

Electricity

PETROCHEMICALS

NATURAL GAS

COAL & MINERALS

2001-2002 Annual Report - Highlights

- In response to landowner concerns about oil and gas development, the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB) formed the Public Safety Implementation Team in January 2001. Work began on 49 of the team's 87 recommendations and 14 were completed.
- Board staff facilitated 161 landowner-industry disputes, completing 115, of which 98 were fully resolved (an 85 per cent success rate).
- The EUB's Appropriate Dispute Resolution program handled 30 disputes, which employs third-party mediators to further encourage resolution of disputes between parties. Of these, 23 were completed, with 19 resolved (82 per cent).
- Received 27,688 facilities license applications in 2001-02.
- The EUB held 49 public hearings and 10 pre-hearings in 2001-02. Of the 49 hearings, 25 addressed utility issues and 24 addressed energy matters. The Board also conducted 88 written proceedings.
- Energy hearings mainly concerned well licenses, pipeline permits, gas plants, and building and modifying oil and gas facilities.
- Utility proceedings considered matters such as electricity-generating facilities, rates, tariffs, legislated requirements related to restructuring of the electricity industry and complaints.
- The EUB published 128 decisions in 2001-02. Of these, 107 were utilities matters, including 23 refilings and four review and variance decisions. The remaining 21 were energy issues.
- The EUB maintained its role in approving the Regulated Rate Option (RRO) for residential, farm, irrigation and small commercial customers that do not select an electricity retailer.

Major hearings and decisions for 2001 - 2002

May 29, 2001 – The EUB approved the sale of the Westlock and Lloydminster assets but denied the sale of the Viking and Beaverhill Lake/Fort Saskatchewan properties, after it was determined the sale could result in harm to ATCO customers.

July 24, 2001 – This pre-hearing was held for the pending joint EUB/Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) hearing over an application by Glacier Power Ltd. to build and operate the Dunvegan Hydroelectric Project, an 80-megawatt facility on the Peace River.

October 30, 2001 – The EUB issued a decision addressing methodologies used by natural gas utility companies to manage their gas supply and set Gas Cost Recovery Rates (GCRR). The decision also addressed several issues concerning unbundling gas rates into the various utility service functions.

December 11, 2001 – After ATCO negotiated a new deal with the prospective buyer for its Viking natural gas properties, then secured approval from the intervenors who had originally opposed the sale, the EUB approved the restructured sale.

December 11, 2001 – Following a 17-day public hearing featuring substantial public involvement, the Board approved an application by AES Calgary ULC's to build and operate a 525-megawatt natural gas-fired power plant approximately 1.6 kilometres east of Calgary's city limits.

December 21, 2001 – The Board approved an application by EPCOR Generation Inc. and EPCOR Power Development Corporation for a 490-megawatt expansion to its Genesee coal-fired power plant located approximately 80 kilometres west of Edmonton.

February 12, 2002 – The Board approved TransAlta's application to construct and operate two 450-megawatt generating units at its existing Keephills coal-fired power plant located about 70 km west of Edmonton.

February 21, 2002 – The Board approved ATCO Gas North's application to distribute proceeds from the sale of its Viking assets in lump-sum payments to customers.