



**NEXEN CANADA LTD.**  
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September 7, 2004

Alberta Energy and Utilities Board  
640 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2P 3G4

ATTENTION: Gary Perkins, Board Counsel

Dear Mr. Perkins:

**RE: Pre-hearing Meeting / Proceeding No. 1347905**

Pursuant to the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board Notice of Pre-Hearing Meeting, Nexen Canada Ltd. ("Nexen") hereby indicates our intention to participate in the pre-hearing meeting on September 15, 2004.

As the Board is aware, Nexen has been and continues to be active in the development and acquisition of oil sands properties in the Athabasca Oil Sands Area. The outcome of the final hearing is of importance to Nexen's current oil sands project and ongoing development strategy. Accordingly, Nexen intends to actively participate in the hearing process to support the shut in of those wells recommended for shut in by Nexen and the SSG in the Interim Hearing (Decision 2004-045) and to seek an examination of Wabiskaw D shale as an alleged barrier to vertical communication. In light of the fact that four major hearings have been held by the EUB to consider the conservation of bitumen, to the extent that a party intends to challenge a previous decision, Nexen submits that such submissions should be based on new field evidence.

Communications relating to the Pre-Hearing Meeting should be directed to:

Ms. Shannon Young  
Counsel, Regulatory  
Nexen Canada Ltd.  
801 – 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2P 3P7

Mr. Randall Block  
Borden Ladner Gervais  
1000 Canterra Tower  
400 Third Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2P 4H2

Yours truly,

**NEXEN CANADA LTD.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "SE Young".

Shannon E. Young  
Counsel, Regulatory

cc: Doug Larder, SSG Counsel, EUB