

May 24, 2005

Alberta Energy and Utilities Board
640 - 5th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, AB T2P 3G4



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Via E-Mail

Attention: Gary D. Perkins

Dear Sir:

ALBERTA ENERGY AND UTILITIES BOARD (EUB/BOARD)
BITUMEN CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS
PHASE 3 FINAL PROCEEDING



Thank you for your letter dated May 20, 2005 wherein the Board sought the views of interested parties with respect to the scheduling of evidence and witnesses at the upcoming proceeding.

While the Staff Submission Group (SSG) recognizes that a number of parties are in the position of "applicant" as described in EUB Decision 2004-088, the SSG is prepared to present its evidence first as it did in the interim proceedings.

Further, and as noted previously in its letter to the Board dated March 24, 2005, one of the SSG's witnesses is not available after July 16, 2005. As the SSG's evidence was collectively prepared by its members, it is important that all of its members are present when providing oral evidence. By going first, the SSG can ensure that its evidence is placed on the record prior to the absence of one of its key witnesses.

Finally, the SSG repeats its offer to sit on some Saturdays should timing require such an approach.

Please feel free to contact me should there be any questions or concerns with regard to the above.

Yours truly,

Original Signed by JP Mousseau

JP Mousseau
Counsel to the SSG

Copy: Interested Parties (Via E-Mail)