### AGENDA COUNCIL MEETING MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9 January 12, 2021 1:00 pm via GoToMeeting

#### A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

### B. MOMENT OF SILENCE

a) For Colleague and Councillor of the Town of Pincher Creek, Cllr S. O'Rourke – who succumbed to complications from COVID-19

b) Sgt. Andrew Harnett – A Calgary Police Officer and representative of our rule of law and a just society in Alberta and Canada – killed in the line of duty.

- C. PUBLIC HEARING BYLAW 1322-20 (ROAD CLOSURE)
- D. DELEGATIONS
  - a) Mark Burles Fire Response Charges

### E. MINUTES/NOTES

2.

- <u>Council Committee Meeting Minutes</u>
   December 8, 2020
  - December 0, 2020
  - Council Meeting Minutes - December 8, 2020
- F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
- G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- H. COMMITTEE REPORTS / DIVISIONAL CONCERNS
  - 1. Councillor Quentin Stevick Division 1
    - Chinook Arch Regional Library Appointment (previously missed at Organizational Meeting)
  - 2. Councillor Rick Lemire Division 2
    - EAC
- 2020 Regional Emergency Management Plan needs approval from Council
- Can be viewed here (very large file, no paper copies will be available)
- http://pcremo.dnsalias.org/mep/2020-mep-public-change-extract.pdf
- 3. Councillor Bev Everts– Division 3
  - FCSS December update
- 4. Reeve Brian Hammond Division 4
- 5. Councillor Terry Yagos Division 5

### I. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

- 1. Operations
  - a) **Operations Report** 
    - Report from Director of Operations dated January 6, 2021
    - Capital Budget Summary
    - Public Works Call Log
- 2. Development and Community Services
  - a) Request for Land Use Bylaw Amendments (Lundbreck Dog Park)
    - Report from Director of Development and Community Services dated January 6, 2021
  - b) Bylaw 1325-21 Road Closure (Drummond)
    - Report from Director of Development and Community Services dated January 6, 2021

- 3. Finance
- 4. Municipal
  - a) <u>Chief Administrative Officer Report</u>
    - Report from CAO, dated January 6, 2021
  - b) <u>REMO Change in Structure</u>
    - Report from Administration, dated January 6, 2021
  - c) <u>C-AES-006 Agricultural Pest Policy</u>
     Report from Administration, dated January 6, 2021

### J. CORRESPONDENCE

- 1. For Action
  - a) RMA Board Governance Review Survey
    - Survey will be completed by Council together
  - b) Meeting with the Minister RMA Spring 2021
    - Email from Municipal Affairs
  - c) Request for Payment Re: Fire
    - Letter from Alan Michalsky
  - d) Letter of Concern Re: Mining
    - Letter from Dixon Hammond
- 2. <u>For Information</u>
  - a) Grant Specialist Report
    - November 2020
  - b) Waterton 61 Pipeline Notification Application Q1 2021
    - Pieridae Energy December 2020
  - c) Grassy Mountain proposal and cumulative effects due to a NOVA/TC Energy proposal
     Email from David McIntyre
  - d) ORRSC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
    - November 12, 2020
  - e) Thank you and Update Regarding Emergency Dispatch Services Support
    - Letter from City of Red Deer, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, City of Lethbridge and City of Calgary
  - f) Oldman River Regional Water Allocation Order
    - Letter from MD of Pincher Creek to MLA
- K. NEW BUSINESS
  - a) Next Steps for Water Allocation Order

### L. CLOSED MEETING SESSION

- a) Employee Benefits FOIP Section 17
- b) Pincher Creek Emergency Services Fire Response FOIP Section 17
- c) AEP Engagement on Draft Guide to Assessing Risk of Pits in the 1:100 Year Floodplain- FOIP Section 17
- M. ADJOURNMENT

#### **MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9 BYLAW NO. 1322-20**

A Bylaw of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 in the Province of Alberta, for the purpose of closing a portion of a public roadway in accordance with Sections 22 and 606 of the Municipal Government Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended.

The Council of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 of the Province of Alberta, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

**WHEREAS** the lands described below are no longer required for public travel;

AND WHEREAS application has been made to Council to have the roadway closed;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 deems it expedient to provide for a bylaw for the purpose of closing to public travel certain roads, or portions thereof, situated in the said municipality, and thereafter disposing of same;

**AND WHEREAS** the advertising requirements of Section 606 of the Act have been complied with;

NOW THEREFORE be it enacted that the Council for the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 in the Province of Alberta does hereby close to Public Travel and creating title to and disposing of the following described highways, subject to rights of access granted by other legislation.

FIRSTLY:

THAT PORTION OF GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE LYING ADJACENT TO N.E. 1/4 SEC. 6, TWP. 6, RGE. 1, W5M AND N.W. ¼ SEC. 5, TWP. 6, RGE. 1, W5M FORMING PART OF LOT 3, BLOCK 1, PLAN CONTAINING 0.201 HECTARES (0.50 ACRES) MORE OR LESS EXCEPTING THEREOUT ALL MINES AND MINERALS

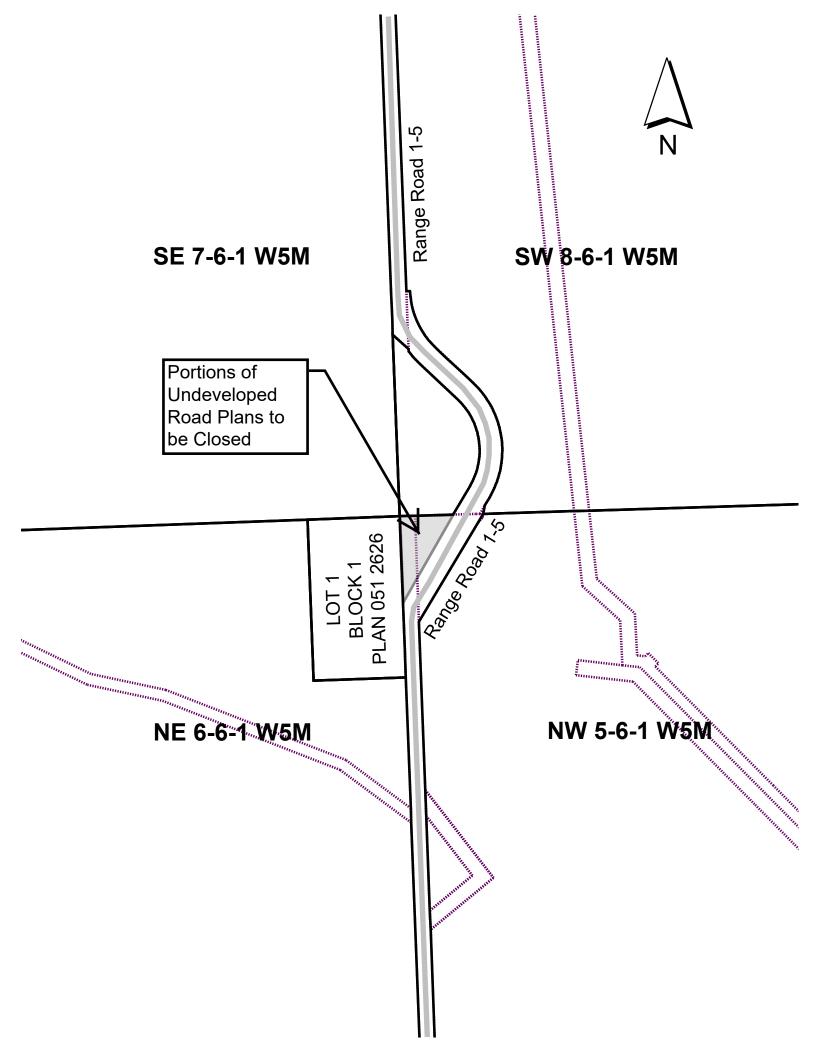
SECONDLY: THAT PORTION OF ROAD PLAN 041 0705 FORMING PART OF LOT 3, BLOCK 1, PLAN CONTAINING 0.202 HECTARES (0.50 ACRES) MORE OR LESS EXCEPTING THEREOUT ALL MINES AND MINERALS

Received first reading this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020

		REEVE
		(Seal)
		CAO
APPROVED this	_ day of	, 20
	Ν	MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION
Received second reading this	day of	, 20
Received third reading this	day of _	, 20
		REEVE
		(Seal)
		CAO
322-20		Page 1 of

Bylaw No. 1

1



#### MINUTES COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9 Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:00 am Via GoToMeeting

- Present: Reeve Brian Hammond, Deputy Reeve Rick Lemire, Councillors Terry Yagos, Quentin Stevick and Bev Everts.
- Staff: Director of Development and Community Services Roland Milligan, Director of Finance Meghan Dobie and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

Reeve Brian Hammond called the meeting to order, the time being 9:05 am.

1. Approval of Agenda

Councillor Bev Everts

Moved that the agenda for December 8, 2020 be apprived as presented.

Carried

2. Delegations

SASCI (Southwest Alberta Sustainable Communities Initiative)

Board members of SASCI, James VanLeeuwen, Dan Crawford, and David Simmons, Community Grant Specialist Liza Dawber and Administrator Carrie Cooley attended the meeting at this time and presented to Council an update on programs that SASCI is involved in. As their presentation was not available until the day of the meeting, it is attached to and forming part of these minutes.

SASCI Members left at this time, the time being 9:25 am.

#### LLG (Livingstone Landowners Group)

Norma Dougall and Roberta Lambright from LLG attended the meeting at this time to present to Council updates on LLG and the watershed concerns at this time. Currently LLG is researching the potential damage to the headwaters from prospective coal mine operations to the West of Pincher Creek. As their presentation was not available until the day of the meeting, it is attached to and forming part of these minutes.

LLG members left at this time, the time being 10:20 am.

2. Closed Session

Councillor Terry Yagos

Moved that Council move into closed session to discuss the following, the time being 10:30 am:

a) Mediator Selection - PCEMSC Funding Formula – FOIP Section 23
b) Municipal Operating Support Transfer (MOST) Community Organizations – FOIP Section 17
c) 10:30 am - DEM Brett Wuth -COVID-19 Situation Update – FOIP Section 17
d) Remuneration Strategy – FOIP Section 19
e) CAO 2020 Performance Review - FOIP Section 19

Carried

Councillor Rick Lemire

Moved that Council move out of closed session, the time being 12:18 pm.

Carried

Councillor Bev Everts

Moved that the following items be tabled to the Council meeting of January 14, 2021:

d) Remuneration Strategy – FOIP Section 19e) CAO 2020 Performance Review - FOIP Section 19

Carried

4 Adjournment

Councillor Terry Yagos

Moved that the Committee Meeting adjourn, the time being 12:19 pm.

Carried



Southwest Alberta Sustainable Community Initiative Box 1297, Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0 Tel 403-627-1750 Fax 403-627-1751 email sasci@telus.net

### SASCI Presentation to M.D. of Pincher Creek #9 December 8, 2020 via GoToMeeting

The Southwest Alberta Sustainable Community Initiative (SASCI) welcomes this opportunity to update the M.D. of Pincher Creek on its current status and plans.

### **SASCI Board and Staff**

James Van Leeuwen	Chairperson
Kevin Van Koughnett	Vice Chairperson
David Simmons	Treasurer
Dan Crawford	Director
Connie Simmons	Director
Marie Everts	Director
Steve Holly	Director
Carrie Cooley	Administrator
Liza Dawber	Community Grant Specialist

SASCI presently has five members at large in addition to the above nine members.

### **SASCI** Mandate

- SASCI will enter its eighteenth year of operation in 2021.
- SASCI's charitable objects (purposes) are:
  - To educate people on economic, environmental and social issues that affect the sustainability of life in southwestern Alberta through forums, discussions, workshops, and other learning opportunities;
  - To undertake research into economic, environmental and social issues that affect the sustainability of life in southwestern Alberta, and disseminate the results to the public;
  - To undertake activities that are ancillary and incidental to the above charitable objects.
- Community development has always been an *implicit* role for SASCI, and will now become an *explicit* role.
- We understand community development to mean *growing people*.
- We understand 'community' to be a verb, not a noun.

### SASCI in 2020

#### SASCI improved its business efficiency, effectiveness and capacities in 2020:

- Settled into a new office in the Pincher Creek Annex.
- Hired a part-time Administrator.
- Migrated to cloud-based bookkeeping and telecommunication solutions.
- <A few words of welcome from SASCI's Administrator, Ms. Carrie Cooley>

#### SASCI established its *BRIDGEBuilder* Initiative in 2020:

- BRIDGE = <u>B</u>uilding <u>R</u>egional <u>Investment</u>, <u>D</u>evelopment & <u>G</u>overnance <u>E</u>xcellence.
- Took responsibility for Community Grant Specialist position after merging with Pincher Creek Community Development Initiative (PCCDI). Position supported under SASCI's *BRIDGEBuilder* Initiative since January 1, 2020.
- <A few words of welcome from SASCI's Community Grant Specialist, Ms. Liza Dawber>

#### SASCI supported several Agents in 2020:

- **Grasslands Restoration Forum** raised, held and disbursed charitable funds for education programs and events (most programs and events cancelled in 2020).
- Maker Centre Working Group managed and disbursed charitable funds for Pincher Creek Maker Centre initiative (inactive for much of 2020).
- **Pincher Creek Watershed Group** received and held charitable funds for Blueweed Blitz event (event postponed until 2021).
- Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association received and processed charitable funds for Carnivores and Communities program.
- Twin Butte Community Society received and processed charitable funds for Twin Butte Community Hall renovation and expansion project.
- · Adaptable Outdoors received and processed charitable funds for Paddling Program.
- Chamber of Commerce invested SASCI funds in Business Recovery Support Program.

**SASCI is currently crafting an 'umbrella' Agency Agreement** to cover all future projects that an Agent undertakes with SASCI's support, providing a more convenient alternative to SASCI's project-based Agency Agreement.

SASCI looks forward to onboarding three new Agents before the end of 2020 with the help of its new Agency Agreement:

- Pincher Creek Family Resource Society
- Pincher Creek Health Professional Attraction & Retention Society
- Pincher Creek Trail Breakers

### SASCI in 2021

- Funds in place to cover operations and BRIDGEBuilder Initiative through 2021.
- Undertake a robust strategic planning exercise early in 2021.
- Work with the Town, M.D., Chamber of Commerce and other organizations in the community in responding to challenges and opportunities presented by the COVID pandemic.
- Establish a committee and program for communication and outreach.
- Promote SASCI's bookkeeping, administrative and charitable fundraising services.
- Support active Agents, including fostering collaboration among Agents.
- Onboard new Agents.
- Support the Community Grant Specialist under the BRIDGEBuilder Initiative.
- Contract a Fund Development Specialist to start building a *Community Legacy Fund*, using funds already secured for the position under the *BRIDGEBuilder* Initiative.
- Establish a leadership development program under the BRIDGE Builder Initiative.
- Engage key community stakeholders in the BRIDGEBuilder Initiative.
- Secure longer-term funding support for the BRIDGEBuilder Initiative and for operations.
- Foster and facilitate community and collaboration (Build Bridges).

### GROW PEOPLE.

### **GROW COMMUNITY.**

# Watershed Considerations Oldman River Basin

PRESENTATION TO MD OF PINCHER CREEK COUNCIL

DEC. 8, 2020



# AGENDA

### Water Policy Framework

### State of the Oldman River Watershed

### Current Mechanisms to Access Water

### Risks of Changing Water Allocation Order

### \*Water Policy Direction – Closed Basins

### Limits for water allocations reached or exceeded (August 2006)

Closed Bow, Oldman, South Saskatchewan River subbasins to:

- Recover and conserve aquatic environment
- Reduce risk to existing licence holders
- Ensure Alberta meets obligations to downstream neighbours

### Address knowledge gaps through monitoring, research

\*Water Allocation Policy for Closed River Basins in the South Saskatchewan River Basin Directive: Reviewed Sept. 22, 2016 Livingstone Landowners Group - December 8, 2020

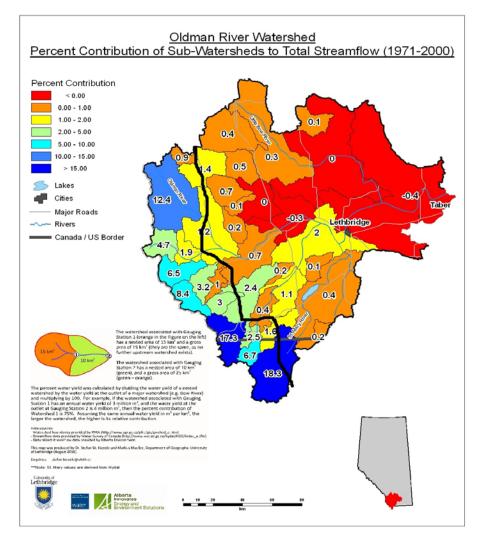
### Characteristics of the Watershed

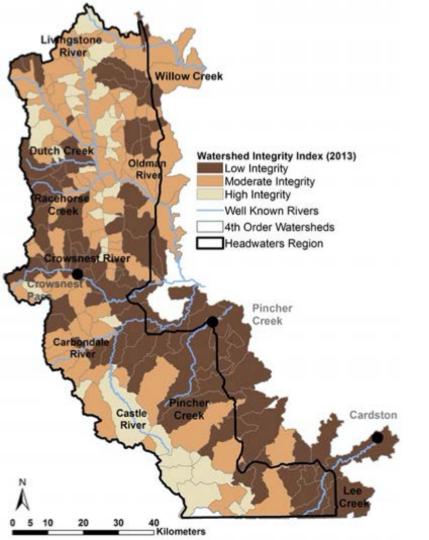


- Highly variable water flows
- Climate change impacts
- Region susceptible to drought
- Mountain sub-basins critical
- High frequency of deficits to lower priority users
- Water conservation objectives often unmet

Approximately 90% of the water in the Oldman River comes from the headwaters

From Dr. Stefan Kienzle at the University of Lethbridge





# Watershed Integrity Index

95% of headwaters have low to moderate integrity

From OWC Headwaters Indicators Project 2014

### Watershed Health Depends on Mountain Sub-basins

\* Table 7.8: Overall State of the Watershed Ranking for all Indicators by Sub-basins

	Sub-Basins								
Indicator	Mountain Foothills Southern Tributaries Prairie		Mainstem		Oldman Watershed				
Terrestrial and Riparian	Good	Good	Fair	Po	oor	Go	od	Fa	air
Water Quantity	Good	Fair	Poor	Fair	Poor	Po	or	Fa	air
Water Quality	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Poor	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
Overall	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Poor	Fa	air	Fa	air

\*South Saskatchewan River Basin in Alberta Water Supply Study 2010

### Water Availability

### Closed except for legislated exceptions

Water market, through licence transfers

### Legislated Exceptions for Crown Reserve (BOSS Allocation)

- First Nations projects
- Water Conservation projects
- Storage projects to protect the aquatic environment & existing licence holders
- Applications complete when the order was filed in 2007

### Oldman River Basin Water Allocation Order

### **Oldman River Allocation Order**

- Applies to withdrawals directly from headwaters area (region upstream of the Oldman River Dam (MD of Pincher Creek, MD of Ranchland, Municipality of Crowsnest Pass)
- Up to 11,000 acre-feet of water available for defined users:

	Reserved Total	Licensed/applied for	Unallocated
Non-industrial (municipal, recreation, rural communities, commercial agriculture – non-irrigation)	1,500	326	1,174
Industrial	150	150	0
Irrigation	9350	1,295	8,055
Total	11,000 acre-feet	1,771 acre-feet	9,229 acre-feet

### Proposed Government Rule Change

### Eliminate categories of users

- Set one overall limit, including industrial
- Set aside 20% for environmental support
- Provides coal companies access to new water licences at little or no cost
- Reduces reserve for future needs of other users

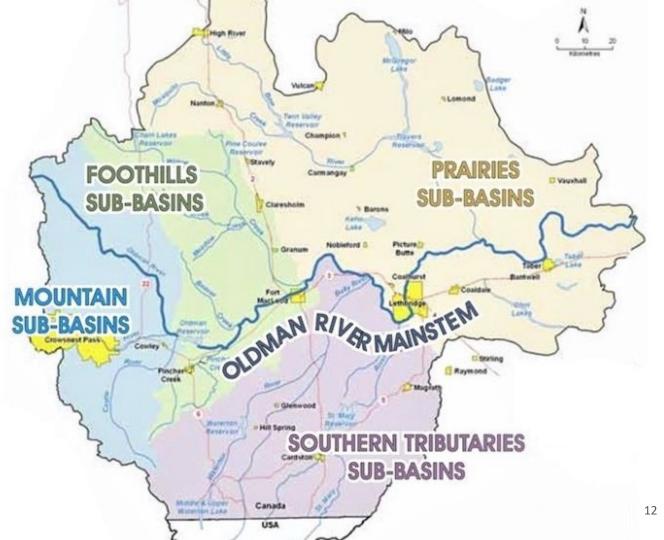
### **Risks of New Approach**

- Permanent damage to headwaters
- Intense pressure on water source
- Serious pollution risks
- Threatens drinking water, aquatic ecosystems, sustainable growth



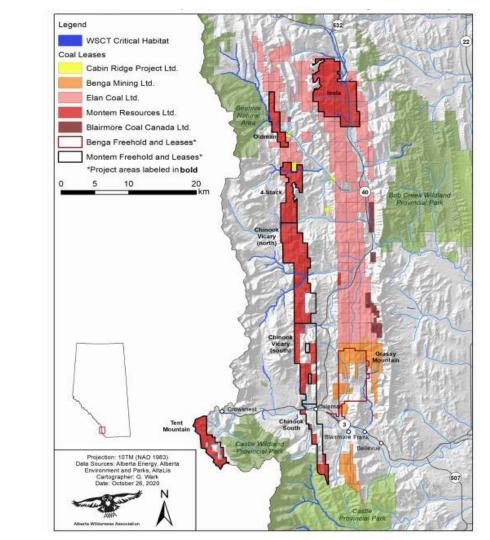
# Mountain Sub-Basins

- High basin yield
- Few water licences
- Frequent WCO deficits
- Good water quality



# **Proposed Coal Mines**

- More than 800 sq km of approved coal leases
- Located in headwaters
- Intense water users
- Known source of pollutants
- Excavate the water tables
- Disrupt & destroy streams, springs, wetlands



### **Important Considerations**

Location in the mountain sub-basins is a major issue

Existing water policies have NOT achieved objectives

Still lack key data on stream flows and water quality

Coal mining impact extreme and irreversible

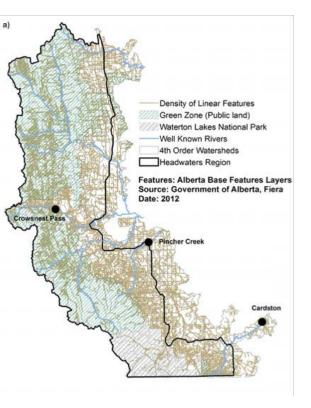
### **Questions?**

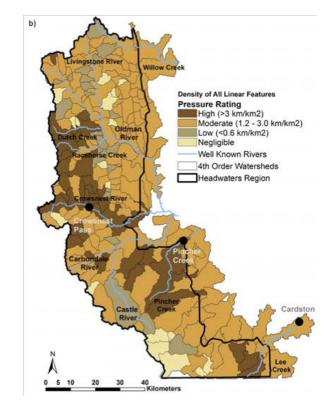


### Background Information

Livingstone Landowners Group - December 8, 2020

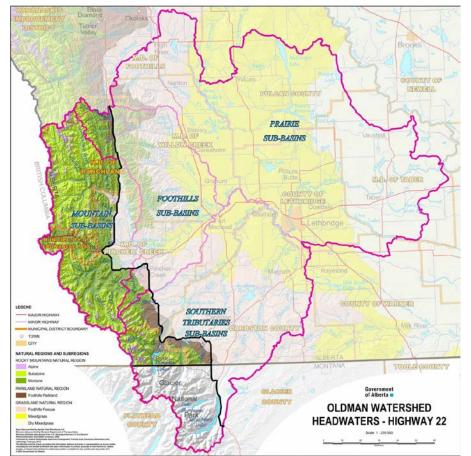
### Linear features





#### From OWC Headwaters Indicators Project 2014

# The Oldman headwaters - the rocky mountains



Map created by the Government of Alberta

### Water Basin Closure Themes

Limits for water allocations reached or exceeded (2006)

- Increasing demands for water creating supply risks
- Poor and declining health of the aquatic environment
- Knowledge gaps re: impact of changes to water flows

### Water Policy Framework

- SSRB Water Management Plan approved 2006
- Bow, Oldman, SSRB Allocation Order (2007)
- Oldman River Basin Water Allocation Order (2003, amended 2010)
- Water Supply Study (2010)
- Water Allocation Policy Directive For Closed River Basins (2016)
- Implementation Review SSRB Water Management Plan (2018)

#### MINUTES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 8, 2020

The Regular Meeting of Council of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 was held on Tuesday, December 8, 2020, at 1:00 pm, via GoToMeeting.

- PRESENT Reeve Brian Hammond, Deputy Reeve Rick Lemire, Councillors Terry Yagos, Quentin Stevick and Bev Everts.
- STAFF Director of Development and Community Services Roland Milligan, Director of Finance Meghan Dobie, Director of Operations Aaron Benson and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

Reeve Brian Hammond called the meeting to order, the time being 1:00 pm.

### A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Councillor Quentin Stevick 20/446

Moved that the Council Agenda for December 8, 2020 be amended to include:

- F3b CMCA
- F3c FCSS Minutes
- G3b MOST Grant
- Je Mediator Selection
- Ia Masking Bylaw Discussion

And that the agenda be approved as amended.

#### Carried

#### B. DELEGATION

#### a) STARS

Glenda Farnden with STARS attended the meeting at this time to update Council on the changes with STARS and how COVID-19 has affected their funding for this year. Council will be discussing their 2021 donation to STARS later in the meeting.

Glenda left the meeting at this time, the time being 1:15 pm.

b) Y2Y (Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative)

Patty Richards and Connie Simmons, with Y2Y, attended the meeting at this time to update Council on the changes and growth within their organization. Their presentation is attached to and forming part of these minutes.

Y2Y Representatives left the meeting at this time, the time being 1:45 pm.

### C. MINUTES

1. <u>Committee Meeting Minutes</u>

Councillor Quentin Stevick 20/447

Moved that the Minutes of the Committee Meeting on November 24, 2020 be approved as presented.

Carried

20/448

2. <u>Council Meeting Minutes</u>

Councillor Bev Everts

Moved that the Minutes of the Council Meeting on November 24, 2020 be approved as presented.

Carried

### D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) Bylaw 1320-20 (Utilities)

Councillor Terry Yagos 20/449

Moved that Bylaw 1320-20, being a bylaw for the purpose of regulating and providing for the terms, conditions, rates and charges for the supply and use of water services, wastewater services and solid waste services provided by the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9., be given second reading.

	Carried
Councillor Quentin Stevick	20/450

Moved that Bylaw 1320-20, be given third and final reading.

Carried

b) Lundbreck Dog Park Survey Results

Councillor Terry Yagos 20/451

Moved that administration be directed to move forward with the Land Use Bylaw change to allow for a dog park in Lundbreck,

AND THAT this information be brought back to the meeting on January 26, 2020.

#### Carried

### F. COMMITTEE REPORTS / DIVISIONAL CONCERNS

- 1. Councillor Quentin Stevick Division 1
  - Councillor Rick Lemire Division 2
    - a) Emergency Advisory Committee
      - b) Ecological Continuity Guidelines Interview
      - c) Pincher Creek Foundation
      - d) ICF Crowsnest Pass
- 3. Councillor Bev Everts– Division 3
  - a) Agricultural Service Board
  - b) Family and Community Support Services
  - c) Castle Mountain Community Association
- 4. Reeve Brian Hammond Division 4
  - a) RMA

2.

- b) Planning meeting for upcoming Minister of Health attendance
- c) Mayors and Reeves
- 5. Councillor Terry Yagos Division 5
  - a) Agricultural Service Board

Councillor Rick Lemire

20/452

Moved to accept the Committee Reports and information.

Carried

Public Works Superintendent Eric Blanchard attended the meeting at this time.

#### G. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

1. Operations

a) Operations Report

Councillor Terry Yagos 20/453

Moved that Council accept the snow plowing priorities maps for 2020/2021 as information.

	Carried
Councillor Rick Lemire	20/454

Moved that Council receive for information:

- Report from Director of Operations dated December 2, 2020
- Public Works Call logs, dated December 2, 2020
- Capital Budget Summary, dated December 2, 2020
- Program Capital Budget Projects Status, dated December 2, 2020

#### Carried

Eric Blanchard left the meeting at this time, the time being 2:33 pm.

b) Removal of Policy C-PW-022 Maintenance of Roads within Forestry

Councillor Quentin Stevick 20/455

Moved that we the Province took over control of forestry roads, Council remove policy C-PW-022 Maintenance of Roads within Forestry.

Carried

c) Road and Culvert Repairs on NW 20-05-28 W4M

Councillor Quentin Stevick 20/456

Moved that Council approve \$30,000 to be allocated from the Road Reserve (6-12-0-757-6740) to complete road and culvert work in NW 20-05-28 W4M on Twp. Rd 5-4.

#### Carried

2. Development and Community Services

a) <u>AES Report December</u>

Councillor Bev Everts 20/457

Moved to accept the AES December report as information.

Carried

b) Road Closure NE 06-06-01 W5M

Councillor Terry Yagos 20/458

Moved that Council give first reading to Road Closure Bylaw No. 1322-20,

AND THAT the date for Public Hearing be set for January 12, 2021 at 1:00 pm.

c) Road Closure NE 12-17-03 W5M

Councillor Terry Yagos

20/459

Moved that Council of the MD of Pincher Creek No. 9 approve a resolution for the purpose of closing to public travel and cancelling a public highway in accordance with Section 24 of the Municipal Government Act,

Chapter M26, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, as amended,

WHEREAS, the lands hereafter described are no longer required for public travel,

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Council of the MD of Pincher Creek No. 9 does hereby close the following described road, subject to rights of access granted by other legislation,

EXTRA ROAD AREA 'A', PLAN \_\_\_\_\_ CONTAINING 0.164 HECTARES (0.41 ACRES) MORE OR LESS EXCEPTING THEREOUT ALL MINES AND MINERALS

Carried

d) Nature Conservancy of Canada Conservation

Councillor Bev Everts 20/460

Moved that Council acknowledge the receipt of the notice of the Conservation Easement for the Nature Conservancy of Canada's Shoderee (CA) project, and further;

THAT Council waive the 60-day notice period prior to registration for the Conservation Easement.

Carried

3. Finance

a) Financial Policy C-FIN-523

Councillor Terry Yagos 20/461

Moved that Council approve policy C-FIN-523 (Financial Reserves), with amendments as presented.

Carried

b) <u>Municipal Operating Support Transfer</u>

Councillor Bev Everts 20/462

Moved that Council approve the use of the Municipal Operating Support Transfer (MOST) grant of up to a maximum of \$200k to support and financially assist community organizations that have suffered economic hardship as a result of COVID-19;

AND THAT administration be directed to issue the MOST letter.

Carried

4. Municipal

a) Chief Administrative Officer Report

Minutes Regular Council Meeting Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 December 8, 2020

Councillor Terry Yagos 20/463

Moved that Council receive for information, the Chief Administrative Officer's report for the period of November 25, 2020 to January 4, 2020.

#### Carried

#### H. CORRESPONDENCE

1. For Action

a) STARS Request for Annual Donation

Councillor Quentin Stevick 20/464

Moved that the MD donate \$5,930 (\$2 per capita) towards STARS Foundation, with the amount coming from Grants to Groups and Organizations (2-75-0-770-2765).

Carried

20/465

#### 2. For Information

Councillor Terry Yagos

Moved that the following be received as information:

- a) Community Foundations Grant Agreement Twin Butte Community Hall
- b) Cowley Lions Club Tree Canada Grant Application
- c) News Release Seeking Input on Outdoor Recreation and Trails
- d) Grant Specialist Report October 2020
- e) Merry Christmas from ORRSC
- f) Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance Minutes of November 4, 2020
- g) Alberta SouthWest Bulletin December 2020

Carried

#### I. NEW BUSINESS

#### a) Masking Bylaw in the MD

DEM Brett Wuth attended the meeting at this time, the time being 3:15 pm, and took part in the conversation with Council on a potential MD masking Bylaw.

Councillor Bev Everts 20/466

Moved to direct administration to communicate Councils support for masking within the MD, Town and greater community.

#### Carried

Brett Wuth left the meeting at this time, the time being 5:00 pm.

J. CLOSED SESSION

Councillor Quentin Stevick 20/467

Moved that Council move in to closed session to discuss the following, the time being 5:13 pm:

- a) MD of Ranchland Letter FOIP Section 17
- b) Road Closure and Purchase Request McClelland FOIP Section 17

Councillor Rick Lemire

K.

Moved that Council open the Council meeting to the public, the time being 5:17 pm.				
a) MD of Ranchland Letter	Carried			
Councillor Terry Yagos	20/469			
Moved that administration be directed to schedule a meeting between the MD of Ranchland and the MD of Pincher Creek, to discuss a response to the Old Man River Basin Allocation Order changes.				
	Carried			
b) Road Closure and Purchase Request NW 17-5-2 W5M – McClelland				
Councillor Quentin Stevick	20/470			
Moved that Council deny the applicant's request, as pursuant to Policy 123 Purchase, Sale, and Disposal of Road Allowances or Roadways, there is no benefit to the municipality at this time				
	Carried			
c) Road Closure and Purchase Request NE 18-5-2	W5M – McClelland/Bosch			
Councillor Bev Everts	20/471			
Moved that Council deny the applicant's request, as J Road Allowances or Roadways, there is no benefit to	pursuant to Policy 123 Purchase, Sale, and Disposal of the municipality at this time.			
	Carried			
d) Draft Pincher Creek Recreation Master Plan				
Councillor Rick Lemire	20/472			
Moved that the Draft Pincher Creek Recreation Master Plan be received as information.				
	Carried			
ADJOURNMENT				
Councillor Terry Yagos	20/473			
Moved that Council adjourn the meeting, the time being 5:17 pm.				
	Carried			

c) Road Closure and Purchase Request - McClelland/Bosch - FOIP Section 17

Carried

20/468

e) Mediator Selection – PCEMSC Funding Formula – FOIP Section 23

d) Pincher Creek Recreation Master Plan - FOIP Section 17

REEVE

# Exploring Emerging Economic Opportunities in Southwest Alberta

Presentation to MD Pincher Creek

December 8, 2020



Connecting and protecting habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive.

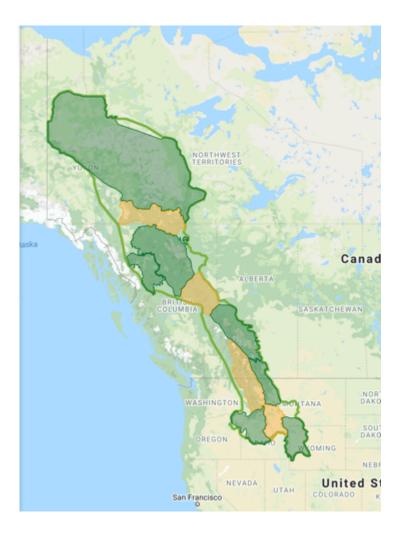
## HOPE FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE

- The Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative is a joint Canada-U.S. not-for-profit organization and the only organization dedicated to securing the long-term ecological health of this entire region.
- Our vision is an interconnected system of wild lands and waters stretching from Yellowstone to Yukon, harmonizing the needs of people with those of nature.
- Recognizing communities need equal opportunities and rights to thrive, Y2Y seeks to support human diversity, equity, inclusion; and environmental and social justice, and to oppose actions and policies that undermine these principles.

Within this footprint we work with communities, partnerships and governments to achieve what we all would like to see for the future - wildlife, healthy landscapes, safe, secure drinking water.

We work with people, organizations and agencies to ensure safe passage for wildlife with science -based management of corridors that link to protected areas.

We support sustainable communities, and well managed recreation opportunities such as hunting, fishing and OHV use.





Y2Y is working with its partners to promote wildlife overpasses and underpasses with fencing. These make road travel - to work or play - safer for wildlife and people.

- Highway 1 overpasses through Banff National Park have decreased wildlifevehicle collisions by 80%, have enabled more than 140,000 animal crossings and have been proven to promote gene flow.
- Montana Department of Transportation now requires wildlife-friendly fencing along state highways in places recommended by state biologists.
- Since 2013, more than 600 mi. (1,000 km) of highway across Alberta, Idaho,
   Montana and Wyoming are in the process of becoming wildlife friendly. "



## Kelly, Y2Y's communications and digital engagement manager, on hunting in northwest Alberta:

Working to help people have places to go to experience wilderness and have opportunities to hunt is one of the reasons I started working at Y2Y. An ecosystem that is healthy enough to hunt in is a beautiful thing.



Conservation and hunting go hand-in-hand, and many of our supporters and partners enjoy getting outdoors as much as possible during game seasons.



Spending so much time on the landscape means hunters, trappers and anglers see the connection between healthy landscapes and sustainable hunting practices firsthand.



Y2Y's efforts to improve habitat and connectivity across the Yellowstone-to-Yukon region include ensuring there are places to go to take part in these activities. Y2Y wants to help communities build sustainable local economic health and community resilience.

We believe well managed special areas and public lands can help support emerging economic opportunities for local communities.

## EurekAlert! NAAAS

#### NEWS RELEASE 14-OCT-2020

#### The rise of 'zoom towns' in the rural west

Growing populations in gateway communities cause urgent planning challenges; the GNAR initiative aims to help local officials prepare

#### UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

#### Research News



When COVID-19 hit the United States, small towns near ski areas such as Park City, Utah, and Sun Valley, Idaho, experienced some of the highest per capita cases; people from around the world had brought the virus along with their skis. As the coronavirus spread, gateway communities—communities near scenic public lands, national parks, and other outdoor recreational amenities—felt acute economic pressure as the virus forced them to shut down tourist activities.



PORTALS

⊖ PRINT ■E-MAIL

#### Uplift Adventures



CANADIAN ROCKES COAL MINING CROWSNEST PASS ENVIRONMENTALLY FRENDL' NATURE GUTDOOR GUTDOOR RECREATION PINCHER CREEK

What are we willing to trade? The trade-off between coal mining and outdoor recreation around Crowsnest Pass.

Posted by Uplift\_Admin October 3, 2019



#### Pincher Creek Echo News - Sports - Entertainment - Life - Money Opinion - Obituares as

#### Businesses discuss downtown revitalization

By Andrew Glen McCutcheon More from By Andrew Glen McCutcheon

Published on: April 18, 2017 | Last Updated: April 18, 2017 7:55 AM EDT



tribe is working toward that goal through myriad avenues, including a plan to become one of the few tribes in the country to open its own national park, a way to assert the tribe's place in the region's history, protect its natural resources and provide new economic opportunities to its members, mostly in Browning, home to approximately 1,000 people and the largest community on the Blackfeet Reservation.

"The invisibility of the Blackfeet has a way of eliminating our connection," DesRosier said. He sees taking advantage of the park tourism economy as more than just a chance for his tribe to reassert its connection to the park, but also as an economic opportunity. Despite once owning half of Glacier and now sharing a border along some of its most breathtaking terrain, the Blackfeet Nation has not yet tapped into the booming national parks tourism economy in any significant way, though such tourism generated \$18.2 billion in park gateway communities last year. That's where Blackfeet tribal members see an opportunity.

## Economic diversification – tourism, recreation and amenity migration

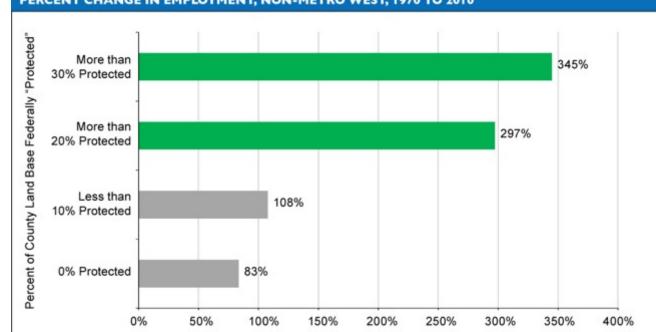
Economic benefits to local communities near protected areas:

Non-metro counties that have upwards of **30%** of their land base protected have experienced 345% increase in economic growth between 1970 and 2010;

By comparison, counties that have less than **10%** of their lands protected have experienced just 108% growth during the same period.

On average, western non-metro counties have a per capita income that is \$436 higher for every 10,000 acres of protected public lands within their boundaries

From: The West is Best: Protected Lands Promote Jobs and Higher Incomes. Headwaters Economics:



#### PERCENT CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT, NON-METRO WEST, 1970 TO 2010



# EXPLORING NATURE BASED ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION IN SW ALBERTA

## νιςιον

Community stability, new economies and business growth is enhanced based on proximity to natural areas in southwest Alberta.

## P R O J E C T C O M P O N E N T S

- Advisory group of local Indigenous Peoples and stakeholders.
- **Phase 1:** Economic data gather and analysis.
- Phase 2: interviews
- Output: Consolidated report

## S T A T U S

- Project plan
- Research company
- Advisory panel members
- Government consultation







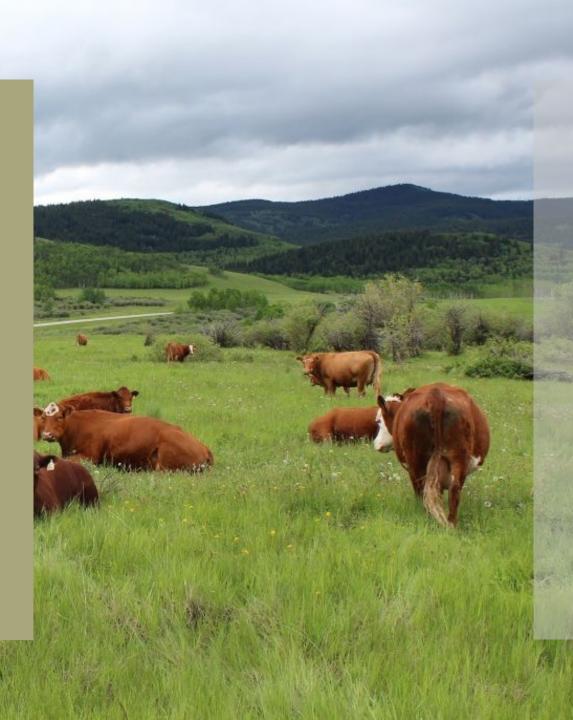
## WHY?

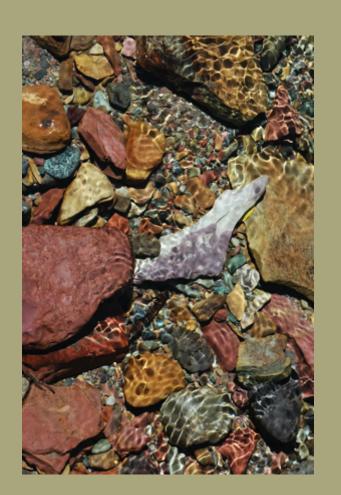
Take clear steps towards a context where people and nature thrive

Leverage community members' rich perspectives and experiences

Provide appropriate tools and a vital road map for future economic diversification and resilience

In the shorter term, our project will provide: 1. Increased understanding of opportunities to address economic and environmental priorities 2. Tangible tools and recommendations 3. A scalable model for other communities

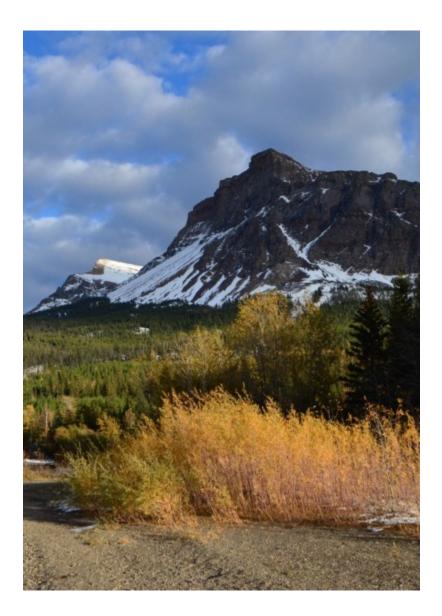




Activity	Details; Progress	Lead
Project plan	First iteration complete	Patty
Consultation with research advisors, research to date	Headwaters Economics, Pacific Analytics, Alberta Southwest, etc.; ongoing	Hilary, Connie and Patty
Hire research agency	Alberta based; underway	Hilary and Patty
Contact government reps	FN (Kainai and Piikani), MD's of Crowsnest, Pincher Creek, Cardston Willowcreek and Ranchlands; underway	Patty, Connie
Advisory panel	List of potential members drafted; invitations underway	Patty
Public Communication	Y2Y web page developed, toolkit being assembled in SharePoint	Team

Y2Y is requesting The MD of Pincher Creek's support, collaboration and engagement

- Data
- Advice
- Review
- Communicate





Hilary Young – Senior Alberta Program Manager <u>hilary@y2y.net</u> Patty Richards – Alberta Program Advisor <u>patty@y2y.net</u> Connie Simmons – SW Alberta Coordinator <u>connie@y2y.net</u>



## **Pincher Creek and District**



December 23, 2020

FCSS Board Members - update

Good Morning All;

Just thought I should bring you up to speed on FCSS activities since we last met. I've been busy wrapping up the year's paperwork.

#### 2021 Project Funding and Meetings

2021 Funding contracts now signed and returned

- 2021 Cheque Requisitions completed and submitted to Finance
- 2020 Audit Preparations underway

2021 FCSS Budget presentation to Council completed and approved

Community Health Needs Assessment Advisory Committee work completed (report to be released to public in January)

FCSS Southern Region Zoom meetings (2) to discuss funding and accounting issues

FCSS Southern Region Zoom meeting with Ken Dropko, Executive Director, Family and Community Services (GoA) to confirm funding and accounting issues.

FCSS Emergency Covid Grant extension request submitted and approved (Mar 31, 2021)

There has been discussion among FCSS agencies across the Province regarding the management of project funds that were not spent in the 2020 year because of restrictions placed on activities due to Covid. The instruction provided by the Finance Department for the FCSS Association of Alberta has stated clearly that funds that were provided by FCSS Boards across the Province but not spent by year end, will have to be accounted for when the 2021 financial statements are prepared. We will be advising our project managers

immediately so they can advise their accountants/bookkeepers to provide visibility for those funds as the 2021 year unfolds.

This time of year always brings speculation about the Government of Alberta budget situation going forward. It is especially speculative right now because of the Covid impact on provincial finances.

As you know, FCSS was guaranteed a locked-in budget until the end of 2022. That assurance took place before Covid hit. In order to reinforce the FCSS position across the province, we have been asked to provide an "Advocacy Kit" for submission to our MLA. I am assembling the pieces for that presently. That information reinforces the importance of FCSS programming given the social impact at this time of pandemic.

My office has been managing the Food Bank transition. That transition is going extremely well. The Pincher Creek and District Community Food Centre is being managed by a new Board of Directors and Administrator. Because of FCSS involvement in the Emergency Grant, we are still monitoring the movement of funds and recognize we have reporting obligations for some of the grants. Further, when cheques arrive that require a Tax Receipt, the Town issues those receipts (the new Food Centre agency does not yet have Registered Charity status). The new Food Centre group has established partnerships with other local agencies and groups to bolster the Christmas Hamper program.

The Regional Emergency Management Organization (PCREMO) has had several planning and update Zoom meetings over the past few months. As Emergency Social Service Director, I have been participating in those information meetings. At the present time, the group is "standing down" as local Covid case numbers have decreased. However, given the snow over the last couple of days and the threat of wind, we are on-standby for Reception Centre need.

I'm looking forward to a few days off. I hope you and your families enjoy a wonderful Christmas. It will be different, but that doesn't mean it can't be joyful.

Best wishes as we move toward 2021,

David



#### **OPERATIONS REPORT**

#### 1.0 Upcoming Meetings:

• Meeting with MRF Geosystems Corporation on Asset Management, Thursday, January, 14 2021.

#### 2.0 Discussion:

- Meeting with MPE Engineering on Castle Area Regional Water Supply completion of project, Wednesday, January 6, 2021.
- Weekly meeting with CAO, Director of Development and Finance, Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

#### 2.0 Public Works Activity Includes:

- Road Maintenance & Winter Clean up Roads are being graded in all Divisions. The Public Works has eight (8) graders out on the roads with staff repairing snow fence.
- There is one (1) dozer out doing push back on roads and cleanup.

#### • 3.0 Capital Projects Update:

- Bridge File 75009 Wild Cat Ranch. Tendering of the work will happen in the spring of 2021.
- Bridge File 75377 Local Road over Screwdriver Creek. Tendering of the work will happen in the spring of 2021.
- Bridge File 02488 Fisher Bridge. Maintenance repairs are scheduled in the spring of 2021.
- Bridge File 74119 Pony Truss Bridge. The proposed tender is scheduled for the end of January 2021.
- Bridge File 2224 Lank Bridge. The proposed tender is scheduled for the end of January 2021.
- Bridge File 75265 Local Road over Heath Creek. The proposed engineering and design of the road are being reviewed and is in progress.
- Bridge File 07743 Local Road over Gladstone Creek. The proposed engineering and design of the road are being reviewed and in progress.
- Lundbreck 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. The proposed tender will happen in the spring of 2021.
- Bruder Hill The engineering and design are in progress with a proposed tender in early spring 2021.

- Gladstone road The proposed road construction on the road is to happen in the summer of 2021.
- Cabin Hill The proposed engineering and design of the road is in progress.
- Hucik Hill The proposed work is to happen in the summer of 2021.
- Landfill Road RR 1-5. The proposed engineering and design of the road is in progress.
- Lundbreck Lagoon Aerated System The proposed construction of a new aeration system is in the early spring of 2021.
- Castle Area Regional Water Supply Contracts 1 (Pipeline) & Contracts 2 (Mechanical)
- Contract 1 Pipeline:
  - Additional flushing of the water line system is completed. Chlorination of the mainline is being done. Once chlorination is completed, the line will be considered substantially complete based on the contract requirements.
    - The system start-up will be **tentatively** scheduled for the week of January 18<sup>th</sup> pending the receipt of successful testing by the contractor.
    - By the end of the week of January 18<sup>th</sup>, CMR should be transitioned to the regional water system pending on the successful testing completed by the contractor.
  - The MD has requested that damages for delay as per the contract in the general conditions will be implemented.
    - The contractor will have until the end of day, January 11<sup>th</sup>, to take and submit the first required set of water samples for testing.
    - If the contractor does not take samples by the end of the day January 11<sup>th</sup>, the samples were taken on January 11<sup>th</sup> return with failed results. The MD will charge the contractor for liquidated damages from January 4<sup>th</sup> onwards.
  - Beaver Mines Water Distribution, Collection and Wastewater Treatment System.
    - Public notice of the Beaver Mines Waste Water Treatment System application closed on August 14, 2020.
      - A site tour happened on December 12, 2020, with AEP, the consultant and the MD on the proposed site to identify the statement of concerns.
        - The next step after this is for AEP to continue to review the statement of concerns and Banner and the MD to address any outstanding concerns by AEP.
        - If the project has addressed all of AEP's concerns to the Directors satisfaction: AEP will issue draft approval. Banner and the MD will review the draft approval, either provide a request for changes or a letter of acceptance, followed by the issuance of the final approval signed by the Director. Upon issuing the final approval, notice of approval will be sent to the statement of concern filers, who will then have a 30 day period to appeal.
        - If approval is not granted, the Project can appeal the director's decision.

- Beaver Mines Forcemain
  - The wastewater forcemain will be incorporated into the Beaver Mines Water Distribution and Wastewater Collection project for tendering and construction. – In progress.
- Beaver Mines Lift Station
  - Process design is complete, structural, and electrical and HVAC designs are underway. – In progress

#### Attachments

Program Capital Projects Status Call Logs

#### **Recommendation:**

That the Operations report for the period December 9, 2020 to January 7, 2020, which includes the Program Capital Projects Status update and the call log, is received as information.

Prepared by: Aaron Benson Ars	Date: January 7, 2020		
Reviewed by: Troy MacCulloch HM	Date: January 7, 2020		
Submitted to: Council	Date: January 12, 2020		

2021 Cap	ital Budget Sum	mary			Sources of Project Funding		
Project #	Service Area	Description	Total Cost	Grants	Debt Reserves	Operations	Total Revenu
nfrastructur			500.000				500.000
PW-BF-1	Bridges	Bridge File #75009 Wild Cat Ranch	580,000	580,000			580,000
PW-BF-2	Bridges	Bridge File #75377 Local Road over Screwdriver Creek	370,000	370,000			370,000
PW-BF-3	Bridges	Bridge File #74119 Pony Truss Bridge	170,500	170,500			170,500
PW-BF-4	Bridges	Bridge File #2224 Lank Bridge	198,000	198,000			198,000
PW-BF-5	Bridges	Bridge File #75265 Local Road Over Heath Creek	53,000		53,000		53,000
PW-BF-6	Bridges	Bridge File #7743 Local Road over Gladestone Creek	46,000		46,000		46,000
PW-R-1	Roads	Lundbreck - 1st, 2nd & 3rd Street	605,000		605,000		605,000
PW-R-2	Roads	Bruder Hill	470,000	470,000			470,000
PW-R-3	Roads	Gladstone	250,000	250,000			250,000
PW-R-4	Roads	Cabin Hill	64,000	64,000			64,000
PW-R-5	Roads	Hucik Hill	50,000		50,000		50,000
PW-R-6	Roads	Landfill Road - RR 1-5	20,000		20,000		20,000
	Water/Wastewater	Lundbreck Lagoon Aerated System	180,000		180,000		180,000
BMDC	Water/Wastewater	Beaver Mines Distribution and Collection	4,119,994	4,119,994			4,119,994
BMLF	Water/Wastewater	Beaver Mines Lift Station and Forcemain	1,950,745	1,950,745			1,950,745
BMWW	Water/Wastewater	Beaver Mines Waste Water Treatment Facility	1,903,335	1,903,335			1,903,335
L	nfrastructure Total		11,030,574	10,076,574	- 954,000	-	11,030,574
Equipment							
	Public Works	Mulcher Attachment	40,000		40,000		40,000
	Public Works	Disc Harrow	25,000		25,000		25,000
	Public Works	Wobbly Compactor	25,000		25,000		25,000
	Public Works	Air Compressor and Lines	25,000		25,000		25,000
	Public Works	Dump Trailer	25,000		25,000		25,000
	Public Works	Tri-Axle Pup	35,000		35,000		35,000
	Public Works	Scissor Neck Tri-Axle	90,000		90,000		90,000
	Agriculture	Truck mounted intelligent sprayer	20,000		20,000		20,000
E	Equipment Total		285,000	-	- 285,000	-	285,000
lect				-		-	
	Public Works	3/4 Tonne Truck	50,000		50,000		50,000
	Public Works	3/4 Tonne Truck	50,000		50,000		50,000
F	Fleet Total		50,000	-	- 50,000	-	50,000
Community S	services						
		Park Improvement - Lundbreck Dog Park	25,000		25,000		25,000
(	Community Services Tota	al	25,000	-	- 25,000	-	25,000
Grand Tota	ıl		11,390,574	10,076,574	- 1,314,000	-	11,390,574
		F	Lege	nd			
	Proposed Preliminary Engineering Costs						
	Projects in Planning & Design Stage Projects in Planning & Tender Stage						
					uction Stage		
				ts in Close of the state of the	Out Stage		

	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	DIVISION	LOCATION	APPROACH NUMBER	CONCERN/REQUEST	ASSIGNED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REQUEST DATE	FOLLOW UP DATE	COMPLETION DATE
1995			Division 2	NW23 T5 R29 W4	#5313	Wetland/shoulder of road & drainage problem	Eric Blanchard	Engineer to look at 2020 Project	July 16, 2019	November 1, 2019	Defered to Spring 2021
2453			Lundbreck	476 Patton Ave.		RQ to have snow fence extended as in the past on the south end west of Hamilton Ave.	snowfence Crew	Completed	September 23, 2020	Snow fence program completed	December 17, 2020
2463			Division 5	SW4 T8 R2 W5	#2309 RR8-0	Snowfence between his house & daughters should be 1 snowfence not 2	snowfence Crew	Completed	October 7, 2020	Snow fence program completed	December 17, 2020
2469			Division 5	Rock Creek Road		Trees are blocking view	John		October 16, 2020	Jon went to have a look Oct 20,2020, Added to Mulching list for winter	
2476			Division 5	South of Lundbreck	Hwy #3A	Need sign installed showing direction back to HWY 3	Signs	to do	October 20, 2020	Sign received, will be installed after snow fence	
2501			Division 3	Beaver Mine	-	Re: snow fence to be installed	Eric	Completed	October 29, 2020	Snow fence program completed , See WO# 2575	December 17, 2020
2502			Division 3	SE07 T5 R28 W4	-	Feels the south side of bridge needs rip wrap put in before flooding season so creek doesn't turn direction	Eric /Bob M		October 30, 2020	Will need to be assess by engineer in 2021 and capitalize for 2022 unless it become an emergency	Defered to Spring 2021
2505			Pincher Stn	Seed Plant		Culvert at the plant needs fixing	Eric	to be assess	November 2, 2020	Met on Nov 02, Bob miller to have a look	Defered to Spring 2021
2506			Lundbreck	Lundbreck School		Crosswalk Lines need painting & extra ones by bus d/o	Eric		November 2, 2020	To Be done	Defered to Spring 2021
2507			Division 5	NW12 T7 R3 W5	#3029	TWP7-2 to Burmis Lake Pot Holes need to be filled	Brad	Too cold & Wet			Defered to Spring 2021
2555			Division 2	NW20 T5 R28 W4	#28417 TWP 5-4	Big Sink like Hole by culvert 10! Deep	Eric/Bob M	Completed	November 24, 2020	Work Schedule to start Dec 04, 2020	December 7, 2020
2559			Division 1	NW6 T5 R29 W4	-	Need snow drift on road plowed Moving grain	Rod	Completed	December 3, 2021	•	December 4, 2021
2560			Division 5	NE11 T7 R2 W5	#7132 RR2-1	upset with snowfence crew	John	Completed	December 4, 2020	04-Dec-20	
2561			Division 2	NW9 T6 R29 W4	#29329 Hwy 507	Reporting culvert at endof driveway needs to be checked	John/Bob M	To be checked	December 4, 2020	Filled with snow, will look at it when exposed.	
2562			Division 5	SW8 T8 R2 W5	#2421 RR8-01	Tree down on road at switch back	Brad	Completed	December 8, 2020		December 9, 2020
2563			Lundbreck	-	-	Sped sign blew up against the fire hall	Bob M	Completed	December 8, 2020	Put away for winer	December 10, 2020
2564			Beaver Mines	-	-	Re snow fence & other issues	John	Completed	December 16, 2020	Eric and John spoke with him. Snow fence would be too close to his house, would create more problem.	December 17, 2020
2565			Div 3	Gladstone	Missing their road	seveal calls grader is turning around at green gate	Tony T	Completed	December 16, 2020	-	December 19, 2020
2566			Lundbreck	433 Patton Ave	-	Sewer issue	Randy	Completed	December 18, 2020		December 18, 2020
2567			Division 3	NE30 T5 R2 W5	#5418 RR2-5	RQ Driveway	Tony T	Completed	December 20, 2020		December 23, 2020
2568			Lundbreck	213 RR Sreet	-	Needing Park Street Plowed	Joe	Completed	December 21, 2020		December 23, 2020
2569			Division 5	SE13 T7 R3 W5	#3002 TWP7-2A	Her road is getting missed	Dave		December 21, 2020	-	
2570			Division 3	NW21 T5 R2 w5	#2319 RR5-4	Grader need to swing & out so approach doesn't get plugged	Tony T	Completed	December 21, 2020		December 23, 2020
2571			Division 3	SE19 T5 R2 W5	#5304 RR2-5	RQ Driveway	Tony T	Completed	December 22, 2020		December 23, 2020
2572			Division 4	SW7 T8 R29 W4	#8031 RR30-3	RQ Driveway (Husband passed)	Glen	Completed	December 22, 2020	Glen only did main road not driveway	December 23, 2020
2573			Division 1	-	-	RQ driveway	Brad	Completed	December 22, 2020		December 23, 2020
2574			Divisin 3	NW25 T5 R1 W5	#5419 RR1-1	Driveway blocked	Shawn	Completed	December 22, 2020		December 22, 2020
2575			Beaver Mines	-	-	Plugged driveway by operator	Tony T	Completed	December 22, 2020		December 22, 2020
2576			Division 3	SW12 T7 R2 W5	-	RQ Driveway	Tony T	Completed	December 22, 2020		December 23, 2020
2577			Division 5	#6 Burmis Mtn estates	-	Road got missed	Joe	Completed	December 21, 2020		December 23, 2020
2578			Division 1	NW17 T3 R29 W4	#3277 RR29-5	RQ Driveway	Rod	Completed	December 23, 2020	Cancelled /with Eric	December 27, 2020
2579			Division 4	NW17 T8 R1 W5	#8417	RE Driveway	Brian	Completed	December 23, 2020		December 23, 2020
2580			Division 1	-		Defer driveway request to Jan 4	Rod	Completed	December 23, 2020	Cancelled	December 26, 2020
2581			Division 3	SE31 T6 R 2 W5b	#2506 TWP6-5	End of Tapay Road Carbondale to gate	TonyT	Completed	December 23, 2020		December 26, 2020
2582			Lundbreck	313 Robinson		Grader plugged driveway	Joe	Completed	December 23, 2020	Operator did not realized someone lived there	December 23, 2020
2583			Division 4	NW36 T8 R1 W5		Call to let Eric know road might need plowing because of drifting in next few days. Call back on January 2nd, road was drift in.	Brian	Completed	December 23, 2020	Brian Went to Plow it January 02, 2021	January 2, 2021
2584			Division 1			Requested Driveway Done	Brad	Completed	December 23, 2020	Call to cancell Jan 04, 2021	January 4, 2021
2585			Division 2		_	Requested Driveway Plowed	Kent	Completed	December 23, 2020	Told him we don't do driveway during the break. He will call contractor	December 23, 2020
2586			Division 4	Bannick Loop	RR 29-3	Road has a big drift, need plowing as soon as possible	Tony N	Completed	December 23, 2020		January 4, 2021
2587			Division 1	-		Inquired about garbage collection in Twin Butte	Eric	Completed	December 23, 2020	Told her to call the Landfill	December 23, 2020
2588			Division 4	NW36 T8 R1 W5		road drifted in again	Tony N/Brian	Completed	January 3, 2021	Called again Jan 4 Wind blew road clear but would now like driveway done	January 4 2021
2589			Division 1	SE25 T3 R30 W4	#3416 RR30-0	Snow fence down again very poor quality needs better fix	Eric		January 4, 2021	Eric met with him on January 05, 2021 We will look at installing permanent	January 5,2021
2590			Division 3	SW15 T6 R3 W5	#3410 KK50-0 #3227 TWP6-5	Wanting grader to continue on Carbondale to their place	Jon G		January 4, 2021	Jon trying to talk to him, left several message	January 5,2021
2090			DIVISION 3	3W13 10 K3 W3	#3227 TWP0-3	wanting Brader to continue on carbondale to their place	9 101		January 4, 2021	Joh trying to tark to mill, left several message	

	NAME	PHONE NUMBER	DIVISION	LOCATION	APPROACH NUMBER	CONCERN/REQUEST	ASSIGNED TO	ACTION TAKEN	REQUEST DATE	FOLLOW UP DATE	COMPLETION DATE
2591			Division 4	SE16 T8 R30 W4	Sheep Camp Rd TWP8-4	No winter maintenance sign/asking if possible to clear road	Eric/Tony N		January 4, 2021	To call	January 7, 2021
2592			Divisiion 2	SE3 T6 R29 W4	Chipman Creek	RQ driveway	Kent	Completed	January 5, 2021		January 6, 2021
2593			Division 3			Hidden drift on his road needs a grader	Tony T	Completed	January 5, 2021		January 5, 2021
		Indicates De	fered								
		Indicates De	fered								
		indicates On the	To Do List								

-	or Land Use Bylaw Ar h Development of a La		A DI PINCALER CERTI		
PREPARED BY: Roland Milligan DATE: January 6, 2021					
DEPARTMENT: Planni	ng and Development				
		ATTACHMENTS:			
Department Supervisor	Date	<ol> <li>Proposed Develop</li> <li>Portion of Hamlet</li> </ol>			
	APP	ROVALS:			
Roland Milligan	2021/01/06		_		
<b>Department Director</b>	Date	CAO	Date		

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council direct administration to prepare the bylaw required to amend Land Use Bylaw No. 1289-18, for the purpose of allowing the development of an off-leash dog park within the Hamlet of Lundbreck.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The MD has approved and budgeted for the development of an off-leash dog park (the Park) within the Hamlet of Lundbreck (Attachment No. 1).

The location chosen for the park is on a parcel described as Block 19, Plan 811 1307. This is a portion of MD owned land that is to the north of the Hamlet, between Park Street and the Canadian Pacific Railway right-of-way (See Attachment No. 2).

There are two issues with the parcel from a planning and development point of view. First, the parcel is located adjacent to but outside the Hamlet boundary. Second, the current land use designation is Urban Fringe - UF, and should really be amended to Parks and Open Space -POS.

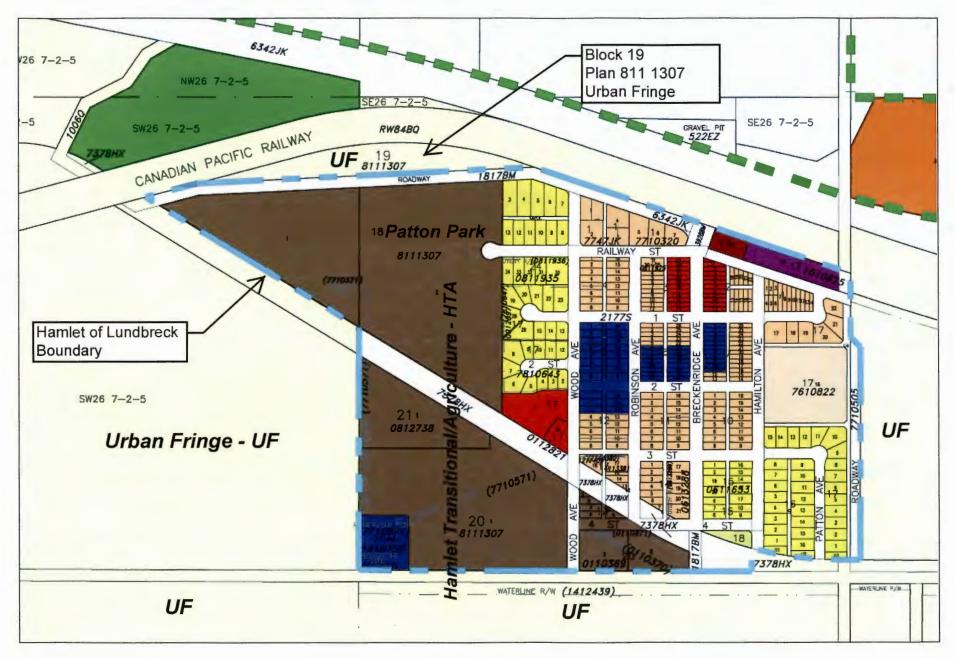
In discussion with the MD's planning advisor, it is suggested that the current hamlet boundary be amended to include the parcel and that the lands be redesignated to Parks and Open Space to accommodate the use. Both these amendments could be done with one amending bylaw.

This request is before Council because our planner is requesting a Council resolution approving the proposed actions and giving direction to prepare the require bylaw.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None at this time.





TITLE:	Road Closure Bylaw 132 Adjacent to SW 6-8-1 W	TA OF PINCHER CUEN	
PREPARED BY: Rola	nd Milligan	DATE: January 6, 2021	
DEPARTMENT: Plan	ning and Development		
Department Supervisor	Date	ATTACHMENTS: 1. Tentative Plan fo 2. GIS Aerial of Ros 3. Bylaw No. 1325-2	
	APP	ROVALS:	
Roland Milligan	2021-01-06		_
<b>Department Director</b>	Date	CAO	Date

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council give first reading to Road Closure Bylaw No. 1325-21 and set the date for the required public hearing for February 9, 2021, at 1:00 pm.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

On July 14, 2020, the MD approved the proposal from landowner Gloria Drummond, requesting to close and purchase a portion of undeveloped MD road allowance located between the NW 31-7-1 W5M and SW 6-8-1 W5M.

The applicant approached the Oldman River Regional Services Commission with a proposal to reconfigure the two parcels they own, which are separated by the undeveloped statutory road allowance. Please see proposed subdivision sketch (*Attachment No. 1*).

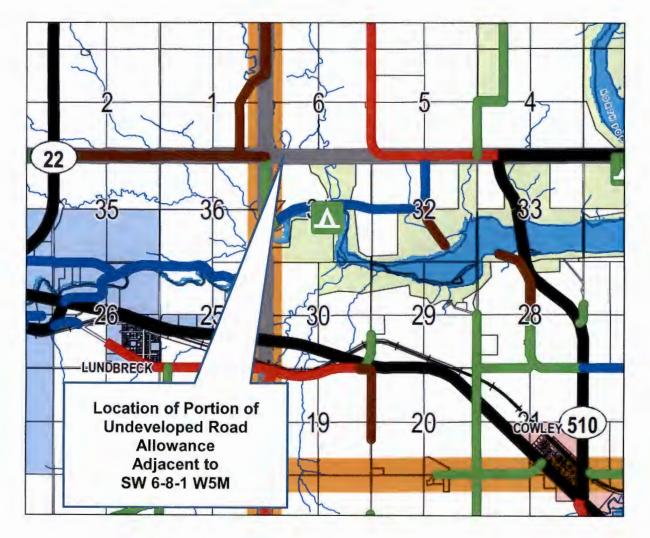
Closing this road allowance will not adversely affect the legal or physical access to any adjacent parcel. This road undeveloped road allowance traverses very steep terrain and would require two bridges to join up to the east portion. It is unlikely that the MD would ever be constructing a road within this road allowance *(Attachment No. 2)*.

The applicant has supplied the road closure fee and had their surveyor supply a description for the road closure bylaw. Road Closure Bylaw 1325-21 has been prepared and is being presented for First Reading *(Attachment No. 3)*.

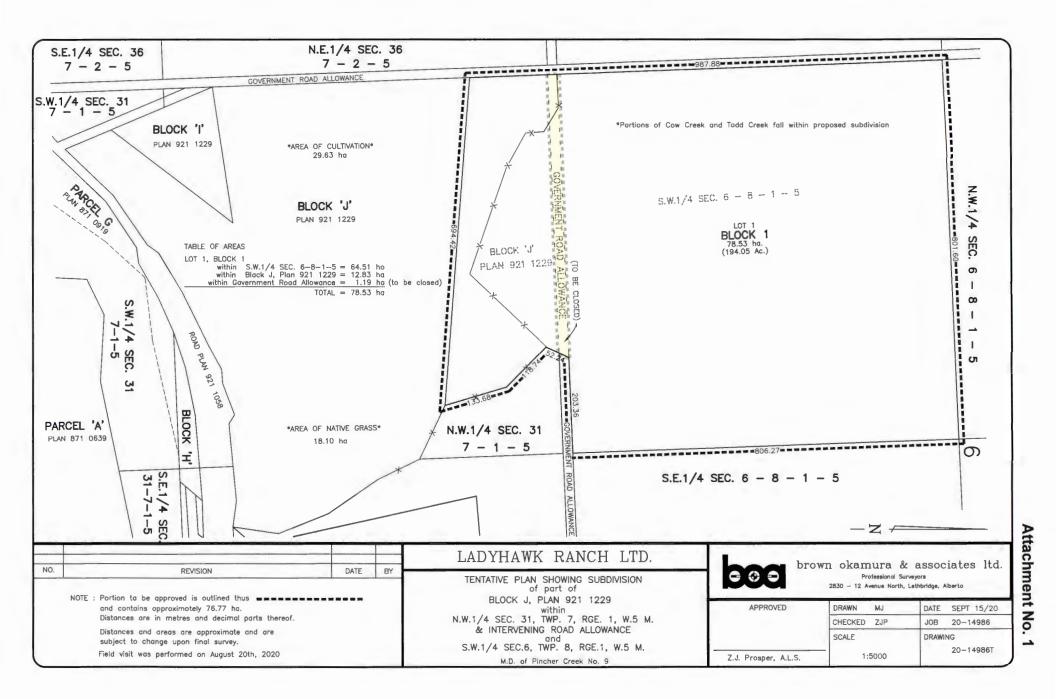
#### **Recommendation to Council**

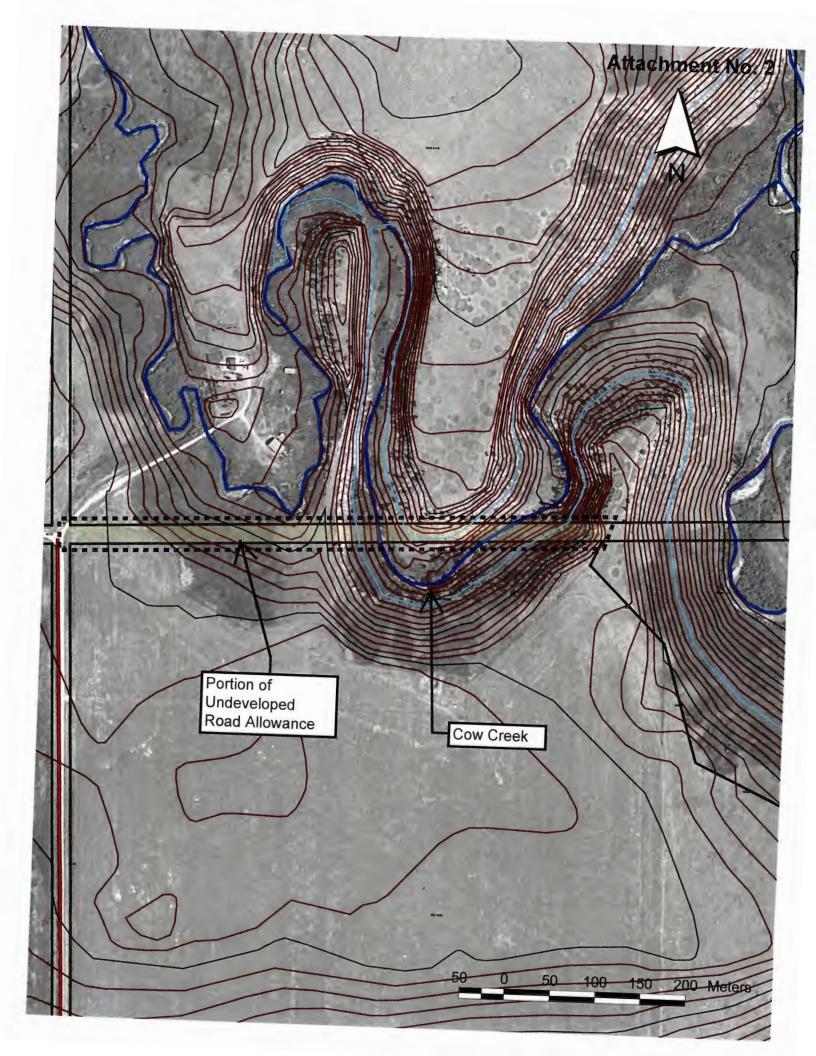
#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None at this time, the applicant would be responsible for all costs associated with this closure.



#### **Map Showing Location**





### Attachment No. 3

#### MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9 BYLAW NO. 1325-21

A Bylaw of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 in the Province of Alberta, for the purpose of closing a portion of a public roadway in accordance with Sections 22 and 606 of the *Municipal Government Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended.

The Council of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 of the Province of Alberta, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

WHEREAS the lands described below are no longer required for public travel;

AND WHEREAS application has been made to Council to have the roadway closed;

**AND WHEREAS** the Council of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 deems it expedient to provide for a bylaw for the purpose of closing to public travel certain roads, or portions thereof, situated in the said municipality, and thereafter disposing of same;

AND WHEREAS the advertising requirements of Section 606 of the Act have been complied with;

**NOW THEREFORE** be it enacted that the Council for the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 in the Province of Alberta does hereby close to Public Travel and creating title to and disposing of the following described highways, subject to rights of access granted by other legislation.

GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE LYING ADJACENT TO NW ¼ SEC. 31, TWP. 7, RGE. 1, W5M AND SW ¼ SEC. 6, TWP. 8, RGE. 1, W5M FORMING PART OF LOT 1, BLOCK 1, PLAN \_\_\_\_\_\_, CONTAINING 1.19 HECTARES (2.94 ACRES) MORE OR LESS EXCEPTING THEREOUT ALL MINES AND MINERALS

Received first reading this 12th day of January, 2021

	-	REEVE
		REEVE
		(Seal)
	-	САО
APPROVED this	_day of	, 20
	M	INISTER OF TRANSPORTATION
Received second reading this	day of	. 20
Received third reading this	day of	. 20
	-	REEVE
		(Seal)
	-	CAO

#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Dec 07, 2020 - Jan. 12, 2021

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Dec 07 & 08	Module 3 of my CMML Course
Dec 09	Meeting with Safety Officer
	HR Meeting with regards to REMO contract
	Post Council follow-up with SMT and Exec Asst
	Covid Conference Call with Gov. of Alberta, AHS and Dr. D. Hinshaw
	Joint Health and Safety Meeting
	Covid Update with Safety Officer and Communications Officer
Dec 10	Meeting with two RCMP Detachment Commanders regarding new Covid restrictions
	Post Council meeting with Livingstone Landowners
	Post Council Meeting with Reeve
Dec 11	Meeting with Town CAO to organize meetings in January – Joint and ICF
	Airport meeting with consultant and Dir of Dev.
Dec 14	SMT (Senior Mgmt Team) Meeting – enhanced remote work schedule begins
	ICF edits for ICF with Crowsnest Pass
Dec 15	Staff Evaluations and salaries completed with Dir of Finance
	Police Act review survey completed with Dir of Dev
	Covid Conference Call with Gov. of Alberta, AHS and Dr. D. Hinshaw
Dec 16	EAC (Emergency Advisory Comm) Meeting
	Additional meeting with Reeve
	Post MLA Meeting with Ranchland Council and CAO - virtual
Dec 18	SMT (Senior Mgmt Team) Meeting – holiday coverage
Dec21- Jan 04	Vacation
Jan 05	SMT (Senior Mgmt Team) Meeting – holiday review and catch up meeting
	Covid Conference Call with Gov. of Alberta, AHS and Dr. D. Hinshaw
	Subdivision Authority Meeting
Jan 06	Landfill six month review with Dir Finance – rate changes review and feedback
	Utility Bylaw 1320-20 roll out meeting
	Election 2021 meeting with RO and Dep RO.
Jan 07	Airport Meeting with consultant and Dir Dev to prep for next meeting and establish
	governance structure for consideration and approval by the committee.
Jan 11-13	Module 4 of my CMML Course

• Numerous other meetings throughout this period to address any issues or tasks from the Dec 08<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- Jan 12 is Council and Committee with Dep CAO Milligan filling in for me while on course virtual
- Jan 13 is JHS Committee virtual
- Jan 14 is Joint Council Meeting with Town of Pincher Creek virtual
- Jan 18 is the next ICF meeting with Town of Pincher Creek

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council receive for information, the Chief Administrative Officer's report for the period Dec 07, 2020 – Jan 12, 2021.

Prepared by: Troy MacCulloch, CAO Date: Jan 06, 2021

Respectfully presented to:

Council

Date: Jan 12, 2021

#### TITLE: PCREMO CHANGE IN STRUCTURE



Department Director	Date	CAO	Date		
APPROVALS:					
Department Supervisor	Date	Letter from Town of Pincher Creek			
		ATTACHMENTS:			
DEPARTMENT: ADMIN	ISTRATION				
PREPARED BY: JESSIC	A MCCLELLAND	DATE: January 5, 2021			

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council approve the recommendation of the Emergency Advisory Committee that the Pincher Creek Regional Emergency Management Organization be included under the umbrella of Pincher Creek Emergency Services Commission.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

2013 Pincher Creek Emergency Services Commission Membership Agreement passed with Emergency Management Organization as a component. Decision was made by M.D. Council to request that Emergency Management be removed from the Municipal Order which created the Commission.

After operating under the management of the three municipalities for the last several years it has been agreed that Emergency Management would function better under Pincher Creek Emergency Services and its governing Commission. Under the new modernized MGA, it is no longer required that the Province approve revisions to the Commission's mandate. The EAC (Emergency Advisory Committee) as legislated, will remain, but fall within the structure of the Operational model of PCES.

On November 25, 2020 EAC moved the following resolution "Moved that the Emergency Advisory Committee recommend to Councils to move the Emergency Management Agency to the Emergency Services Commission."

Town of Pincher Creek has already passed the resolution to move PCREMO to the umbrella of PCEAC.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None at this time.



December 16, 2020

Pincher Creek Emergency Services Commission Box 1086 Pincher Creek, AB TOK 1W0

#### <u>Re: Pincher Creek Emergency Services Commission – Pincher Creek Regional Emergency Management</u> <u>Organization</u>

Please be advised that Council for the Town of Pincher Creek passed the following resolution at their December 14, 2020 regular meeting of Council;

That Council for the Town of Pincher Creek request and approve that the Pincher Creek Emergency Management Organization be included under the umbrella of the Pincher Creek Emergency Services Commission.

Trusting this information to be satisfactory.

Yours Truly,

Laurie Wilgosh

Laurie Wilgosh LGA, CAO Town of Pincher Creek

/lg

cc: MD of Pincher Creek #9



#### TITLE: Corporate Policy C-AES-006 Agricultural Pest Policy



PREPARED BY: Jessica	McClelland	DATE: January 6, 2021	DATE: January 6, 2021		
DEPARTMENT: Admin	istration				
		ATTACHMENTS:			
Department Supervisor	Date	1. Draft C-AES-006 Agricultural Pest			
APPROVALS:					
			-		
<b>Department Director</b>	Date	CAO	Date		
<b></b>					

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Council approve C-AES-006 Agricultural Pest Policy

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Administration has been directed to continue the process of updating the Corporate Policy Manual. Policy C-AES-006 Agricultural Pest Policy has been reviewed and suggested for approval by Council by the Agricultural Service Board.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None.

#### **CORPORATE POLICY**

#### **C-AES-006**

#### TITLE: AGRICULTURAL PESTS POLICY

Approved by Council	Date: May 23, 2017
Revised by Council	Date: January 12, 2020

<b>Related Provincial Legislation:</b>	Agricultural Service Board Act Agricultural Pests Act and the Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation
<b>Related Federal Legislation:</b>	Pest Control Products Act

#### **Purpose:**

The Agricultural Service Board is committed to assisting residents in mitigating conflict with crop and wildlife *Pests* or *Nuisances*, as identified by the *Alberta Agricultural Pests Act*. Changes in management practices are the preferred method to discourage the damage and/or establishment of these animals, insects or pathogens. When necessary and appropriate, however, other strategies for control will be considered.

Conflict involving all other categories of wildlife will be assigned to Alberta Fish and Wildlife.

#### **Problem Wildlife Management:**

AES Department staff, in cooperation with local Fish and Wildlife, will investigate livestock losses or harassment as well as crop, stored grain or water, and property damage due to problem wildlife.

AES Staff will:

- Provide information to residents on control and mitigation of coyotes
- When <u>deemed absolutely necessary</u>, and under the guidelines of the *Pest Control Products Act*, provide the lethal toxicant Compound 1080.
- Provide information to residents on control and mitigation of Richardson Ground Squirrels
- When <u>deemed absolutely necessary</u>, and under the guidelines of the *Pest Control Products Act*, provide the lethal toxicant 2% liquid strychnine to producers dealing with an infestation of Richardson's ground squirrel (until March 4 of 2022)
- Lethal toxins are a last resort and will be administered under the guidelines of the *Pest Control Products Act.* AES Department Staff will acquire and maintain a Form 7 Certification for these purposes.
- Implore Fish and Wildlife for all matters concerning large carnivores other than coyotes
- Assist residents with information and resources to mitigate large carnivore issues

#### **CORPORATE POLICY**

#### TITLE: AGRICULTURAL PESTS POLICY

Approved by Council	Date:	May 23, 2017
Revised by Council	Date:	<mark>January 12, 2020</mark>

• Assist with the management and administration of the 'Deadstock Program' Waterton Biosphere and other relevant stakeholders by name to lower the risk of large carnivore conflicts

For other problem wildlife, both under the Act and other, AES Staff will assist or provide;

- Rental of skunk-traps
- Problem bird control traps
- Spread awareness of, inspect for and help eradicate Norway rats
- Provide producers with information on minimizing the effects of Pests and Nuisances as outlined in the *Alberta Agricultural Pests Act*, as well as beavers, muskrats, badgers, other nuisance birds.

#### Surveys:

AES, in cooperation with the Province and/or Federal Government, will monitor for all *Pests* and *Nuisances* (listed in Appendix), in accordance with the *Agricultural Pests Act & Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation*. Regular *Pest* and *Nuisance* surveys done under the Act, both provincially and locally, are; Clubroot, Blackleg and Grasshoppers.

AES Staff assist with annual survey data to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AAF) on pests that are of concern to producers in our municipality and to our ASB, and as much as possible, the province, for example; Cutworms, Bertha Armyworm and Wheat Midge.

#### Awareness & Education:

Accomplished through direct resident contact in the field, information meetings, the media, web site, newsletter, email distribution list, and by working with other community groups and stakeholders. The ASB, through the Agricultural and Environmental Services (AES) Department, also coordinates with AAF, Fish and Wildlife, Alberta Environment and Parks and other relevant stakeholders for all of the above.

#### **CORPORATE POLICY**

**C-AES-006** 

#### TITLE: AGRICULTURAL PESTS POLICY

Approved by Council Revised by Council Date: May 23, 2017 Date: *January 12, 2020* 

#### APPENDIX

#### Schedule 1

#### Part 1

## Animals, birds, insects, plants and diseases declared to be <u>Pests</u> throughout Alberta

Africanized bee — Apis mellifera adansonii Bacterial ring rot — Clavibacter michiganensis subsp. sepedonicus Blackleg of canola — Leptosphaeria maculans Chalkbrood — Ascosphaere aggregata Clubroot — Plasmodiophora brassicae Columbia River root knot nematode — Meloidogyne chitwoodi Dutch elm disease — Ophiostoma ulmi and Ophiostoma nova-ulmi Dwarf bunt — Tilletia controversa European elm bark beetle — Scolytus multistriatus Fireblight and the causal bacterium — Erwinia amylovora Flag smut of cereals — *Urocystis agropyri* Golden nematode — Globodera rostochiensis Grasshopper (Locustidae) Gypsy moth — Lymantria dispar Head smut of corn — Spacelothecia reiliana Karnal bunt — *Tilletia indica* Lesser grain borer — Rhyzopertha dominica Native elm bark beetle — Hylurgopinus rufipes Norway rat and any other rat species or strain derived from the genus Rattus Potato wart — Synchytrium endobioticum Rabies — *Rhabdoviruses* Stem and bulb nematode — *Ditylenchus dipsaci* Warble fly — *Hypoderma* White rot of onions — Sclerotium cepivorum

#### **CORPORATE POLICY**

#### C-AES-006

#### TITLE: AGRICULTURAL PESTS POLICY

Approved by Council	Date:	May 23, 2017
Revised by Council	Date:	<mark>January 12, 2020</mark>

#### Part 2

## Animals, birds, insects, plants and diseases declared to be <u>Nuisances</u> throughout Alberta

Bushy-tailed wood rat — Neotoma cinerea
Columbian ground squirrel — Spermophilus columbianus
Coyote — Canis latrans
Deer mouse — Peromyscus maniculatus
English sparrow — Passer domesticus
European starling — Sturnus vulgaris
Franklin's ground squirrel — Spermophilus franklinii
House mouse — Mus musculus
Magpie — <i>Pica pica</i>
Meadow vole — Microtus pennsylvanicus
Northern pocket gopher — Thomomys talpoides
Richardson's ground squirrel — Spermophilus richardsonii
Rock dove — Columba livia
Skunk — Mephitis mephitis
Thirteen-lined ground squirrel — Spermophilus tridecemlineatus
AR126/2016 s5

December 21, 2020



# **Board Governance Review Survey**

The following questions have been designed to gather feedback from RMA member municipalities on governance topics that the RMA Board Governance Review Committee (BGRC) will be considering. The BGRC asks that that these questions be completed by municipal councils as a whole although individual input will be appreciated as well. Should individual councilors wish to additionally complete the survey a section is provided at the beginning of the survey to differentiate if the response is the municipality/group response or an individual response. All survey responses will be confidential, and only viewed by the BGRC and RMA support staff to the committee.

Please submit the survey via the <u>online survey link</u> by <u>January 21, 2021</u>. This PDF version of the survey is provided for review and consideration of the questions in advance of posting responses. The questions are highlighted in <u>red</u> within this document. Please click the links highlighted & underlined in <u>blue</u> to access noted reference documents for additional background as required.

Please include answers to the two introductory questions below.

#### **Questions**

- 1. Please indicate your municipality.
- 2. Is this response a council position or an individual position?

The following are the governance issues that the BGRC will be examining. Please provide input to the questions as you see fit and skip questions to which your council has no input or opinion.

#### 1. MEMBERSHIP

The RMA has two types of members:

Full Members - consists of councils of rural municipalities in the province of Alberta. This includes municipal districts, counties, specialized municipalities, and the Special Areas. The RMA has 69 full member municipalities, who have voting authority in ability to have representation on the RMA board.

Associate Members – consists of non-profit organizations that participate to access the association's business services. The RMA has over 900 associate members that include villages, towns, cities, school districts, seniors housing foundations, REA's, gas co-ops, irrigation districts, community and recreation organizations, and numerous other non-profit organizations. Associate members do not have voting authority nor ability to have representation on the RMA board.

The RMA full membership is divided into five districts that represent rural municipalities from all corners of Alberta. The <u>RMA Members Map</u> provides a further breakdown of each district and the municipalities that are located within them.

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> OFFICE: 780.955.3639 FAX: 780.955.3615 RMAlberta.com

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#### **Questions**

- 1.1 Is there a need to consider changes to RMA membership eligibility to accommodate for changes to types of municipalities/local government structures, past and upcoming, that should be addressed in the RMA's definition of full members (see membership definitions in the <u>RMA bylaws</u>).
- 1.2 If there is a need to consider changes to the RMA's membership base, what changes should be considered?
- 1.3 Does the current district structure and boundaries properly represent RMA's full members? If not, how could they be changed?

#### 2. BOARD STRUCTURE

The RMA operates with a board of seven. A number of provincial municipal associations with large memberships across Canada operate with large boards (i.e. fifteen and larger) with two levels of governance – an overall board and a smaller executive committee (President plus at least two VPs). As RMA is a smaller board and smaller membership, it does not operate with an executive committee.

From a cross-jurisdictional perspective, boards of provincial municipal associations across Canada have board positions based upon geography, municipality type, or a combination of both. RMA's board is structure is geographically based with members of each of the five RMA districts electing a representative onto the RMA Board. The President and Vice President are elected by the entire membership.

In addition, the majority of provincial municipal associations across Canada include representation from their municipal administrators on their board for an administrative perspective, most being ex-officio (appointed) by their municipal administrator association. The RMA has no administrative representation on their board.

#### **Questions**

- 2.1 Does the current board composition and size (one president, one vice president, five district directors) adequately represent the Full (voting) membership?
- 2.2 Is the geographic area and number of municipalities represented by board directors appropriate?
- 2.3 Is geographically based board representation the ideal structure? If not, what alternate structures should be considered?
- 2.4 Should there be a position on the board for a municipal administrator representative?

#### 3. BOARD ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The RMA is governed by a Board of Directors elected by elected officials from RMA full member municipalities. The RMA Board is the governance board for three companies: RMA, RMA Insurance and RMA Fuel. In addition, they are also the advisory board for the Genesis Reciprocal Insurance Exchange.

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The RMA <u>Board Member Responsibility policy</u> was approved by the membership at an earlier Board Governance Review. The overall role of the RMA Board of Directors is guided by the <u>RMA Strategic Direction</u> as approved by the membership, which is to represent and advocate the broad collective municipal and rural interests of the membership and, to oversee the delivery of services that assist members in their business operations and decision-making processes.

## <u>Questions</u>

- 3.1 In your view, should the role of the RMA board be changed/modified?
- 3.2 Are board members currently accountable to:
  - The membership overall?
  - Their districts?

## 3.3 If not, how could accountability be improved?

#### 4. BOARD ELECTION PROCESSESS

The RMA facilitates its election process entirely during its annual fall convention, including calling for nominations, the provision of time and space for campaigning, candidate speeches, the formal election, and requiring an AGM motion to accept the election results. From a cross-jurisdictional perspective, most other provincial municipal associations across Canada utilize a returning officer who accepts nominations as per deadlines in advance of their convention/AGM utilizing their convention/AGM for the campaigning and voting portion of the election process only.

For the RMA, the elected officials of the member municipalities of each district elect a representative to the RMA Board of Directors. The elected officials of the member municipalities of all member municipalities (approximately 460 elected officials) elect the President and Vice President. The term for each Director, Vice President, and President is two years, with appointments staggered. There is no limit on how many terms a board Director, Vice President, or President) can serve for. Lastly the RMA's election process does not include an advance nomination deadline for nominations and the RMA does not use a returning officer for election procedures.

#### **Questions**

- 4.1 Should there be a term limit on how long a board member (Director, Vice President, President) can be on the RMA Board for?
- 4.2 If yes, what should be the term limit and for what board position?
- 4.3 Are current election processes appropriate?
- 4.4 Should there be a nomination deadline in advance of the fall convention/AGM requiring use of a returning officer?
- 4.5 Please suggest any improvement to the RMA's board election process.

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#### 5. MEMBER INPUT

The RMA values member input and utilizes various mechanisms to support engagement. This includes the use of resolutions, member surveys, attendance at district meetings, the utilization of conventions for information-sharing, and the use of technology such as webinars, video conferencing, and e-newsletters.

The only current committee RMA has is the Board Governance Review Committee which is formed once every four years. RMA currently does not have an active ad-hoc committee, but has had them in the past (i.e., AAMDC Climate Change Advisory Committee, AAMDC Aboriginal Consultation Committee and the AAMDC Committee on Charitable Gaming).

With respect to resolution process, the RMA has a detailed <u>resolution policy</u> as directed by membership. The purpose of the resolution policy is to formalize the parameters involved for the resolution process used by the RMA. Key aspects of the resolution policy include: establishing a Resolutions Committee and outlining their roles, using the districts to vet resolutions to the Resolutions Committee, the types of resolution and the required voting majorities needed for resolutions to pass.

#### **Questions**

5.1 Please provide any input on the effectiveness of the resolution process used to seek "overall" membership direction.

- 5.2 Please share your views on the potential role of committees comprised of RMA members. Consider aspects such as composition, scope, time commitments, purpose, and cost.
- 5.3 What role do you believe municipal staff should play in providing the RMA with specialized advice?
- 5.4 Please share your view on the relationship between RMA and the Districts? Does this relationship need to be more clearly defined?
- 5.5 Do you believe that district meetings could be more focused on providing the RMA with member input on issues?

#### 6. BOARD COMPENSATION

RMA board compensation is reviewed by the BGRC once every four years. Cross-jurisdictional municipal association comparisons are considered as well Alberta association comparisons. The current RMA board compensation was last modified as recommended by the last BGRC and approved by the RMA membership at the 2017 spring convention. Attached is the current <u>RMA compensation policy</u> plus the most recent <u>(2019/20)</u> <u>RMA board annual compensation summary.</u>

#### **Questions**

6.1 Please provide any comments or suggestions related to RMA board compensation

#### 7. OTHER

7.1 Please provide any other input or comments you believe will be helpful to the RMA Board Governance Review Committee

#### **SURVEY END - THANK YOU**

# **RESOURCEFUL. RESPONSIVE. RESILIENT.**

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> OFFICE: 780.955.3639 FAX: 780.955.3615 RMAlberta.com

From: Mike Decker <Mike.Decker@gov.ab.ca> On Behalf Of MA MSL Engagement Group
Sent: December 15, 2020 9:14 AM
To: Mike Decker <Mike.Decker@gov.ab.ca>
Subject: Meeting with the Minister - RMA Spring 2021

Dear Chief Administrative Officers:

We are writing to inform you of a potential opportunity for municipal councils to meet with the Honourable Tracy Allard, Minister of Municipal Affairs, at the 2021 RMA Spring Convention, scheduled for March 16-17, 2021. Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, these meetings are expected to be virtual.

Should your elected officials wish to meet with Minister Allard during the convention, please submit a request by email to <u>MA.MSLEngagementGroup@gov.ab.ca</u> no later than January 15, 2021.

In your meeting request, please be sure to include two specific policy items or issues you would like to discuss with the Minister, as well as a list of those who will be in attendance on behalf of your municipality.

We generally receive more requests to meet with the Minister than can be reasonably accommodated over the course of the convention. To ensure suitable consideration

of requests, municipalities should be mindful of the following criteria:

- Policy items or issues directly relevant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the department will be given priority.
- Municipalities located within the Capital Region can be more easily accommodated throughout the year, so priority will be given to requests from municipalities at a distance from Edmonton and to municipalities with which Minister Allard has not yet had an opportunity to meet.
- Meeting requests received after the deadline will not be considered for the convention, but may be considered for future meeting opportunities.

Meeting times with the Minister are scheduled for approximately 30 minutes per municipality. This will allow the Minister the opportunity to engage with as many municipalities as possible. All municipalities submitting meeting requests will be notified two weeks prior to the convention as to the status of their request.

Municipal Affairs will make every effort to find alternative opportunities throughout the remainder of the year for those municipalities the Minister is unable to accommodate during the convention.

Sincerely,

Stakeholder Relations Team Municipal Affairs

Classification: Protected A

letterto M.D.about fire

M.D. of Pincher Creek Pincher Creek, Alberta T0K 1W0

Attention: Reeve and M.D. Council

I am writing in regards to the grass fire on North Burmis Road on September 1/2020.

In order to contain the fire, that your ditch cutting started, my Brother, Son and neighbours used my Weed Spraying truck and 700 litres of Engenia,24D weed spray that I had in the tanks on my truck.

I am asking that the M.D. send their weed spraying crews out to spray an equivalent amount of spray on our property in the spring or else reimburse me at the same rate you charge at \$1.00 per litre.

Yours truly,

Alan Michalsky

Page 1

December 13, 2020

Dear Reeve Brian Hammond,

My name is Dixon Hammond. I have lived north of Pincher Creek my entire life. I've cared for land and animals and the watershed I live in with great regard for what comes naturally. My wife, Myra, and I have raised two kids making them the fifth generation to ranch these lands. We also own a small business and I founded Beaver Creek Watershed Group lending me a wide and open-minded perspective on most issues.

I write to you in concern of our current government pushing through a deal to tear down a mountain to access a resource that has very little benefit to the provinces bottom line. All this is happening amid a pandemic and no one is noticing.

Upon reading several recent articles about the proposed mine in the Crowsnest Pass area, a few things stick out to me if the Australian based company, Benga, gets the go ahead.

Here's a summary of how I see it:

Water will be wasted and tainted, not to mention stolen from the Oldman Watershed itself, the people, and the fish and wildlife it services.

Only two million dollars in annual taxes from leases is not going to save our economy. In fact, it will be robbing more from the economy by removing cattle production from the Alberta markets because grazing allotments will decrease and irrigation downstream can no longer provide production to support the feeding industry. This does not even account for the revenue lost from the tourist service industry that relies on intact mountains.

They promise 400 jobs at peak production! That's it? How many jobs will there be when production slows because of a reduction in burning coal, changes to emission regulations, or increases in automation over the next 15-20 years?

Reclamation won't be possible because a mountain cannot be replaced. The money brought in from leases will go back to cleaning up the site on the backs of the taxpayers of this province. The track record of the orphaned wells abandoned in this province is proof of that.

First Nations people and ranchers have been managing these grazing lands and the water we depend on for centuries. We've only been digging coal for a little over a hundred years and it does not look like we have learned much in that time.

My request is to get the local people, you, and your constituents, more involved. Most of our M.D. ratepayers do not even know what is happening in regards to this coalmine and how it will affect them. Water and respect of the land is everything.

Sincerely,

**Dixon Hammond** 



# November 2020 Grant Specialist report for general circulation.

Further collaborations taking place. The Community Food Bank are a relatively new Society only being registered in 2020, therefore many grants are not available, one of these is the Food Bank Canada's recent 'Rural Community Capacity' grant. As it was crazy to think of our food bank being in a position where they could not apply to an opportunity that was such an obvious fit, once again the Cowley Lions stepped up to the plate using their registration to enable the Food Bank to apply.

I am working with the architect and staff from the Daycares to look at ways to collaborate on funding requests through the many different organizations that will eventually benefit from the outdoor play spaces at the centres. We have prepared a list of potential opportunities, many of which come up in the Spring so we will be ready to go with multiple applications from many eligible organizations.

Assisted Town staff with the Canada Day application, although Canada Day seems like a long way off right now (here's hoping it isn't cancelled again).

Kootenai Brown Pioneer Village have an ambitious plan for expansion, so I will be working hard with Colleen and the crew over the next year or two as we stack grants and phase the project to maximise as many opportunities as possible.

#### **Fast Facts**

Тс	tal Applications made	Fund (ban	ing received to date ked)	Fundir	ng outstanding.
\$	3,787,612.00	\$	981,662.00	\$	1,231,351.00

Stay Safe everyone,

Liza Dawber Pincher Creek Community Grant Specialist – <u>Grants@pccdi.ca</u> or 403-682-7421



December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020

# **MD of Pincher Creek**

By Email Only: <u>info@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca</u>

# PROPOSED WATERTON 61 PIPELINE FROM 10-7-6-2 W5M to 7-7-6-2 W5M

In 2018, Shell Canada had received approval to construct a new segment of pipeline. However, due to the sale of the asset and delay in license transfer, the license to construct expired in November 2020.

In Q1 of 2021, Pieridae Alberta Production Limited (formally Shell) is planning to apply to the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) for approval to construct this same pipeline segment. This new pipeline segment will allow us to access production from the existing wells WT-61 and HT-10-7 (HUNT 10-7) both located at 10-7-6-2 W5M.

You are receiving this notice as set out in the required notification boundaries of this pipeline, as determined by the *AER Directive 056: Energy Development Applications and Schedules*. This notification package contains all pertinent information regarding the description of this project.

Please reference the attached fact sheet and maps for project details.

Included with this cover letter are the following:

- ✓ An Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) information package.
- ✓ A fact sheet providing details on the proposed activity.
- ✓ A map, showing the existing pipeline segment and proposed extension location.
- ✓ A gas pool overview map for the proposed well.

Thank you for taking the time to review our plans. Should you require further information or clarification regarding this proposed development, or have comments or concerns, please contact us using the information provided on the next page.

Kind regards,

Thalia Aspeslet Consultation & Regulatory Advisor

Contact Information	Thalia Aspeslet Consultation & Regulatory Advisor Phone: (587) 392-9415 Email: <u>Thalia.Aspeslet@pieridaeenergy.com</u> Kali Larson Community Liaison Officer Phone: (403) 627-7282 Cell: (403) 339-3796 Email: <u>Kali.Larson@pieridaeenergy.com</u>		
Emergency Contact	Waterton Gas Plant 24 Hour Emergency Number <b>(403) 627-4200</b>		
Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) Information	<ul> <li>A letter from the CEO of the AER, and the three EnerFAQs highlighted below are enclosed for your reference.</li> <li>The AER has a number of EnerFAQs on topics that may interest you: <ul> <li>EnerFAQs – What is the Alberta Energy Regulator?</li> <li>EnerFAQs – Having Your Say at an AER Hearing</li> <li>EnerFAQs – Inspections and Enforcement of Energy Developments in Alberta</li> <li>EnerFAQs – All About Critical Sour Wells</li> <li>EnerFAQs – Explaining AER Setbacks</li> <li>EnerFAQs – Flaring and Incineration</li> <li>EnerFAQs – The AER and You: Agreements, Commitments and Conditions</li> <li>EnerFAQs – Oil Sands</li> <li>EnerFAQs – Oil Sands</li> <li>EnerFAQs – How to Register a Private Surface Agreement</li> </ul> </li> <li>Also: Understanding Oil and Gas Development in Alberta (brochure)</li> <li>If you would like copies of the above that you feel may relate to our activities, please contact us. Alternatively, if you have Internet access, these documents can be viewed on the AER website (www.aer.ca).</li> </ul>		

# FACT SHEET FOR PROPOSED WATERTON PIPELINE FROM 10-7-6-2 W5M to 7-7-6-2 W5M

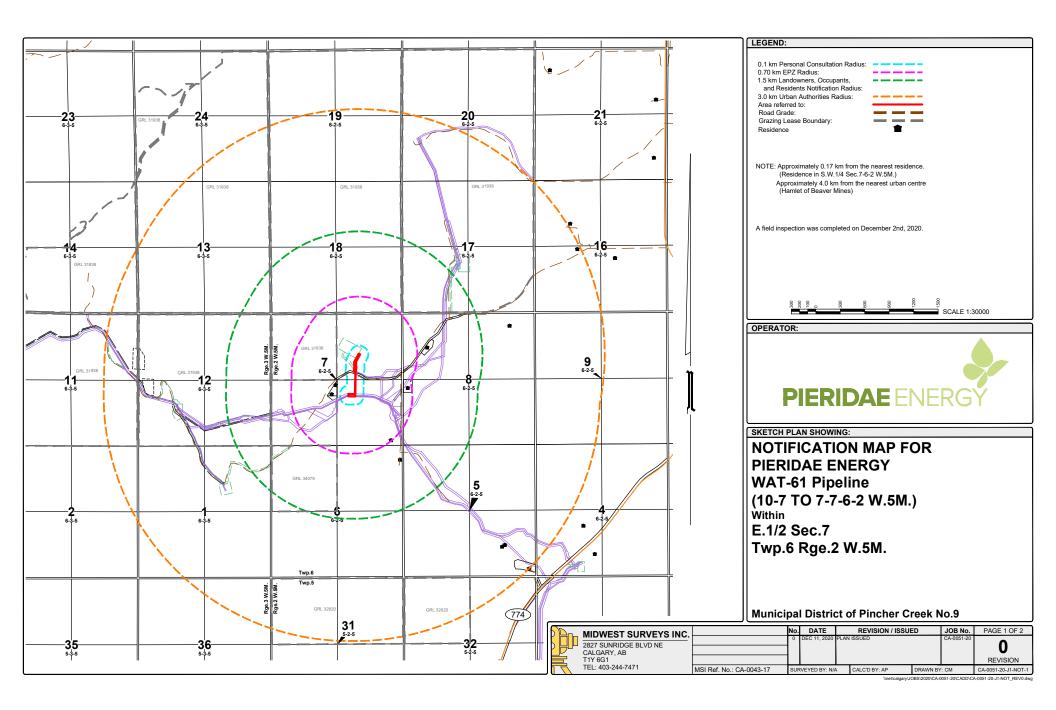
Project Description	<ul> <li>Pieridae Alberta Production Limited (formally Shell) is planning to apply to the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) for approval to construct a new segment pipeline to tie into existing pipeline and infrastructure at 7-7-6-2 W5M. Shell constructed the existing pipeline mentioned above in 2001. The construction of the new segment will allow Pieridae to tie the existing pipeline to production from existing wells WT-61 and HT-10-7 (also known as HUNT 10-7) both located at 10-7-6-2 W5M.</li> <li>This new segment pipeline is required to transport sour gas (natural gas containing hydrogen sulphide/H<sub>2</sub>S) with some hydrocarbon liquids (condensate) to the Waterton processing facility. The project is located on freehold land. Our plans minimize land take and ground disturbance as Pieridae will utilize existing access roads and infrastructure as much as possible.</li> <li>The total new segment pipeline length will be approximately 638 metres (m). Please reference the attached map.</li> <li>Location Selection: In determining locations for the proposed pipeline tie-in, Pieridae considered several factors including:</li> <li>Safety</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Environmental sensitivities</li> <li>Proximity to existing pipelines and power lines for tie-in</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Existing surface disturbances (including roads, pipelines, and powerlines)</li> <li>Economics</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>We have selected the proposed project location for the following reasons:</li> <li>Location is technically and economically viable.</li> </ul>		
	• Existing road and pipeline infrastructure allow for minimal footprint.		
	Pipeline availability allows for in-line testing which minimizes flaring.		
Why is it Needed?	The proposed new segment pipeline is needed for proper reservoir management. This pipeline will assist Pieridae to adequately and efficiently recover and market its natural gas. We are required to adhere to applicable regulations and industry standards in our operations. Production through this pipeline will help Pieridae maintain gas production at the Waterton Gas Plant.		
Project Category Type	The AER pipeline category type for both the existing and proposed pipeline segments is D461. This indicates a level 3 setback, based on natural gas containing >10 mol/kmol H <sub>2</sub> S and a pipeline outside diameter (OD) $\leq$ 323.9 mm.		

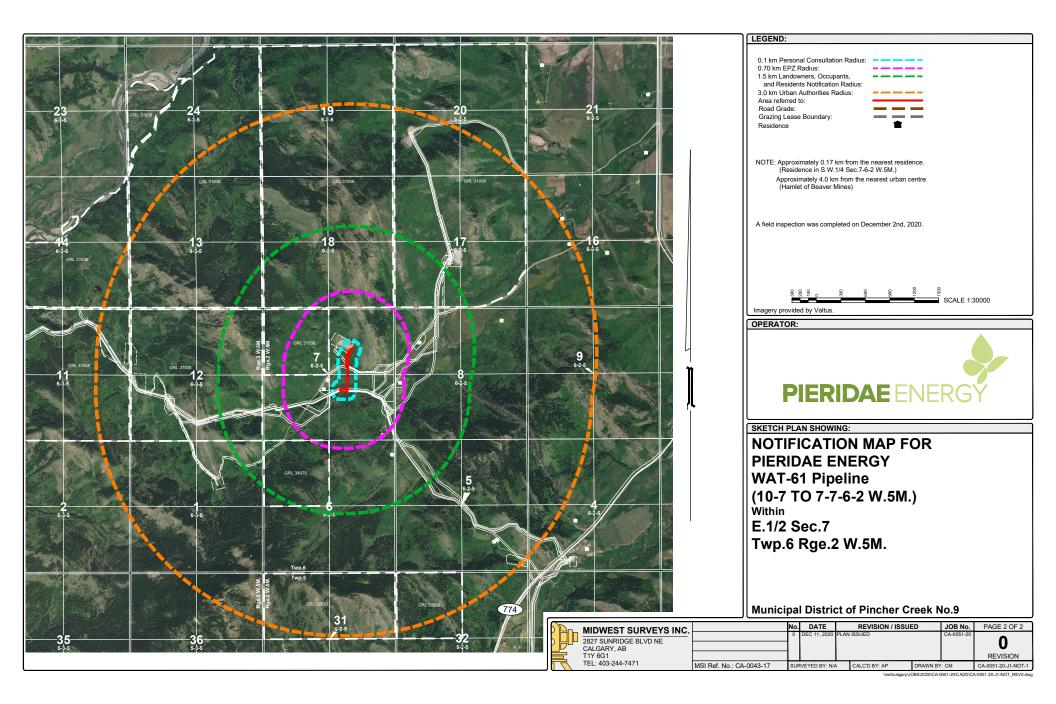
Setbacks	ings (and up to 8 dwellings ments and 1500m to urban To limit impacts to the we the pipeline crossing of the zontal directional drill, bor	ith a level 3 pipeline are 100m to s per quarter section), 500m to n centers or public facilities. tland and watercourse, Pieridae e watercourse and wetland via t e, etc.). This reduces surface im g the right-of-way through the v ent.	unrestricted country develop- is also proposing to construct renchless methods (e.g., hori- pacts and the need to remove
Flaring, Odors/Emissions, Derrick Height	There will be no flaring/incinerating/venting along the pipeline right-of-way. There will be no, or minimal odors associated with this pipeline. Pieridae will meet all the emission regulatory requirements for air quality, including the Alberta Ambient Air Qual- ity Objectives and Guidelines. Derrick heights are specific to the drilling of a well, therefore not applicable to the pipe- line.		
Construction Type of Equipment and Timing	ited to, - 250 Series - D5 Dozer/ - Ditch Witc	quired for construction of this pr Excavator Side boom combo th JT40 HDD rig e AER, the following schedule of COMMENCEMENT Late Q3 or Early Q4 2021	
Clean up and reclamation			zen conditions, final cleanup taken after the ground has to pre-construction condition
Traffic	A temporary increase in vehicle traffic will be associated with all above-mentioned con- struction of the project. Pieridae, will take reasonable measures to control dust associ- ated with traffic from this project on MD roads.		

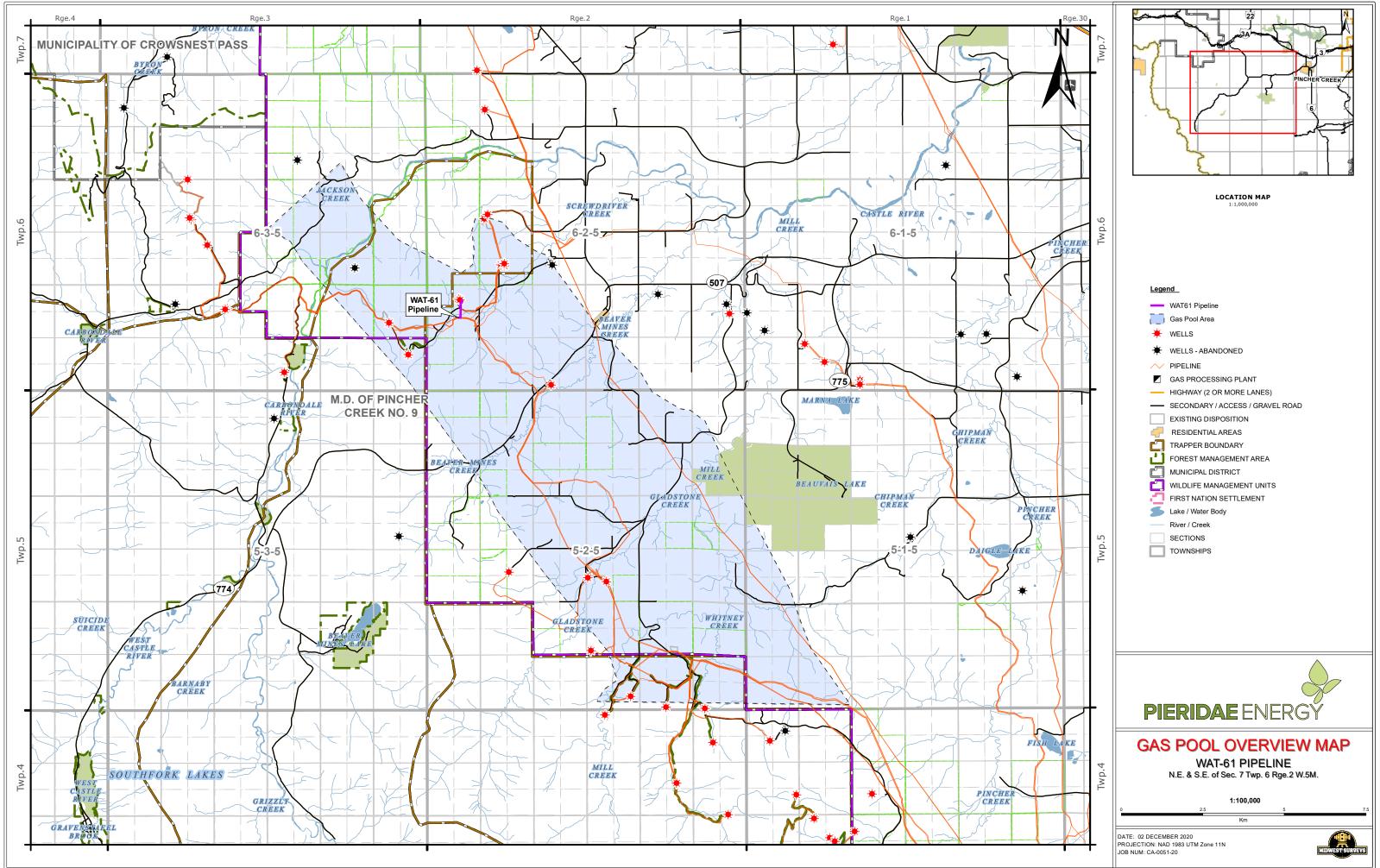
Traffic cont.	The project is located approximately 3 to 5 km north-west of Beaver Mines. The location would be accessed from the Seven Gates Road and Highway 507. Pieridae understands that vehicle traffic associated with all phases of activity must be managed to ensure safe coordination of project related traffic with the public and other traffic. Pieridae has measures in place to ensure this is effectively managed through the traffic management plans utilized with previous Shell constructed projects in the area such as WT-68. This plan has proved very effective to ensure safe and well-planned routing of all traffic in the area (industrial and public).
Noise	A temporary increase in noise is expected related to pipeline construction and tie-in ac- tivities. Construction will involve trucking and heavy equipment activity. Pieridae will comply with regulatory requirements for noise throughout the construction of the project and ongoing operations of this pipeline.
Location Relative to the Emergency Planning Zone	In the unlikely event of an emergency, our Emergency Response Plan would be activated. We train our staff to know what to do in the event of an emergency. Based on <i>AER Directive 071: Emergency Preparedness and Response Requirements for the Petroleum Industry</i> , the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) for the pipeline project is 0.7km. Should you reside within this zone and prior to application approval, you will be contacted to review key emergency response information, to become familiar with potential emergencies and corresponding public protection measures pertaining to emergency response procedures.
Public Consultation	Pieridae recognizes that Shell had been operating in the Waterton area for over 60 years and will continue to responsibly develop the pools of natural gas in the area. With the Shell successes in the North Waterton area, Pieridae is looking to optimize this develop- ment and existing infrastructure. Pieridae is now moving ahead into the project specific AER-regulated phase of notifica- tion and personal consultation and will continue to recognize the importance of stake- holder input to our proposed project plans. Through consultation with landowners, res- idents, and other stakeholders, we will continue to share project information, seek par- ticipation, and do our best to incorporate feedback into our project design and imple- mentation throughout the application process and into construction and operation. It is Pieridae's philosophy to provide updates as the project progresses through the Waterton Advisory Group (WAG), bi-monthly email updates, newsletters, open houses, and direct engagement.

Geological background and development plan (North Waterton Region)	Natural gas is found beneath the North Waterton region. The natural gas is present in microscopic holes ('porosity') in two different reservoir rock layers, called the Mississippian Rundle Group and the older Devonian Wabamun Formation. Natural gas traps were created by ancient thrust faulting and folding, which created 'thrust sheets' of rock. This process is the same as that which created the Rocky Mountains and the foothills. Each 'thrust sheet' carries one or more potential separate gas pools. The composition of natural gas varies from pool to pool, typically in the range of 0.3-30% H <sub>2</sub> S in the North Waterton region. Through past drilling and exploration, Shell discovered several gas pools in the North Waterton region (please refer to the Gas Pool Overview Map). To optimize existing and allow for future gas production, Pieridae as the current owner and operator is proposing to build this new section of pipeline and tie-in existing wells. Future development plans consist of Pieridae planning to apply to the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) for a license to drill and complete a well on the existing lease located at 6-17-06-02 W5M (also known as CR-74). We will also apply to the AER for a facility license and on-lease surface piping tie-in in association with the well if required to do so. These plans are subject to change as our technical understanding changes, new information is obtained, or other conditions change.
Assessment of infrastructure; gas transportation and processing	The Carbondale gathering system begins at sites near the Adanac Road and runs along the Carbondale River and through the southern part of Screwdriver Creek Valley. The main Carbondale line turns south and follows Gladstone Valley toward the Waterton Gas Plant, which will accommodate volumes of gas produced from the WT-61 and HT 10-7 (also known as Hunt 10-7) wells via the proposed pipeline. The proposed pipeline will use the existing but un-utilized segment of pipeline to tie in these two existing wells to the gathering system. Existing infrastructure, including ac- cess roads and power facilities, is already in place to support this project. Accordingly, the proposed pipeline will limit additional incremental impacts and is the most feasible option to accommodate volumes of gas from these two existing wells.
Environmental Protection Planning	An Environmental Assessment (EA) will be completed for this project and will be com- pliant with <i>Informational Letter 93-09: Oil and Gas Developments Eastern Slopes</i> (Southern Portion) (IL 93-09) and <i>Bulletin 2007-35: Clarification of Informational Letter</i> <i>(IL) 93-09: Oil and Gas Developments Eastern Slopes</i> (Southern Portion) (the Bulletin). The EA will evaluate the impact of the proposed development on wildlife, vegetation, aquatic ecosystems, soils, and known historical resources. The EA will also consider the cumulative effects of the proposed development within the region.

Environmental Protection Planning	The project is located approximately 1.1km northeast of the boundary of the Castle Provincial Park and approximately 8.7km north of the boundary of the Castle Wildland Park. There are no anticipated impacts to the parks as part of this project.
Cont.	This project was planned to minimize footprint and utilizes existing infrastructure where possible. Construction activities are scheduled to occur outside of the Key Wildlife and Biodiversity Zone timing restrictions reducing potential impacts to ungulates and other mammals, amphibians, and migratory birds, due to sensory disturbance.
Consolidated plans	Pieridae (formally Shell) is the only oil and gas producer in the Waterton field. Pieridae intends to drill wells in the Waterton area to combat depleting existing reservoirs and extend the life of the Waterton Complex. We will regularly engage with the local Municipal District, Alberta Environment & Parks, the Town Councils, Fortis and other agencies to understand cumulative plans and proposed developments.







# Appendix 10

# **AER Public Documents**

- 1) Letter from the CEO of the AER
- 2) AER Brochure: Understanding Oil and Gas Development in Alberta

June 2013



Calgary Head Office Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4 Canada

#### A Letter from the Chief Executive Officer of the Alberta Energy Regulator

I am writing to you because a representative of a petroleum company proposing development has recently approached you, and you may have questions. The company plans to apply to the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) for an energy development (which may include a facility, a pipeline, or a well) on your lands or your neighbours' lands. The AER requires the company to either notify or personally consult you before obtaining a licence and provide you with information that may include the documents described below. When the AER does not require that the documents be provided, you may request them from the company.

AER Public Information Documents—These include this letter, the brochure Understanding Oil and Gas Development in Alberta, EnerFAQs publications Proposed Oil and Gas Development: A Landowner's Guide, Expressing Your Concerns—How to File a Statement of Concern About an Energy Resource Project, and other EnerFAQs publications related to energy development. These documents contain information about your rights and options, as well as the roles and responsibilities of the AER in the regulating energy development in Alberta and how we can help you.

Company's Information Package—This includes information about the proposed project so that you can understand the nature, scope, and potential impacts the proposed development may have on you and your family. You will be asked to bring forward any questions or concerns you may have and to go over the specifics of the proposed development with the company representative. The company is required to answer all reasonable questions posed by you.

I encourage you to carefully review the information provided and to meet with company representatives to discuss the proposed development. Discuss any measures that the company could put in place to reduce potential impacts, any existing alternatives to the proposal, and the overall future of the development proposed in your area.

If there are matters that cannot be resolved, the AER can provide you with more information on its Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) program, which includes AER facilitation and third-party mediation. Unresolved issues could ultimately result in the AER holding a public hearing to consider the application. If you have questions about our materials or our processes, please call the AER for assistance at the numbers listed on the back of this letter.

For more information about the AER and its regulations, visit our website at www.aer.ca.

A-42 • Directive 056: Energy Development Applications and Schedules (September 2011)

www.aer.ca

#### **AER Field Centres and Contacts**

#### **Field Centres**

Bonnyville 780-826-5352 Drayton Valley 780-542-5182

Grande Prairie 780-538-5138

High Level 780-926-5399

Medicine Hat 403-527-3385

Midnapore 403-297-8303

Red Deer 403-340-5454

St. Albert 780-460-3800

Wainwright 780-842-7570

Fort McMurray Regional Office 780-743-7214

Calgary Head Office

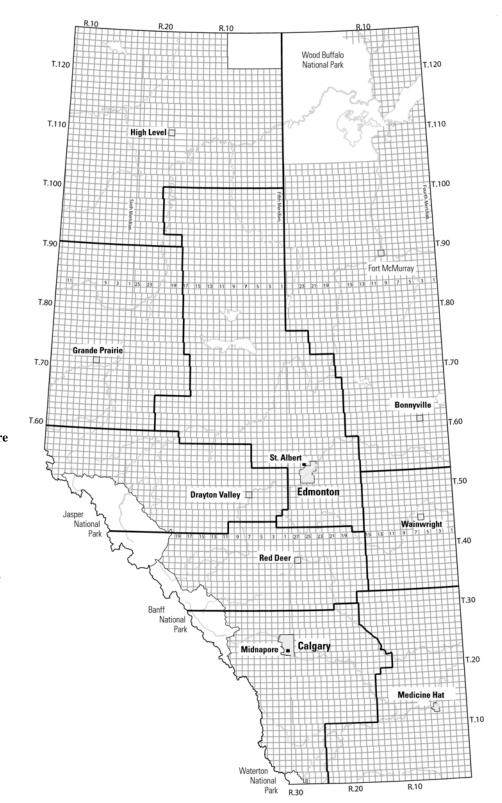
Customer Contact Centre 403-297-8311 1-855-297-8311 (toll free)

Facilities Applications Group 403-297-4369

E-mail<mark>:</mark>

Directive56.help@aer.ca

Alternative Dispute Resolution Team 1-855-297-8311



To call the above numbers toll free, dial 310-0000 and follow the prompts or ask the operator for the desired number.

AER Brochure: Understanding Oil and Gas Development in Alberta

This brochure contains information to help you understand what sort of development is being proposed and how it affects you.

An oil and gas company representative has approached you and wants to conduct oilfield activities on or near your land. You and the company will be discussing the proposed development and its potential impact on you, as well as alternatives and measures to minimize impacts. You may also be negotiating a surface lease agreement (for example, on the location of a well and access road) and discussing compensation.

# AER Requirements and Expectations for Stakeholder Involvement

The AER believes that any individual, organization, community, or group with a stake in Alberta's energy resources is a stakeholder, having both roles and responsibilities. All stakeholders are encouraged to develop relationships that are respectful, responsive, and responsible. While other groups also have a stake in energy development, the three main stakeholder groups are the public, industry, and the AER.

**The public**: The AER application process provides the public with an opportunity to share its questions and concerns with the company. There are many things the public, individually or collectively, can do to participate in the planning of proposed developments. Many communities have formed groups with members from industry and the AER. These groups try to find ways to resolve issues at the local level. The company will provide you with contact information if there is a group in your area. **Industry:** When proposing an energy resource activity, industry is required to conduct a stakeholder involvement program. Industry is also expected to communicate with landowners and residents on a regular basis throughout the life of the project, which may be 30 years or longer.

**The AER:** As the regulator of the energy industry, the AER has the authority to approve or deny proposed energy resource activity in the province of Alberta and to place enforceable conditions on any licences issued. The AER also assists individuals, communities, and other interested groups in understanding the regulatory requirements and expectations and how they apply at the local level.

#### Your Rights and the Company's Rights

In Alberta, both the landowner and the company have rights.

**Rights to information:** Under AER regulations, rules, requirements, and guidelines, the company must provide information to stakeholders so they can fully understand what is being proposed. If you are concerned about surface impacts, the company must give you details about how and why it chose the proposed well site, pipeline route, and access road location. The company should also tell you what to expect in terms of equipment and operations during the production phase. The company may provide any agreements you make with it, as well as records of discussions, to the AER during the application process. That material becomes part of the AER's record of the application, which is public and available to anybody. In addition, information provided to the AER (whether as part of the application process or otherwise) may be publicly available under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

**Mutual rights to use the land:** Most land in Alberta carries two titles and two sets of rights. The surface title gives the landowner full control of the land's surface and the right to work it. The mineral title gives the company or person who owns the minerals under that land the right to explore for oil and gas. In some situations, title to land will give the owner both the surface and the mineral rights. If title to the land is split, the mineral owner needs access to the land surface to drill and produce oil and gas.

Two important conditions apply to the company's right to explore. First, drilling and production activity must be done in a way that is environmentally and technically acceptable. Second, a company must operate in ways that minimize possible interference with the landowner's use of the land.

#### Planning an Oil or Gas Project Selecting a Pipeline or Facility Location

When selecting a pipeline right-of-way or a facility site, the company must consider potential impacts on present and future land uses. The company must

• ensure that you understand what substance the pipeline is to transport or the facility is to handle,

- answer your questions on its plans for soil handling and reclamation, and
- address any other concerns you may have related to the proposed pipeline or facility.

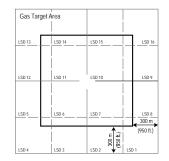
#### Selecting a Well Site

When selecting a well site, the company considers subsurface geology, land surface conditions, current and future land use, environmental sensitivity, and reclamation. Well spacing regulations provide requirements about where wells may be located.

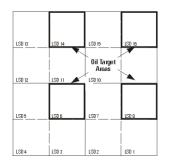
A **spacing unit** is the subsurface area that one well can drain. The spacing unit for oil wells in Alberta is normally one well per quarter section of land; for gas wells it is normally one well per section of land. However, reduced spacing and directional drilling are common practices in Alberta.

Inside the spacing unit is a **target area** where the bottom of the well should end.

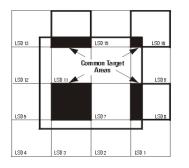
In the example below, the **gas target area** is the centre 100 hectares (250 acres) of the section. Keep in mind that the target area dictates the **subsurface** location for a well, not the **surface** location.



The **oil target area** is the northeastern 16 hectares (40 acres) of the quarter section, as shown in the example below.



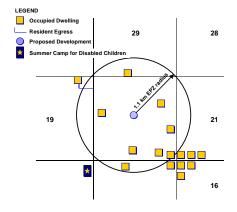
Together, the oil and gas target areas overlap and form a **common target area**, as shown in the shaded portions of the figure below. Many companies prefer to drill the common target area if there is a chance to encounter both oil and gas.



If you disagree with a proposed well location, you may ask the company representative to sketch the spacing unit and target area for the well. This will help you determine if there is flexibility for moving the well site.

#### Consultation

In many instances it is appropriate for a company to complete public consultation and notification beyond the requirements stated in AER *Directive 056: Energy Development Application and Schedules.* The following figure illustrates how a company expanded its stakeholder involvement program beyond the requirement to take into account the special needs and circumstances of the community.



During the initial planning stage of a well, a company began preliminary development of its stakeholder involvement program using the public consultation and notification requirements. With further development of the stakeholder involvement program, the company identified that the requirements would not take into account egress of the resident just outside the northwest area of the development, residents in the community to southeast of the development, or the special needs of the summer camp for disabled children located in the southwest.

The company then adapted its stakeholder involvement program to include the residents, summer camp, and community. By including all the parties during the initial planning stages, the company was able to identify and address the concerns raised by the residents and summer camp prior to its application to the AER.

#### **Having Your Say**

Landowners, residents, and communities that have concerns related to the development of Alberta's energy resources should become involved as early as possible in the development planning process. It is usually easier to resolve issues at the local level before they become matters of greater concern. Ongoing dialogue also builds trust and is one way for you to have greater influence on energy resource activity.

There are a number of options available to help you resolve concerns about proposed development. As a landowner or resident, there are several key points in the application process when your questions and concerns may be addressed.

Usually, a company will offer to discuss the proposed development with you at your home. If you and the company cannot resolve your concerns, either party may ask an AER staff member to facilitate a meeting or meetings between you and the company.

If concerns continue to be unresolved, you or the company may request that the AER arrange for a third-party mediator to assist you. This is part of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process. If you can resolve issues through such discussions with the company, with or without a facilitator or mediator, you may find that you have greater influence on project planning and reducing its impacts. However, if concerns cannot be resolved, you may file a statement of concern with the AER.

If you show the AER, through a statement of concern, that you may be directly and adversely affected if the Board approves a proposed energy resource activity, the AER may decide to proceed to a public hearing.

#### **Required EnerFAQs**

The AER has put together a number of EnerFAQs on topics of general interest to the public. Regardless of whether the proposed development is a well, pipeline, or facility, the company must either provide or offer all current AER EnerFAQs publications as set out on the AER website.

EnerFAQs continue to be published on topics of general interest to the public. As new EnerFAQs related to energy development become available, they will be posted on the AER website. EnerFAQs may be obtained from the AER website at www.aer.ca or by contacting AER Communications through the Customer Contact Centre at 403-297-8311 or toll free: 1-855-297-8311.

#### **AER Field Centres and Contacts**

#### **Field Centres**

Bonnyville 780-826-5352

Drayton Valley 780-542-5182

Grande Prairie 780-538-5138

High Level 780-926-5399

Medicine Hat 403-527-3385

Midnapore

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Red Deer 403-340-5454

St. Albert

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Wainwright 780-842-7570

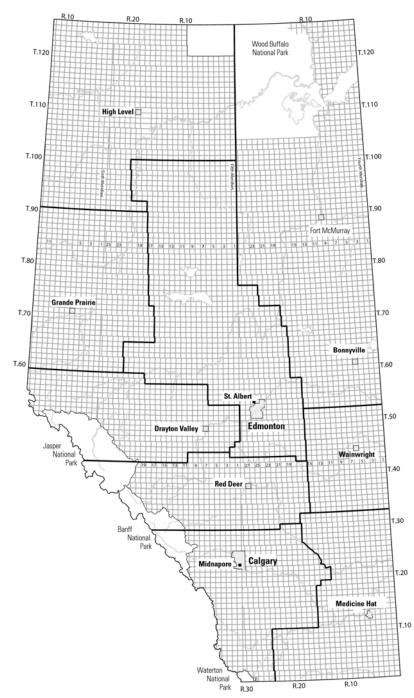
#### Fort McMurray Regional Office

780-743-7214

#### Calgary Head Office Customer Contact Centre 403-297-8311

1-855-297-8311 (toll free)

#### Facilities Applications Group 403-297-4369 E-mail: Directive56.help@aer.ca Alternative Dispute Resolution Team 1-855-297-8311



To call the above numbers toll free, dial 310-0000 and follow the prompts or ask the operator for the desired number.

Directive 056: Energy Development Applications and Schedules (September 2011) • A-49

**Calgary Head Office** Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4 Canada



# Explaining AER Setbacks - EnerFAQ

Updated September 2015

This EnerFAQs explains setbacks in the energy industry, how they are determined, and how they may affect Alberta citizens and their communities.

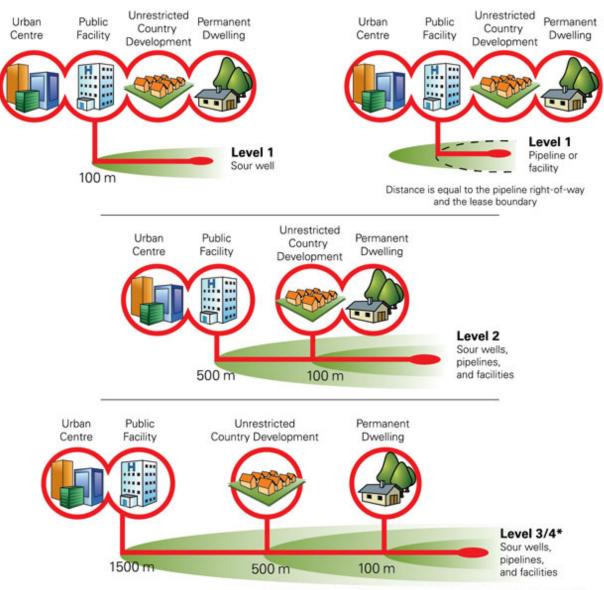
# **Questions:**

- What is a setback?
- What is the AER's definition of a "public facility"?
- What is the AER's definition of "unrestricted country development"?
- Why are setbacks necessary?
- How long have setback distances been in effect?
- How are setback distances determined?
- What are release rates?
- What are release volumes?
- Why is H<sub>2</sub>S content important?
- Why are setback distances different for a farm home than for a large campground?
- What if I live near a sour facility?
- What safety precautions does the AER require of industry?
- What if I am already living within a sour gas setback distance?
- May I develop my land if it falls within an AER setback?
- Is there any way I can change a setback distance that affects my land?
- How do setback distances affect the future development of my hometown?
- What is the difference between a setback distance and an emergency planning zone?

- What happens if an energy company wants to drill a well or build a facility close to my home?
- What if I object to this development?
- Will I be compensated for the use of my land?
- Additional Information

# What is a setback?

A setback is the absolute minimum distance that must be maintained between any energy facility (for example, a drilling or producing well, a pipeline, or a gas plant) and a dwelling, rural housing development, urban centre, or public facility. Setbacks vary according to the type of development and whether the well, facility, or pipeline contains sour gas.



\* Setbacks for level 4 are specified by the AER but not less than level 3.

What is the AER's definition of a "public facility"? The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) examines each specific situation to decide if something is a public facility. When establishing setback distances, the AER does not consider simply any facility used by the public to be a public facility; it must also be a facility that is often used by a large number of people. It also considers the evacuation options that apply to that particular facility. For example, a large year-round campground containing many individual campsites may be designated a public facility under the AER's definition, whereas a small, seldom-used campground may not.

### What is the AER's definition of "unrestricted country development"?

Unrestricted country development refers to any collection of permanent dwellings outside an urban centre that number more than eight per quarter section.

## Why are setbacks necessary?

Setbacks prevent populated areas from developing too close to energy facilities and energy facilities from getting too close to people. In other words, setbacks provide a buffer zone between the public and the facility if there is a problem. To better understand the principle behind a setback, let's compare it to a 30 kilometre per hour speed limit near a school playground. While this speed limit is not a "guarantee" of safety, statistics show that it is much safer to have one than to have no speed limit at all; the average driver can stop quickly at this speed if faced with an emergency, such as a child suddenly running into the street.

The child's safety isn't guaranteed, but the odds are strongly in the child's favour with the low speed limit in place. In a sense, the AER's setback distances function as the energy industry's "speed limits."

# How long have setback distances been in effect?

Setback distances have existed, in various forms, for oil and gas operations since early production days (pipeline rights-of-way are a good example).

Established in 1976, new sour gas setback distances were immediately used by the energy industry. In 1979, provincial planning authorities formally adopted the same setback distances, so both the energy industry and all Alberta municipalities use these same guidelines when proposing and approving developments of any kind.

# How are setback distances determined?

Sour gas facilities are categorized by the AER into four hazard levels based on release rates for wells, release volumes for pipelines, and hydrogen sulphide (H<sub>2</sub>S) content. There are predetermined setback distances for each level of sour gas facility. Once the appropriate level has been established for a particular facility, AER staff

then examine the types of developments in the vicinity and how people typically use the general area. For example, AER staff would check to see if there are houses, schools, or hospitals close by. If necessary, a setback distance may be increased due to these types of developments.

## What are release rates?

The concentration of H<sub>2</sub>S and how fast it is coming out of the ground determine the release rate.

#### What are release volumes?

Release volumes are specific to pipelines. There is a fixed amount, or volume, of gas that can be released from any pipeline once the valves are closed—this is called the release volume. Pipelines are built with emergency shutdown valves installed at preset points along the pipeline. When the valves detect pressure drops in the pipeline, they close automatically, stopping the flow of gas through the pipeline and trapping the gas between the two valves closest to the rupture. That's all the gas that can escape, and the amount of escaping gas can be quickly calculated.

## Why is H<sub>2</sub>S content important?

The higher the concentration of  $H_2S$  and the rate that it is released, the greater the potential for risk. That is why  $H_2S$  content and release rates are important factors in setback distances.

#### Why are setback distances different for a farm home than for a large campground?

Extra space is built into setback distances in the case of towns and major campgrounds to ensure that a proper evacuation can be carried out if necessary. It is much easier to evacuate one family than a great number of people or an entire community.

#### What if I live near a sour facility?

AER setback distances are deliberately designed so that the actual risk to people from sour gas facilities will be reduced to the lowest levels possible.

# What safety precautions does the AER require of industry?

The energy industry is required to maintain safe operations at all of its facilities. With pipelines, for example, the industry has developed a number of important safety practices, such as specially designed block valves and different kinds of pipeline monitoring systems. In the case of drilling wells, industry must comply with strict blowout prevention measures.

#### What if I am already living within a sour gas setback distance?

Such situations are rare, as both the industry and the municipal planning authorities have followed the same setback guidelines for some time. If you have reason to believe that such a problem does exist for you, contact https://www.aer.ca/providing-information/news-and-resources/enerfaqs-and-fact-sheets/enerfaqs-setbacks

the operator of the facility or the nearest AER field centre.

#### May I develop my land if it falls within an AER setback?

Municipal authorities oversee land development and do not permit development where people will be living within the setback. However, lands affected by the setback for a pipeline, for instance, could be landscaped and used as green space. Note that municipal authorities do have setback restrictions for developments other than sour gas, such as road allowance restrictions. This question and others like it should be directed to your local municipal authority. AER advice is available to these authorities with reference to specific projects, as required.

#### Is there any way I can change a setback distance that affects my land?

Setback distances may be changed when either the rate or volume of the energy facility changes or when the type of development in the setback area is altered. Release rates and release volumes may change over time due to dropping production from a well or the H<sub>2</sub>S content changing.

An example of altering the purpose for which land is being used is if a landowner wishes to convert a large year-round campground that had been designated a public facility back to farmland and then build a home on it for the family. While the campground may have required a large setback by the planning authority because there could be many people in the camp, the single farm residence would usually require a smaller setback, because it would be easier to notify and evacuate one family.

#### How do setback distances affect the future development of my hometown?

Setbacks may restrict a community development to a greater extent than an individual dwelling. For example, if your town wanted to expand through annexation, a 500 metre setback distance from any level-2 sour gas facility would be recommended, rather than the 100 metre setback distance facing an individual residence.

#### What is the difference between a setback distance and an emergency planning zone?

A setback is the amount of land serving as a buffer zone between people and energy facilities. An emergency planning zone, or EPZ, is the distance outward from a facility where people and the environment could be affected by a potential worst-case incident.

#### What happens if an energy company wants to drill a well or build a facility close to my home?

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landowners and occupants. The company must provide affected landowners and occupants with factual information regarding the facility and explain the potential land-use restrictions that may occur as a result of the development.

# What if I object to this development?

For some applications, The AER requires that a company indicate in its application whether any of the landowners contacted have concerns about the application. The AER may direct the company to contact you again to explore ways to resolve any concerns you might have. Also, anyone who believes they may be directly and adversely affected by an energy resource application can file a statement of concern. See EnerFAQs *Expressing Your Concerns – How to File a Statement of Concern About an Energy Resource Project (enerfaqs-expressing-your-concerns.html)*.

# Will I be compensated for the use of my land?

Decisions regarding compensation for placing energy facilities on your land do not fall under the AER's jurisdiction, but are the responsibility of the Alberta Surface Rights Board. The Alberta Surface Rights Board may be reached at 780-427-2444.

# **Additional Information**

For more information on the AER and its processes or if you wish to speak with your local field centre or have general questions about oil and gas in the province of Alberta, contact the AER's Customer Contact Centre: Monday to Friday (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at 1-855-297-8311 (toll free).

This document is part of the EnerFAQs series, which explains the AER's regulations and processes as they relate to specific energy issues. Please visit <u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u> to read more of the EnerFAQs series.

Every year the AER collects, compiles, and publishes a large amount of technical data and information about Alberta's energy development and resources for use by both industry and the general public. This includes raw data, statistics, information on regulations, policies, and decisions, and hearing materials.

Publications may be obtained from the Information Distribution Services (IDS). Publications may also be downloaded free of charge from the AER website <u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u>.

To obtain a copy of a specific publication, contact IDS by phone (403-297-8311), fax (403-297-7336), or e-mail (<u>InformationRequest@aer.ca (mailto:InformationRequest@aer.ca)</u>).

AER Head Office

Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW

Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4

inquiries@aer.ca (mailto:inquiries@aer.ca)

1-855-297-8311 (toll free)

Energy and Environmental 24-hour Response Line (emergencies and complaints): 1-800-222-6514 (toll free)

Calgary Head Office Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4 Canada



# Expressing Your Concerns – EnerFAQ

How to File a Statement of Concern About an Energy Resource Project

Updated May 2019

This EnerFAQs is intended to help you understand what statements of concern are and how to file one with the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) if you have a concern with an energy resource development application. It also answers questions we commonly hear and outlines what you must include in a statement of concern in order for it to be registered.

# **Questions:**

- What is a statement of concern?
- What is the difference between a statement of concern and an operational complaint?
- Who can file a statement of concern?
- How do I find out about energy resource development applications?
- How can I register a statement of concern?
- What information must be included in a statement of concern?
- When should I submit my statement of concern?
- What information should not be included in a statement of concern?
- Where do I send my statement of concern?
- What happens to my statement of concern once I have submitted it?
- What if my statement of concern is related to an application about which a decision has already been made?
- How do I find the decision on my statement of concern?
- What if I have concerns with a proposed development that has not yet been filed with the AER?
- What if I no longer have concerns?
- Where can I find more information?

Additional Information

#### What is a statement of concern?

Albertans concerned about a particular application may submit a statement of concern, which is a written submission that outlines specific concerns about an application. A statement of concern may be filed by anyone who believes they may be directly and adversely affected by an application. Upon proclamation of the Responsible Energy Development Act, statements of concern replaced objections as the way to file your concerns about energy project applications.

#### What is the difference between a statement of concern and an operational complaint?

Statements of concern outline concerns about applications for proposed energy resource activities and developments, as well as any amendments to them. Operational complaints outline concerns about the operations of existing energy resource activities (e.g., noise, smells, etc.). An operational complaint can be made at any time during the life of a project. A statement of concern can only be made in response to a notice of application. If the AER determines that your correspondence is an operational complaint, it will be referred to the applicable field centre for follow up. If you have an operational complaint, please direct it to the nearest AER field centre.

#### Who can file a statement of concern?

Anyone who believes they may be directly and adversely affected by an energy resource application can file a statement of concern.

#### How do I find out about energy resource development applications?

For most applications, public notice is generated automatically and found on our <u>Public Notice of Application</u> (<u>https://webapps.aer.ca/pnoa</u>) page on <u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca</u>). For a small number of applications, a notice is manually prepared; these are available on the Notices page on our website.

Before we accept an application for an energy resource activity, and depending on the activity proposed, we may require a company to provide notification of and information about the proposed activities directly to certain people, making sure that those receiving the information can fully understand what is being proposed and what the potential impacts could be.

Details of who a company must contact before it applies for an energy resource activity or development vary according to the type of application. Notification requirements may include input from landowners, First Nations and Métis, occupants, other oil and gas operators, or local authorities. In cases where notification is

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required, the company must provide details about how and why it chose its proposed locations for any wells, pipelines, facilities, or access roads and what to expect in terms of equipment use and operations during the production phase.

#### How can I register a statement of concern?

#### What information must be included in a statement of concern?

To be registered, the statement of concern form must include

- the application number for the proposed project,
- how you may be directly and adversely affected,
- the nature of your objection to the application,
- the outcome you want to see,
- the location of your land or residence,
- the location of the proposed project, and
- your contact information (i.e., your name, address, phone number, and email address or fax number).

#### When should I submit my statement of concern?

Be sure to submit your statement of concerns form within the statement of concerns filing deadline. Applications have different statement of concern submission deadlines, depending on many factors including the type of application and how the AER categorizes it. There are two broad category types:

• **Expedited**: these applications do not have a set deadline to submit a statement of concern. The AER can make a decision at any point after an expedited application is submitted. A statement of concern needs to be submitted as soon as possible on expedited applications in order to be considered before the AER makes a decision on it.

These application types are outlined in section 5.2.2 of the <u>AER Rules of Practice</u> (<u>http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Regs/2013\_099.pdf</u>). Examples include routine <u>Directive 056:</u> <u>Energy Development Applications and Schedules (......\regulating-development\rules-and-</u> <u>directives\directives\directive-056.html</u>) applications and <u>Water Act (.....\regulating-development\rules-and-</u> <u>and-directives\acts-regulations-and-rules.html</u>) temporary diversion licences. • **Non-expedited**: these applications have a specific deadline for filing a statement of concern. The filing deadline is stated on the public notice of application. Non-expedited applications fall outside of all the listings in section 5.2.2 of the AER Rules of Practice.

#### What information should not be included in a statement of concern?

#### Our application process is public. The AER Rules of Practice

(<u>http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Regs/2013\_099.pdf</u>) require us to place all information filed about an application on the public record, including statements of concern. You should assume that any information you submit will be publicly available and therefore should avoid including anything you do not want shared publicly. This includes personal, medical, financial, or other confidential information, such as

- information related to a medical, psychiatric, or psychological history or a condition or illness, including the diagnosis, treatment, or evaluation of one;
- financial information, including
  - rent payments;
  - details about settlement negotiations or offers;
  - information affecting income or income assistance eligibility, such as tax returns and bank account or credit card information; and
  - any information shared during confidential negotiations or discussions (e.g., the AER's alternative dispute resolution program);
- information about employment or educational history; and
- statements of opinion made by another person or your opinion about another person.

#### Where do I send my statement of concern?

You must send your statement of concern to the company making the application as well as to the AER. We may require the applicant to respond to your concerns.

All statements of concern should be sent to

Alberta Energy Regulator Statement of Concern Team Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4 Fax: 403-297-7336 Email: <u>SOC@aer.ca (mailto:SOC@aer.ca)</u>

#### What happens to my statement of concern once I have submitted it?

Once we receive your statement of concern form, we will review it to ensure that we have enough information to register it in our system. If we have questions or need more information, we will contact you.

We do not register statements of concern for matters that are outside of the AER's jurisdiction (e.g. surface material lease, compensation). If your statement of concern falls outside our jurisdiction we will send you a letter indicating this and try to direct you to the appropriate regulatory agency. When we register your statement of concern you will receive a letter from us with a registration number.

We may request a written response from the company about your concerns; we will also consider this response as we review the energy development application. In some cases, we may recommend holding a <u>hearing (..\..\..\regulating-development\project-application\hearings.html)</u>to address your concerns.

Once your statement of concern is registered, you will receive a decision either 60 business days from receipt of your statement of concern or the <u>application processing time (..\..\..\regulating-development\project-application\application-processes.html</u>), whichever is longer.

The AER will provide the Aboriginal Consultation Office with a copy of statement of concerns received from a First Nation, Métis Settlement, Métis Nation of Alberta, Métis local, other indigenous groups or individuals who identify themselves as representing one of these organizations.

#### Phases of a Statement of Concern:

#### Phase 1: Intake

- We receive the statement of concern form
- We determine if the statement of concern meets the requirements outlined in the AER Rules of Practice in the Responsible Energy Development Act

#### **Phase 2: Registration**

- We enter statement of concern into AER systems
- We send notification of statement of concern registration to all involved parties

#### **Phase 3: Review**

- We review all applicable information
- We consider concerns raised in relation to the application(s)

• We create a recommendation for consideration by AER statutory decision maker

#### **Phase 4: Decision**

- A statutory decision maker considers all applicable information and the recommendation
- A statutory decision maker makes a decision on the statement of concern in relation to the application(s)

#### Phase 5: Close

- We notify all parties of the AER's decision
- We post the notice of decision to <u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u>

At any point in the process, consider using <u>Alternative Dispute Resolution (..\..\..\protecting-what-</u> <u>matters\giving-albertans-a-voice\alternative-dispute-resolution.html)</u> (ADR), which provides concerned parties a variety of options to manage disputes including direct negotiation between the parties, AER staff-led mediation, and third-party mediation.

### What if my statement of concern is related to an application about which a decision has already been made?

If you have concerns after we have approved an application, you may be able to request a regulatory appeal under section 38 of the *Responsible Energy Development Act*. Learn more about our <u>regulatory appeal process</u> (..\..\..\regulating-development\project-application\regulatory-appeal-process.html) and who can request to appeal.

#### How do I find the decision on my statement of concern?

We will send our final decision to you and the applicant. We will also share our decision publicly on our website (<u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u>) on the following pages:

- Publication of Decision Project application decisions are posted on <u>this web page</u> (<u>https://webapps.aer.ca/pod</u>).
- Participatory and Procedural Decisions Statement of concern dispositions are posted on <u>this web</u> page (..\..\..\regulating-development\project-application\decisions\participatory-procedural-<u>decisions.html</u>).
- Hearing Decisions Hearing decisions are posted on <u>this web page (..\..\..\regulating-</u> <u>development\project-application\decisions.html)</u>.

**What if I have concerns with a proposed development that has not yet been filed with the AER?** The AER does not accept statements of concern before an application is submitted. Our <u>preapplication concern</u> <u>fact sheet (..\..\..\documents\enerfaqs\PreapplicationConcern\_FS.pdf)</u> will help you understand what to do if you have concerns about a proposed energy development that is not yet under review by the AER. The fact sheet can be viewed and downloaded on our website (<u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u>).

The AER does not consider pre-application concerns when making decisions on applications. If you continue to have concerns after an application has been submitted to the AER, you may submit a statement of concern form.

#### What if I no longer have concerns?

If you have a registered statement of concern and no longer have concerns, you may withdraw your statement of concern by sending an email to <u>SOC@aer.ca (mailto:SOC@aer.ca)</u> with the following information:

- the application number,
- the statement of concern registration number, and
- a simple statement that indicates you no longer have concerns.

Withdrawals must be unconditional to be accepted.

#### Where can I find more information?

For more information on the hearing and ADR processes and participant funding, see the following publications on our website at <u>www.aer.ca: (http://www.aer.ca:)</u>

- Manual 003: The Hearing Process for the Alberta Energy Regulator
- (..\..\documents\manuals\Manual003.pdf)
- Manual 004: Alternative Dispute Resolution Program and Guidelines for Energy Industry Disputes
- (..\..\documents\manuals\Manual004.pdf)
- Directive 031: REDA Energy Cost Claims (..\..\.regulating-development\rules-and-
- directives\directives\directive-031.html)

Related information and AER publications include:

- EnerFAQs: <u>Proposed Oil and Gas Wells, Pipelines, and Facilities: A Landowner's Guide (enerfaqs-</u> landowner.html)
- EnerFAQs: <u>The AER and You: Agreements, Commitments, and Conditions (enerfaqs-aer-and-you.html)</u>
- EnerFAQs: <u>Having Your Say at an AER Hearing (enerfaqs-hearing.html)</u>

#### **Additional Information**

For more information on the AER and its processes or if you wish to speak with your local field centre or have general questions about energy project in the province of Alberta, contact our <u>Customer Contact Centre</u> (....about-the-aer\contact-us.html), Monday to Friday (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at 1-855-297-8311 (toll free).

This document is part of the EnerFAQs series, which explains the AER's regulations and processes as they relate to specific energy issues. Please visit <u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u> to read more of the EnerFAQs series.

To learn more about the AER's role in energy development, watch our *Conversations that Matter* video series on <u>YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/user/ABEnergyRegulator)</u> or on <u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u>. The videos use plain language and animation to transform technical information and present it in a way that is easy to understand.

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Information and data may be downloaded from <u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u> or obtained from the AER's Information Distribution Services (IDS). Find available AER data, reports, and services through the <u>Products and</u> <u>Services Catalogue (http://www1.aer.ca/ProductCatalogue/index.html)</u>.

To place an order for information, please email <u>InformationRequest@aer.ca</u> (mailto:InformationRequest@aer.ca) or phone (403-297-8311). Calgary Head Office Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4 Canada



# Proposed Oil and Gas Wells, Pipelines, and Facilities - EnerFAQ

A Landowner's Guide

Updated January 2020

When oil and gas companies propose development on or near your property, you want to be aware of your rights as a landowner and the options available to you. The EnerFAQs *The AER and You: Agreements, Commitments, and Conditions* should be read with this document.

#### **Questions:**

- What are my rights when a company proposes a development on or near my property?
- What are the company's rights?
- What can I expect the company to do first?
- What kind of arrangements are most common between a landowner and a company?
- What should I expect during the negotiation process?
- What if the company and I can't agree on a site location for the drilling of a well?
- What if my land-use plans change in the future?
- What if all parties agree on the site?
- What can I do to ensure the company abides by the agreement?
- What can I do to ensure the company abides by the agreement?
- What if an agreement on a site can't be reached?
- How much more development will occur if drilling is successful?
- Will it cost me anything to reclaim the site if the well is unsuccessful?
- How do I get more involved?
- <u>Questions you may want to use for discussion between you and a company.</u>

- What resource materials are available if I have more questions?
- Additional Information

#### What are my rights when a company proposes a development on or near my property?

Under Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) requirements and guidelines, a company applying to develop an oil or gas project may be required to provide notification and information about the proposed activities so persons receiving the information can fully understand what is being proposed and what the potential impacts could be. The information a company gives must include details about how and why it chose proposed locations for any wells, pipelines, facilities, or access roads and what to expect in terms of equipment use and operations during the production phase. Public notices of application will be posted on the AER website, and landowners may file a statement of concern to an application.

#### What are the company's rights?

Most land in Alberta carries two titles and two sets of rights.

- A surface title gives the landowner ownership of the land's surface and the right to work it.
- A **mineral** title gives the company or person who owns the minerals under that land the right to explore for oil and gas, in the case of a petroleum and natural gas or oil sands lease.

Sometimes, a title to land will give an owner both the surface and the mineral rights. If a title to the land is split, the mineral owner may need access to the land's surface to drill and produce oil and gas.

Two important conditions apply to the company's right to explore. First, drilling and production activity must be done in a way that is environmentally and technically acceptable. Second, a company must operate in ways that minimize possible interference with the landowner's use of the land.

#### What can I expect the company to do first?

One of the early steps in the well site, facility or pipeline route selection process is a survey. A survey helps a company identify the exact location of the proposed well site, access road, pipeline, or facility and the surface area required. Alberta's *Surveys Act and Surface Rights Act* give the surveyor the right to enter your property for the purpose of surveying. It is common practice—and common courtesy—for a company representative to contact you before surveying. The purpose of the visit will be to advise you of the approximate well and road or pipeline location being proposed.

The company is responsible for the cost of damages caused by the survey.

#### What kind of arrangements are most common between a landowner and a company?

#### **Pipeline Right-of-Way**

The pipeline easement (right-of-way) is an agreement between a landowner and a company in which the landowner receives financial compensation in return for allowing a company to create an easement for pipeline routes. Normally, this pipeline easement (or facility surface agreement) is obtained before the AER approves an application to construct a pipeline or facility—except in cases where a dispute between a landowner and a company exists.

Pipelines link the oil and natural gas industry's "upstream" sector, which produces oil, natural gas, and related products from underground reservoirs and surface facilities, to the "downstream" sector, which handles refining, marketing, and product distribution.

The upstream sector operates gathering or flow lines, which move raw product from remote wells to processing facilities or directly to larger transmission pipelines. Product travels through pipelines under pressure created by compressors and pump stations. Compressors powered by gas engines or electric motors can compress the natural gas in pipelines to up to one hundred times the normal atmospheric pressure.

You will be informed about what kind of pipeline project is being planned on or near your land. Under AER requirements, a company must

- give you a description of the project and tell you how it will affect you,
- ensure that you fully understand the proposed construction schedule and methods to be used,
- make sure you are familiar with the product to be transported by the pipeline or to be handled at the facility, and
- address all concerns about soil handling, site reclamation, and other issues related to the planned pipeline or facility.

Pipeline and facility construction must also meet Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development's environmental protection guidelines. Pipelines typically stay in the ground after abandonment and reclamation.

Again, public notices of application for pipelines will be posted on the AER website, and there will be opportunity to file a statement of concern in response to an application.

#### **Well Site Selection**

#### 12/7/2020

Geologic and seismic data are important in choosing a well site. A company will normally select the location of a well based on the geology of nearby wells or on seismic information. Some of this information may be confidential.

However, a company should give you basic geologic information so that you know what restrictions there may be in choosing a different location for the well. Moving away from the best geological location could increase the risk of drilling a dry hole, a well which has no significant amount of oil or gas, or recovering less oil or gas.

#### What should I expect during the negotiation process?

After a company initiates pre-application consultation and you begin negotiations, various situations could arise. You and the company might agree or disagree about the site of a well and related facilities or the route of a pipeline. If the proposed project is located directly on your land, you may agree or disagree about the compensation you should receive. Landowners receive financial compensation in return for allowing companies to place a well site or pipeline on their land.

Further information related to compensation is available from the Surface Rights Board (SRB) or from your AER field centre. The AER does not deal with compensation issues. Note that the SRB, not the AER, deals with payments for right-of-way, crop loss, and other damages.

Negotiations often result in an agreement that meets the needs of both parties. The AER encourages a negotiated agreement and recommends that all commitments be confirmed in writing. An agreement that meets the needs of both parties can help maintain a good working relationship for the life of the proposed project.

If the operating properties on your land are sold to another company, it is important to any review existing agreements with a representative of the new company.

#### What if the company and I can't agree on a site location for the drilling of a well?

If you are having difficulty agreeing on a site, directional drilling could be a solution. It involves drilling the well diagonally instead of vertically. Sometimes landowners prefer a well location outside of a target area or away from the best geological point. If this is the case, you can ask whether the well can be directionally drilled to the target from a surface location with less impact.

While a directional well may be technically possible in some situations, it increases the cost of drilling and producing the well. The increased costs and benefits of directional drilling must be weighed against the impacts of vertical drilling. You may want to ask the company to estimate the additional costs for a directional well in relation to the value of anticipated production.

Directional drilling technology has improved in recent years. It is now fairly common in some areas to drill several directional wells from the same surface location to reduce surface impacts. This practice is prevalent in areas where well spacing occurs at higher densities than the standard one well per section (gas) or per quarter section (oil).

#### What if my land-use plans change in the future?

Before agreeing to a well site or to a location for a pipeline, facility, or access road, consider how it could affect your current and future land use (see EnerFAQs <u>Setbacks (enerfaqs-setbacks.html</u>). Also, make sure you understand the company's soil handling, lease preparation, and reclamation methods. A company should be considering land surface conditions, current and potential land use, environmental sensitivity, and reclamation. A company will have to apply for a reclamation certificate under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*.

A company must also consider any negative effect of a project on land use and the environment, as well as any associated visual impacts and concerns of persons who may be directly or adversely affected. For example, a location on unproductive land, such as a slough or hillside, may seem like a good choice to you, but the company must consider impacts that could prevent the use of a site, such as environmental impacts, the ability to reclaim the site, and the impact on neighbours.

#### What if all parties agree on the site?

If you and the company agree on the location of a well, facility, pipeline route, or access road, the company then applies to the AER for a licence to proceed with the development. If the application meets all legal and technical requirements, the AER grants the licence.

#### What can I do to ensure the company abides by the agreement?

Private surface agreements between landowners and energy companies operating on their property can now be registered with the AER's new Private Surface Agreements Registry. A landowner that feels a company is not meeting a term or condition of the agreement may ask the AER to determine whether the company has met the term or condition of the agreement. See EnerFAQs: <u>How to Register a Private Surface Agreement (enerfaqs-private-surface-agreement.html)</u> to learn more about registering private surface agreements.

#### What if an agreement on a site can't be reached?

If you and the company cannot agree on the location for a well, facility, pipeline, or access road, a party may ask the AER for its involvement through alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

ADR offers concerned parties a variety of options for managing disputes, including direct negotiation between the parties, AER staff mediation, third-party mediation, and arbitration.

AER staff are available to facilitate discussions between landowners and companies before or early on in the application process. The goal is to identify and promote resolution of concerns before they intensify.

#### Through ADR, the AER might suggest that parties

- attempt negotiations again,
- use AER ADR staff to facilitate, or
- use a neutral third party to mediate.

If these methods fail to produce an agreement, the AER may direct parties to use ADR to resolve outstanding concerns. For more information on ADR, see EnerFAQs <u>All About Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)</u> (<u>enerfaqs-alternative-dispute-resolution.html</u>).

In some cases, the AER may decide that a hearing on an application is appropriate. An AER hearing is a formal proceeding that includes the presentation of evidence and the opportunity to question the positions of others. For more information on AER hearings, see EnerFAQs <u>Having your Say at an AER Hearing (enerfaqs-hearing.html)</u>.

Note that if you continue to object to the company's location on your property a well licence alone does not give a company the right to enter your land. If this is the case, after a company obtains a well licence from the AER, it can apply to the SRB for a right-of-entry order. The order allows representatives of the company to enter your land to perform the tasks approved by the AER. The SRB will then conduct a hearing to determine the compensation to be paid.

#### How much more development will occur if drilling is successful?

If successful drilling leads to production, a wellhead or pump will be required on oil wells and a heater may be necessary for gas wells. Other equipment, such as pressure vessels and tanks, may be placed on the well site where it causes the least interference with farming operations (e.g., between the well and a nearby fence line).

Production facilities such as separators, heaters, and tanks make up what is called a battery. A company must discuss the location and details of production facilities with you and any other land occupants. Some facilities require separate licensing and you have the ability to continue to ask questions about these production facilities and to voice concerns about the construction of production facilities, even if a well site exists.

#### Will it cost me anything to reclaim the site if the well is unsuccessful?

No. If a well turns out to be a dry hole, a company will likely abandon it and must reclaim the site. Before a company gives up the surface lease, it must obtain a reclamation certificate from the AER. This reclamation certificate is issued only after the AER is satisfied that the site has been properly reclaimed. The landowner has the ability to file a request for regulatory appeal in regards to the issuance of a reclamation certificate. There are strict timelines for filing such a request.

#### How do I get more involved?

In many communities, neighbours meet with AER representatives and area oil and gas companies to resolve local issues together. The public is strongly encouraged to participate in these local synergy groups. Synergy groups are in communities all over the province, and each is structured to meet the unique needs of the community and local operators. There is no cookie-cutter approach. Members of such groups have found that they are stronger and better informed together than they may be as individuals. If you would like to join or form a synergy group, contact your nearest AER field centre, as the AER participates in nearly all the synergy groups in Alberta. A list of phone numbers can be found on the AER website <u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u>.

Remember, you have the ability to ask questions at any point in the development process about drilling, pipeline, and production operations that affect you and your neighbours.

Public notices of application will be posted on the AER website, and there is the ability to file a statement of concern in response to an application.

## Questions you may want to use for discussion between you and a company. (Not all questions apply to every proposed project)

#### Proposed energy development

- Is there a community-based group dealing with energy issues in my area?
- What kind of development is being proposed?
- How was the surface location selected?
- How will drilling activities and production affect my land/farming operations?
- What authorizations will the company be seeking from the AER (energy, water, etc.)?

#### Sour gas and emergency response planning

- Will the well encounter hydrogen sulphide (H<sub>2</sub>S) or will the pipeline transport H<sub>2</sub>S?
- What is the company doing to protect public safety?

- What are the details of the emergency response plan?
- Will I be compensated for any damage done during an emergency situation?

#### Setbacks

- What is the setback for the proposed development?
- May I develop my land if it falls within a setback?

#### Flaring, incinerating, and venting

- Will the proposed project involve any flaring or incineration of waste gas?
- if so, when and under what circumstances will flaring or incineration occur?
- What steps has the company taken to eliminate or reduce flaring, incineration, and venting?
- Will the company notify me when servicing work results in flaring or venting?

#### Odours, noise, and traffic

- What can cause odours during drilling and production operations?
- What are the plans to minimize noise levels?
- What type and volume of traffic should I expect at various stages of development?
- How will the company respond to issues or concerns that may arise in day-to-day operations of the facility, and whom may I contact?

#### Environmental issues: soil, water, and visual

- What steps will be taken to ensure protection of the environment and the least amount of impact on it?
- How will the soil quality be protected?
- What are the company's water needs?
- How will the company protect the supply and quality of aquifers and water wells at all stages of exploration and during ongoing operations?
- How will the company reduce potential visual impacts associated with facilities?

#### **Animal health**

- Will my livestock and pets be evacuated if there is an emergency? If not, who will feed and water them?
- Who will monitor the health of my livestock after an emergency, and for how long?

#### What resource materials are available if I have more questions?

Several publications on well, pipeline, and facilities applications are available at the AER. These publications form part of *Directive 056: Energy Development Applications and Schedules (...\..\.regulatingdevelopment\rules-and-directives\directives\directive-056.html)*. In particular, section 2 on participant involvement describes the minimum requirements a company must meet regarding public consultation and notification when making a well, pipeline, or facility application to the AER. Contact the AER directly at 403-297-4369 or by e-mail at <u>Directive56.help@aer.ca (mailto:Directive56.help@aer.ca)</u> with inquiries related to *Directive 056*.

#### **Additional Information**

For more information on the AER and its processes or if you wish to speak with your local field centre or have general questions about oil and gas in Alberta, contact the AER Customer Contact Centre, Monday to Friday (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at 1-855-297-8311 (toll free).

This document is part of the EnerFAQs series, which explains the AER's regulations and processes on specific energy issues. Please visit <u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u> to read more of the EnerFAQs series.

The following agencies provide supplementary information on oil and gas development in Alberta for use by both industry and the general public:

#### The Farmers' Advocate Office

Helps resolve disputes on matters relating to the farming community and provides information on farming community matters.

305, 7000 – 113 Street Edmonton, Alberta T6H 5T6 Phone: 310-3276 (FARM) Fax: 780-427-3913 Website: <u>http://www.farmersadvocate.gov.ab.ca (http://www.farmersadvocate.gov.ab.ca)</u>

#### **Alberta Surface Rights Board**

Provides information on entry or compensation related to oil and gas resource activity on privately-owned or Crown-occupied lands. 

 12/7/2020
 Proposed Oil and Gas Wells, Pipelines, and Facilities - EnerFAQ | Alberta Energy Regulator

 1229 91 Street SW

 Edmonton, Alberta T6X 1E9

 Phone: 780-427-2444 (toll free by first dialing 310-0000)

 Fax: 780-427-5798

 Website: <a href="http://www.surfacerights.gov.ab.ca">http://www.surfacerights.gov.ab.ca</a> (http://www.surfacerights.gov.ab.ca)

#### The Registrar of Land Agents

The registrar may investigate complaints that deal with matters pertaining to the *Land Agents Licensing Act* or the *Land Agents Licensing Regulation*.

Land Agents Licensing 7th Floor, Labour Building 10808 – 99 Avenue Edmonton AB T5K 0G5 Phone: 780-415-4600 (toll free by first dialing 310-0000) Fax: 780-422-7173 http://work.alberta.ca/labour/land-agents-licensing.html (http://work.alberta.ca/labour/land-agentslicensing.html)

Every year the AER collects, compiles, and publishes a large amount of technical data and information about Alberta's energy development and resources for use by both industry and the general public. This includes raw data, statistics, hearing materials, and information on regulations, policies, and decisions.

Publications may be obtained from the Information Distribution Services (IDS). Publications may also be downloaded free of charge from the AER website (<u>www.aer.ca (http://www.aer.ca)</u>).

For a copy of a specific publication, contact IDS by phone (403-297-8311), fax (403-297-7336), or e-mail (<u>InformationRequest@aer.ca (mailto:InformationRequest@aer.ca)</u>

Subject: Grassy Mountain proposal and cumulative effects due to a NOVA/TC Energy proposal

Dear IAAC and Ms. Arruda (AER),

A Dec. 9, 2020 *Shootin' the Breeze* newspaper posting described within the attached letter to the AER alerted my wife and me to the potential for colossal additional industrial activity to occur within the greater Grassy Mountain/Livingstone Range landscape, i.e., within an area of concern that is currently being assessed by the federal/provincial Joint Review Panel's review of the proposed Grassy Mountain Coal Project.

Ms. Aruda, it would be greatly appreciated if you, in addition to adding this submission to the AER's Grassy Mountain file, would also forward the attached letter to the appropriate AER channel for the PUBLIC NOTICE-described pipeline project, and apprise me of doing this. I ask this because of the phenomenally complex format through which this action—the sending of a letter—appears achievable. (Neither my wife nor I wish to be participants in the pipeline hearing, but we do wish to have our comments—as defined in the letter—noted formally.)

The following is a letter my wife (Monica Field) and I (David McIntyre) wish to formally submit to the AER in response to a newspaper ad (PUBLIC NOTICE) entitled: **NOVA Gas Transmission LTD. West Path Delivery 2023 Project** 

Our letter in response to the described PUBLIC NOTICE:

My wife (Monica Field) and I (David McIntyre) are writing in response to a full-page AER PUBLIC NOTICE that appeared in the Dec. 9th edition of *Shootin' The Breeze*, a weekly newspaper.

Our primary concerns address the PUBLIC NOTICE-identified proposal to construct a pipeline near our home, a pipeline that, more than seven kilometers in length, traverses the Livingstone Range and crosses two creeks, each home to already threatened populations of native trout.

The ad, while large in size, was abysmal in conveying what we would imagine to be, logically, its defining intent: informing readers of proposed pipeline projects in a timely and meaningful way. Instead, the industry-identified name for the projects (NOVA Gas Transmission LTD. West Path Delivery 2023 Project) was used as the title and project identifier, and the project's specific locations appeared as a tertiary listing with no identifying detail. The text presented the vision that participation in a hearing was the primary AER message, while the issue of *why* such a hearing was being scheduled was of little consequence. Worse, the details defining the proposed project, seemingly three projects rolled into one, were sufficiently vague that readers, lacking supplemental information, could never be expected to grasp, nor envision, the full magnitude of the projected work.

The ad's appearance, on Dec. 9th, occurred two weeks *after* the stated opening date for concerned residents to respond, and during a time of pre-Christmas chaos and public turmoil surrounding the covid-19 pandemic. The stated closing date for registration: 4 pm, Dec. 30, 2020.

We began making phone calls as soon as we saw the ad. Using the ad's website to gain further insight, our first call was to the number provided there. No one was available to answer the call (on a Thursday), but a recording informed us that our call would be answered within two business days. This hasn't happened. We're writing on Tuesday, Dec. 15th, doing this without having received the the AER-promised phone call.

Calls to the MD of Pincher Creek provided us with no additional information, other than the MD's awareness that the project, with no defining detail, had been posted on the MD website.

Calls to neighbors revealed that none of the people contacted had any awareness whatsoever of the proposed work ... *until* I contacted one neighbor who informed me that she and her husband, with land on the eastern flanks of the Livingstone Range, had been contacted and asked by NOVA/TC Energy if their land could be used as a work camp for the stated project. It was this phone call that, only then, alerted us to the vision that a huge work camp (seemingly 600 workers in size) was projected to be constructed on our virtual doorstep,

The proposed component of the project that most concerns us is the newspaper-identified "WAS Mainline Loop No. 2 Lundbreck Section." This section of the proposed pipeline,

reported to be 7.4 km in length, appears to extend from somewhere near the Frank Slide, through the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, through a portion of the MD of Ranchland in a traverse of the Livingstone Range, and proceed eastward into the MD of Pincher Creek.

Access to much of the projected work—and perhaps the work camp itself?—is, seemingly, via the North Burmis Rd. and/or the Chapel Rock Rd. and/or the Willow Valley Rd. All of these roads are gravel roads.

Recently, the back and forth activity of two dump trucks moving north and south between Highway 3 and, seemingly, the existing NOVA/TC Energy pipeline near our home, filled the Rock Creek valley with two days of daylong dust during what would appear to be limited work within this same area. Visibility was impaired throughout this period, and dust covered homes and vehicles, particularly those on the east side of the North Burmis Rd. where we live.

#### Concerns surrounding the projected WAS Mainline Loop No. 2 Lundbreck Section:

- 1. Dust, mud, traffic congestion, and mayhem along one or more of the following access roads: North Burmis Rd. and/or the Chapel Rock Rd. and/or the Willow Valley Rd. Daily and/or semi-permanent dust control is deemed essential if the project proceeds. Traffic regulation and other safety measures may also be required. If the projected work requires housing and/or the back and forth movement of a 600-member workforce, it would, in essence, be the equivalent of creating a community of this size on a landscape existing residents value most-according to a recent MD of Pincher Creek's visitor survey—for its peace, tranquility, vistas, and environmental virtues. The proposed project presents a direct affront to these values. It's essential, if the project proceeds, that extreme measures are undertaken to ensure safety and to minimize dust, mud, traffic congestion and industrial noise. Several years ago, the MD of Pincher Creek, unaware of what it was doing to inconvenience and disrupt the lives of residents living along and/or using the North Burmis Rd., embarked on what was deemed—by the MD chaos. The road, our lifeline to essential employment, goods and services, was often impassible. Traffic delays were a daily hurdle. Most residents impacted by the resultant chaos were unaware of the project prior to its under-construction impact on their lives. It would appear that the NOVA/TC Energy project described herein is, similarly, preceding without public awareness, the full awareness of the MD of Pincher Creek, and perhaps without the awareness of the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass and the MD of Ranchland. It's imperative that the described situation be rectified. Supporting the need for atypical project control measures is this: The MD of Pincher Creek, in a 2012 survey of its residents' values, asked them what they valued most about living where they do. The 60-page report revealed that protecting the natural environment, maintaining natural wildlife and fish populations, and setting aside land in an undisturbed state for habitat protection were among residents' greatest values. "Beautiful scenery" was identified as the best thing about living in the MD. Among the residents' lauded social virtues: "quality of life" and "peace and quiet."
- 2. Protection of already threatened populations of pure-strain westslope cutthroat trout in Gold Creek and Rock Creek. The proposed project crosses both of the named creeks, each is one of only several dozen of this province's remaining streams harboring these native, already-at-risk trout. Rock Creek, its headwaters framed within forests of *endangered* limber pines and whitebark pines, is a refuge for already-*threatened*, pure-strain westslope cutthroat trout. My wife and I live within a stone's throw of the creek.

Our concerns: fish-suffocating sedimentation, airborne toxins, reduced summer stream flows, elevated summer stream temperatures, and the combined impacts of all of the preceding on today's existing, already-at-risk, on-the-brink native trout. Rock Creek, more than Gold Creek, is deemed most at risk of having its critical habitat negatively impacted by the proposed pipeline project. Why? The existing pipeline route—and a staggering 30 km of ongoing AltaLink-created access disturbances—cuts through the headwaters of Rock Creek. The existing NOVA/TC Energy pipeline traverses this creek and parallels the stream to the North Burmis Rd., where dust is already a problem as it. settling downwind from existing road traffic, enters the creek and, carpeting snow, causes the winter snowpack to melt much earlier than normal. This robs the stream of critical mid-summer and fall moisture. We've observed windrows of dirt originating from the North Burmis Rd. forming approximately-and amazingly!-1600 meters east of the road. It's our belief that the trout population in Rock Creek has—during the three decades that we've been walking the creek and observing it on a near-daily basisundergone a steady state of fisheries decline, and that, at variance with the recent past, when trout were conspicuous, very few trout exist in the creek downstream from our home. Stream-bed road dust isn't the only hurdle faced by Rock Creek's cutthroat trout and the need to maintain critical habitat, but we suggest it's almost certain to be the leading cause of stream-bed sedimentation. The southernmost half of Rock Creek—this portion of the creek flows southeast to its confluence with the Crowsnest River—lies east, i.e., downwind, of the North Burmis Rd. Earlier this year, before snow covered the land and added moisture to the roadbed, we've had dozens of occasions to look south along the north-south trending southern portion of the North Burmis Rd. from the crest of a ridge located two km east of our on-the-creek home. What we've seen, deeply disturbing, was this: Each vehicle traversing the road generated dense, smoke-like plumes of dust that, spread by westerly winds, moved eastward over the forest bordering Rock Creek. From our lofty vantage point, we could see thick clouds of dust drifting hundreds of meters to the east before dissipating, i.e., settling along Rock Creek. A check with the MD of Pincher Creek revealed that ongoing maintenance of dirt roads in the MD requires the addition of as much as 150 cubic meters of new surfacing material per mile each year to maintain the road-bed. It would likely prove to be a mathematical nightmare to compute, from the preceding, how much of the road-surfacing material "disappears" as windblown and waterborne sediment, but, the picture—and we have pictures—reveals wholesale downwind dust movement and creates a vision of its colossal impact on stream-bed sedimentation. It's staggering to visualize this: an estimated 7,500 cubic meters of fill have been added to the southernmost five miles (eight km) of the North Burmis Rd. during the past ten years. All of this fill has, seemingly, disappeared from the road and been transported into the Rock Creek valley by the action of wind and water. (This is the portion of the road that lies to the west (upwind) of Rock Creek after the primary tributaries of the creek, flowing east, cross the named road and, east of the road, flow to the south, paralleling the road.) What percentage of this fill is now in Rock Creek and/or the Crowsnest River? Another dustrelated concern/consideration is that dust particles on snow absorb heat, and this causes the snow to melt prematurely. We've photographed "black" snow during recent winters as we've hiked and snowshoed along Rock Creek, and an examination of snow drifts on this same landscape reveals layered bands of dirt sandwiched between layers that are less densely packed with grit. Whatever the measured effect of this "black" snow might prove to be, it's certain to cause the snow to melt earlier than "usual," thus contributing to an atypically early spring snow melt, i.e., melting that would exceed the impact of climate-change modeling alone. Spring runoff has, historically, occurred here in early

June. Our observations of Rock Creek's streamflow during the last decade suggest that mid-April might be the new-normal. What part of the new-normal is needlessly generated by dirty snow? We're not suggesting that the southern end of the North Burmis Rd. be paved, nor do we want this. What we want—we see the following as a reasonable and appropriate request—is for the situation to be reviewed and addressed in a way that solves the described and pictured problem. Also, we suggest that fisheries biologists look farther afield to see where else similar problems exist, and where corrective action can be undertaken. Rock Creek's status as critical habitat and home to a threatened population of pure-strain westslope cutthroats, and the creek's potential to regain, throughout it's length, the reestablishment of its former health, puts the stream on the provincial and federal radar, and sets the stage for it to be treated as a high-end benchmark from which other streams can benefit in down-the-road restoration endeavors.

- 3. **Protection from further invasive weed problems**. Weeds along the existing NOVA/TC Energy pipeline right-of-way are already a problem. Blueweed and spotted knapweed are perhaps the two most problematic—read "rangeland degrading"—of the weeds invading the pipeline right-of-way. The current weed problem along the right-of-way indicates that control measures are inadequate. What's clear is this: Pipelines propagate weeds and weed problems, and that more intensive, never-ending control measures are required.
- 4. Protection of limber pines and whitebark pines. The two named pine species are each listed as endangered. Both species occur within the existing, and proposed, pipeline route. There, limber pines are far more prevalent than whitebark pines, which exist eastward to the eastern edge of their Alberta range along the higher eastern flanks of the Livingstone Range. Limber pines, appear throughout the proposed pipeline route, and are much more numerous than whitebark pines along this portion of the existing pipeline. Limber pines, unlike whitebark pines, also appear farther east along the existing pipeline and, in this area east of the Livingstone Range, extend eastward, roughly speaking, to Highway 22. NOVA/TC Energy knows well the vagaries of the region's legendary—hurricane-force—winds. The company, for approximately three decades, has been trying to reclaim and revegetate a portion of its twinned pipeline approximately 10 km north of our home. NOVA/TC Energy has invested heavily in this since, we believe, 1991, and yet its efforts, ongoing, appear to have failed. Within recent years, the company, a contractor, or other available workforce has, as a part of the ongoing reclamation effort, excavated dozens of ancient, endangered, *living* limber pines ... and then transported these trees, dead, to the pipeline route—we can provide pictures—where they, along with rebar, are being used in an attempt to stabilize the fill above the pipeline and propagate vegetative growth. There are probably far more costly failed reclamation efforts on this Oldman headwaters landscape, but there may be no finer land-defining example of how a rare and endangered species has been killed for no reason other than the envisioned use of its stark, lifeless remains as windbreaks and soil anchors. Clearly, NOVA/TC Energy needs to alter its work practices to save—not kill already endangered species such as limber and whitebark pines.
- 5. **Reclamation of the existing right-of-way, and of new disturbances.** NOVA/TC Energy's noted (above) failure to reclaim a portion of its existing pipeline reveals the company's current inability to reclaim some of its work on this harsh, wind-whipped landscape where hurricane-force winds are common. Effective reclamation strategies are required, and if they're not achievable, new formats for pipeline construction must be employed.
- 6. Protection of other at-risk species. The land traversed by the proposed pipeline is

home to many at-risk species in addition to those we've named. Grizzly bears roam and den here, and the land provides critical winter range for deer, elk, moose, and bighorn sheep. The world's greatest concentration of migrating golden eagles soars along the crest of the Livingstone Range, and more than 1,000 of these majestic raptors have been counted here in a single day. Thousands of additional raptors and thousands of additional avian migrants fly the crest of this same knife-edged mountain range. The world's concerned community of scientists, outdoor enthusiasts, and bird watchers, is watching Alberta and this province's—and industries'—ability to conduct business on the world stage.

7. **Protection from inappropriate OHV use of the pipeline right-of-way**. The existing NOVA/TC Energy pipeline's crossing of the Livingstone Range created a dirty "highway" of sorts for off-road abuses. Dirt bikers and other OHV users, via an extensive network of unsanctioned off-road roads, use the pipeline to cross the Livingstone Range, and to traverse portions of it. Some dirt bikers have posted videos of themselves riding the crest of the range. NOVA/TC Energy, to address its role in this off-road abuse, needs to create, along its pipeline right-of-way, barriers that prevent this damaging erosional and wildlife-disturbing activity. Protection is also needed to ensure the safeguarding of the 5,000 year-old chert quarries and the wealth of other archaeological features located in close proximity to the pipeline right-of-way.

We provide the preceding as an abbreviated summary-assessment of our concerns and requests for action. The late issuance of a PUBLIC NOTICE, its vague description of the project, and its stipulated Dec. 30th deadline for public feedback negate our ability to devote further effort and thought to the issue at this time. Additionally, and within this same picture, it's our firm belief that the public at large remains unaware of the proposed project and its potential to impact lives and access to a treasured public landscape.

What the AER and NOVA/TC Energy can expect as an outcome of the preceding is that the feedback you receive as a result of the Dec. 14th newspaper ad—delivered during a stressful pandemic and during a pre-Christmas window—can be expected to represent only an infinitesimally small fraction of the feedback you would have received had the announcement been made in a timely way and during a less stressful time. What you can expect is that virtually no one will be aware of what's proposed until—*unless the current picture is altered*—construction starts.

We ask that you treat this message as a plea for meaningful and responsible action from the project proponent and the AER.

Please review our expressed concerns and requests for action as a snapshot of what, under appropriate public awareness, public input *would have been* had the project been exposed to Albertans effectively and in a timely way.

Sincerely,

Monica Field and David McIntyre

**David McIntyre** 

phone:



#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES November 12, 2020; 6:00 pm ORRSC Conference Room (3105 - 16 Avenue North, Lethbridge)

The Executive Committee Meeting of the Oldman River Regional Services Commission was held on Thursday, November 12, 2020, at 6:00 pm, in the Conference Room of the ORRSC Administration Building, as well as virtually via Go To Meeting.

#### Attendance:

**Executive Committee:** 

Staff:

Lenze Kuiper, Director Tara Cryderman, Executive Assistant

Gordon Wolstenholme, Chairman Jim Bester, Vice Chair Don Anderberg, Virtually Jennifer Crowson, Virtually Doug MacPherson, Virtually Margaret Plumtree, Virtually Ian Sundquist, Virtually

Chairman Wolstenholme called the meeting to order, the time being 6:15 pm.

#### 1. Approval of Agenda

#### Moved by: Jim Bester

THAT the Executive Committee approve the November 12, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting Agenda, as presented.

CARRIED

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

#### Moved by: Doug MacPherson

THAT the Executive Committee approve the October 8, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, as presented.

CARRIED

#### 3. Business Arising from the Minutes

None

#### 4. New Business

#### a. Draft 2021 Budget

At the October meeting, the Executive Committee requested further information from Administration regarding Fleet Management and Computer Software.

With regards to Fleet Management, it was determined that owning a fleet is more economical and efficient than paying mileage for using a personal vehicle. There is an estimated \$12,000 - \$13,000 savings per year in maintaining a fleet versus paying mileage. This also benefits the employees, as there is no additional expense of increased insurance on personal vehicles. To keep the cost savings in place, the future purchase of vehicles will be as efficient and economical as possible.

With regards to Computer Software, there is no real cost savings to switch software programs, and the most efficient practice is to stay with the current software. The budgeted projection for software was discussed. There will be a cost savings in the near future, when the GIS platform is fully transferred to the new program. Currently, while municipalities are familiarizing themselves with the new program, the previous platform is still functioning, thus the monthly double charge. Once all municipalities are comfortable and utilizing the new platform, the previous platform will be deleted.

Director Lenze Kuiper spoke to the proposed 2021 Draft Budget, and that is was the hardest budget he's ever had to prepare.

Two budgets were presented; one with a 1% fee increase, the other with a 5% fee increase. Currently, both proposals show a deficit.

The following was mentioned:

- The County of Newell and the Town of Coaldale have removed themselves from the membership
- The annual allocations to Reserve Funds will not occur in 2021
- The Town of Innisfail no longer receives GIS Services, however, the Town of Coaldale will still receive GIS Services, at an increased fee, as they no longer receive the membership subsidization
- There is no salary increase projected for 2021, as well as the reduction of 2 FTE positions, which will not be filled
- Renovations will not occur in 2021
- The Fixed Assets expenses could be removed from the budget and, should these items be necessary in 2021, Reserves could be utilized to cover the costs

There was a question regarding the increase to the pension contributions. There is a forecasted increase to LAPP of 1%.

There was a question regarding the dollar variance for the Permanent Employee amount.

Two vacant positions will not be filled, however, this amount is a combination of several factors.

ACTION: Further explanation of this dollar variance was requested.

Additional revenue sources include the possibility of engaging GIS Services with a couple municipalities, as well as an application to the Community Partnering Grant.

ACTION: The consensus from the Committee was to prepare a budget with a 2% increase to fees, and to cut expenses where possible, and present the adjusted budget to the Committee at a Special Committee Meeting.

Assessment Review Board services were discussed. While this is a valuable service to the municipalities, it is not a revenue generating service. This service is not a planning nor a land use service. The issue is the amount of training required, and the constant turnover of trained individuals, both at ORRSC and at the municipality. Also, the recent change to only allow one Councillor to sit on the ARB board, increases the difficulty. Whether or not to continue to provide this service was discussed. The increase to the fee for this service, to accurately reflect the true cost was mentioned. The restrictions seem to be a Red Tape Issue - perhaps the municipalities need to lobby the Red Tape Reduction Minister, and the Alberta Government, and bring this to their attention. The capping of Complaint Fees, the limitation of Councillors on the board, the cost of training, the seasonal nature of this service and the inability of smaller municipalities to provide this service to their residents are all significant red tape restrictions.

<u>ACTION: Administration was directed to prepare a separate business plan and budget</u> for the ARB services for further consideration.

#### Moved by: Don Anderberg

THAT Administration amend the Draft 2021 Budget as discussed and directed, and that a Special Executive Committee meeting be scheduled for continued discussion of the 2021 Budget.

#### CARRIED

The 2021 Membership Fees, at the proposed 1% and 5% increase were discussed.

Regardless of the increase, justification will be needed to explain the increase.

The monetary increase is not as significant as the percentage increase. These rates are an indication of how well the municipality is doing as a community. If the equalized assessment is increasing, the community is typically growing, taxes are typically increasing, and the community is typically utilizing the services of ORRSC more.

ACTION: Add a column showing the Equalized Assessment from 2019, which will showcase the difference between 2019 and 2020.

#### b. Subdivision Activity 2020

The subdivision activities for October 2020 were reviewed.

There has been a total of \$200,702.50 in Subdivision Fees collected. This is almost a \$45,000 decrease from this time last year.

There are also 18 less subdivision applications than this time last year.

#### c. Fee For Service

The Fees for Service are virtually unchanged from those reported from last month.

#### d. Town of Coaldale

As of January 1, 2020, the Town of Coaldale will no longer be a member of ORRSC.

The transitional plan was explained.

#### e. Annual Organizational Board of Directors Meeting

The Annual Organizational Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2020.

#### Moved by: Doug MacPherson

THAT the Annual Organizational Board of Directors Meeting be postponed until Thursday, January 7, 2021, at 7:00 pm, and that this meeting be held virtually.

#### CARRIED

#### 5. Accounts

#### a. Office Accounts

#### i. Monthly Office Accounts, September 2020

#### Moved by: Don Anderberg

THAT the Executive Committee approve the Office Accounts for October 2020, for the amount of \$17,876.76.

CARRIED

#### ii. Payments and Credits for August 2020

#### Moved by: Jim Bester

THAT the Executive Committee approve the Payments and Credits for August 2020.

# (i) Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2020 Moved by: Jennifer Crowson THAT the Executive Committee approve the Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2020. CARRIED (ii) Comparative Income Statement - Actual to September 30, 2020 Moved by: Ian Sundquist THAT the Executive Committee approve the Comparative Income Statement - Actual to September 30, 2020. CARRIED CARRIED

#### (iii) Consolidated Statement - Statement Date September 30, 2020

#### Moved by: Doug MacPherson

THAT the Executive Committee approve the Consolidated Statement - Statement Date September 30, 2020.

#### CARRIED

#### 6. Director's Report

The Director provided an update on his activities since the last Executive Committee Meeting:

- Assessment Review Board Hearings are being finalized
- Some planners are attending Council meetings in person, some virtually
- If a Council meeting is cancelled, please let the planner know

#### 7. Executive Report

Members of the Executive Committee provided updates on their activities, and information regarding their Municipalities:

Doug MacPherson:

- The daycare is scheduled for completion in December 2020
- The Town Office is scheduled for completion in February 2021

Margaret Plumtree:

- Covid, and its restrictions, are challenging the municipality
- The arena will be closed for 2 weeks, following the new restrictions announced today

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#### b. Financial Statements

#### CARRIED

Don Anderberg:

- Finalizing the Area Structure Plan for the NE Industrial Area; the Public Hearing is scheduled for December
- Increase in business interest in the area
- Over 400 business licenses have been issued for 2020, which is an increase from 2019
- The real estate market seems to be favourable
- Currently have 4 cases of Covid

lan Sundquist:

- Solar panel project is generating jobs in the area
- 3 new businesses are starting at the airport

Jennifer Crowson:

- Budget deliberations have begun
- Covid, and its restrictions, are challenging the municipality

Jim Bester:

• Covid, and its restrictions, are challenging the municipality

Gordon Wolstenholme:

Construction on the pool continues

#### 8. Adjournment

Following all discussions, Chair Gordon Wolstenholme adjourned the meeting, the time being 7:35 pm.

CHAIR: MA WALL



December 2, 2020

His Worship Brian Hammond Reeve of Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 Box 279 037 Herron Avenue Pincher Creek, AB T0K IW0

#### Re: Thank You and Update Regarding Emergency Dispatch Services Support

Dear Reeve Hammond: Bran

The Cities of Red Deer, Lethbridge, Calgary and the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo have been advocating to the Minister of Health to keep ambulance dispatch regional. As part of our efforts, we shared your letter of support with the Minister of Health, as it was essential for him to see how many communities have concerns with the Government intent to consolidate ambulance dispatch. We would like to thank you for your public support.

Your support on ambulance dispatch provides evidence that Alberta Health Services needs to engage with municipalities before any change occurs to emergency dispatch services. We are continuing to advocate for our regional ambulance dispatch services, and are now appealing to the Premier to overturn the decision by Alberta Health Services.

We appreciate your support on this critical matter. If you would like to discuss further, we invite you to contact the Office of Mayor Tara Veer at 403.342.8154.

Sincerely, r, City of Red Deer

Chris Spear

Chris Spearman Mayor, City of Lethbridge

Don Scott Mayor, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

Naheed Nenshi Mayor, City of Calgary

cc Chris Spearman, Mayor of Lethbridge

Page 2 Reeve Hammond

Naheed Nenshi, Mayor of Calgary Don Scott, Mayor of Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Red Deer City Council Allan Seabrooke, Red Deer City Manager Steven Ellingson, Red Deer Intergovernmental Strategist



1037 Herron Ave. PO Box 279 Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0 p. 403.627.3130 f. 403.627.5070 <u>info@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca</u> www.mdpinchercreek.ab.ca

December 21, 2020

Roger Reid, MLA P.O. Box 3353 Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0

Dear MLA Reid,

We wanted to express our thanks to you and Ms. Heather Von Hauff for meeting with our Council on November 20, 2020. Following the presentation, MD Council took the opportunity to discuss the potential impact on our area should Regulation 319/2003-109/2010 be revoked. We feel there are inherent risks to water security in the MD if the order is changed to allow large-scale industry to access the reserve.

MD Council therefore believes the Alberta Government should not change the Oldman Reserve Allocation Order for the following reasons:

- Risk to the water supply of existing leaseholders
- Risk of contamination to the water supply of existing leaseholders
- Risk to water availability for future municipal growth
- Risk water supply for downstream neighbors (50 % flow to Saskatchewan)
- Risk to the already stressed integrity of the Oldman Watershed health
- The lack of empirical data on headwaters flow rates
- Lack of fairness to existing leaseholders who acquired water allocations at significant cost vs reserve allocations given at nominal administration fees.
- Environmental impact on the area that supplies 90% of Oldman Basin water

Our primary concern with any change in the Reserve Order is the impact that such a change would bring to the most environmentally fragile part of the watershed, critical to downstream water quality and quantity. Existing in-stream objectives are often not satisfied. Increased demand on in-stream flow will only serve to further degrade quality and quantity, potentially creating irreversible changes to the source waters of the Oldman Basin.

"We can survive for 3 minutes without air, 3 days without water, and 3 weeks without food. We can survive without just about everything else. Our communities were founded at or near water. It is central to their existence. If you don't have enough water to feed your community, it can't grow or even sustain itself. Quality of water is equally critical to our success. People expect good quality water. We often take for granted that our water will be safe and clean, but it takes only a situation like this to remind us of what can happen when we aren't vigilant." 13 Ways to Kill your Community– Doug Griffiths

In closing, our council looks forward to the engagement of stakeholders, other municipalities and Provincial Departments as this process moves towards a broader public consultation. Please contact our office to ensure Council and our residents can continue to be involved in this process.

Respectfully,

C.Hammond

Reeve Brian Hammond

cc:

Minister of Energy Minister of Environment Minister of Municipal Affairs MD of Ranchland No. 66 Municipality of Crowsnest Pass Town of Pincher Creek Village of Cowley