regulatory processes working group could be formed to deal with specific regulatory issues.

Information and Public Awareness

An EUB employee would provide NGC activity and regulatory data to the initial working groups. After the initial working groups review this data, a further working group may be created to focus on specific regulations and recommend data enhancements. This working group could address the collection of and access to NGC data issues identified under the “information and public awareness” issue category.

Innovation and Technology

An Innovation & Science employee could advise the initial working groups on existing scientific initiatives and apprise them of emerging technologies and trends. This employee could act as a resource in the development of any technology- related recommendations. This employee’s expertise could address the “innovation and technology” issue category.

Time Frame

Full day meetings will be scheduled at least once a month, or more if deemed necessary by the MAC or working groups.