

ACROSS THE BOARD

ERCB CONDUCTING WEB SURVEY

The ERCB is currently conducting a quick online survey on the content of ERCB.ca and its usability. We want to ensure that our Web site continues to be a valuable tool for our users.

We are looking for feedback on how we are currently doing and what we could be doing better. This survey is running from October 27 to December 11.

There will be prizes!

A link to the survey can be found on our homepage at www.ercb.ca.

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ABOUT THE ERCB

The Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB) is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the Government of Alberta. We regulate the safe, responsible, and efficient development of Alberta's energy resources: oil, natural gas, oil sands, coal, and pipelines.

October 2008

ERCB welcomes new COO

Trevor Dark is "honoured" to be working at the ERCB



Early on in life, Trevor Dark had a feeling he would end up in public service. That he'd become the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the ERCB was far from apparent then, but that is where his career has led him today.

"I am very honoured to be at the ERCB, to be working with such a respected and effective regulatory agency, with competent and committed staff," said Dark, who started as COO of the ERCB on October 14. "[ERCB] Chairman Dan McFadyen wants to spend more time on strategic direction with the Board, and my responsibilities

will be oversight for the operations side of the ERCB."

Dark was born in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, where he lived until grade nine when he moved with his family to Regina. After high school, he studied economics at the University of Saskatchewan, where he received his bachelor's degree. He went on to get his Master's in Economics from McMaster University in Hamilton.

Dark, whose father worked for the Saskatchewan government, began his career in public service in Ottawa working for the federal government.

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RECENT ERCB PUBLICATIONS

DIRECTIVE

October 1: *Directive 024: Large Facility Liability Management Program*

DECISIONS

October 21: Decision 2008-093: Standard Energy Inc. Application for a Multiwell Licence Grande Prairie Field (Application No. 1543589)

October 14: Decision 2008-096: Anderson Energy Ltd. Application for a Pipeline Licence Sylvan Lake Field (Application No. 1561299)

October 7: Decision 2008-094: Paramount Energy Operating Corp. Complaint Respecting ERCB Enforcement Action ERCB Invoice No. 90012335

September 30: Decision 2008-089: Quicksilver Resources Canada Inc., Applications for CBM Well and Pipeline Licences, Ghost Pine Field

September 30: Decision 2008-088: Highpine Energy Ltd., Applications for Six Well Licences, Pembina Field

BULLETINS

October 16: Bulletin 2008-40: Proposed Enhanced Production Audit Program

October 1: Bulletin 2008-39: Changes to the Digital Data Submission System

October 1: Bulletin 2008-38: Revised *Draft Directive 031: Guidelines for Energy Proceeding Cost Claims* available on ERCB Web site for Stakeholder Comment

October 1: Bulletin 2008-37: Revised Edition of *Directive 024: Large Facility Liability Management Program* Issued

NEWS RELEASES

October 18: NR 2008-28: ERCB named one of Alberta's best workplaces

October 7: NR 2008-27: ERCB Completes Shell Pipeline Incident Investigation Report

October 3: NR 2008-26: ERCB on scene at sweet gas well blowout on CFB Suffield

September 30: NR 2008-25: ERCB conditionally approves Highpine sour oil well applications

PUBLICATIONS

October 7: Investigation Report Shell Canada Limited Sour Gas Pipeline Failure Licence No. 23800, Line No. 61, November 19, 2007

October 10: ST59: Alberta Drilling Activity Monthly Statistics

October 9: ST50A: Gas Processing Plants in Alberta sorted by gas plant reporting facility ID code

October 9: ST50B: Gas Processing Plants in Alberta (sorted by gas plant facility licences)

September 25: ST108: ERCB Monthly Enforcement Action Summary

ERCB receives recognitions

The ERCB received recent accolades, being named one of the best places to work in Alberta and recognized as a leading pipeline regulator.

The ERCB was recognized in October as one of the best workplaces in the province, being named in the Alberta's Top 40 Employers competition. The Alberta's Top 40 Employers is an annual competition organized by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers. This special designation recognizes the Alberta employers that lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work.

"The Energy Resources Conservation Board is a great place to work," said ERCB Chairman Dan McFadyen. "It is a unique workplace, where employees truly can make a difference in the interest of all Albertans."

"This is a significant achievement for us, and it is great to see the ERCB being recognized for the diverse career opportunities we offer, our commitment to providing a positive work environment, and our dedication to working in the public interest," McFadyen said.

The ERCB's nearly 900 staff work in 13 locations across Alberta.

The ERCB also was honoured this month by receiving the Regulators Award at the 2008 Energy TV Pipelines Awards.

Held in conjunction with the International Pipeline Exposition, the awards ceremony honoured leaders in the pipeline industry. Exposition delegates were invited to nominate and vote for the leaders in their sector. Then a panel of experts reviewed the voting results and made a final judgement on the winners.

ERCB welcomes new COO *(continued from page 1)*

He started in the Foreign Affairs department before moving to the Bureau of Competition Policy, where he helped keep an eye on mergers and acquisitions and watched for transgressions, such as price fixing.

“Being a rookie employee with the Bureau of Competition Policy whet my appetite with regard to regulation, while my job as an economist in Foreign Affairs looking at foreign oil and gas issues whet my appetite for the energy side of things.”

“Already I am finding that people are extremely helpful, extremely professional, and extremely supportive. Obviously, being one of the Top 40 employers in Alberta speaks to what kind of culture exists within the ERCB and what kind of people we employ.”

After six years in Ottawa, Dark longed to return to the prairies, and in the early 1980s accepted a strategic planning role with SaskTel, a Crown telecommunications company in Saskatchewan.

From there Dark went to the Crown Investments Corporation, a holding company for all the commercial Crown corporations in Saskatchewan. Next Dark moved to SaskPower to manage the strategic planning department, where he was responsible for the broad scope of electrical competition, regulation, generation plans, and transmission plans for the province.

“This move allowed me to return to my keen interest in energy and regulation,” Dark noted.

After a six-year stint with SaskEnergy, a newly formed Crown corporation responsible for natural gas distribution and transmission within the province, Dark joined the Department of Energy and Mines—later to become the Ministry of Energy and Resources—which was in the process of developing a provincial energy strategy. He stayed with the ministry for almost 15 years,

most recently in the role of Assistant Deputy Minister of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Division, where he was responsible for regulating the province’s oil and gas industry.

Dark believes his lengthy career in public service has prepared him well for his new role at the ERCB.

“Having well over 25 years of energy experience both in energy policy and in energy regulation, it’s a great fit coming to work with an agency such as the ERCB,” he said.

Dark says his first step will be to better understand the internal organization of the ERCB.

Over the next while he will review existing processes and procedures and see what, if any, changes could be made to make the organization “even more efficient and effective than it already is.”

Also, in the coming weeks he will tour the ERCB’s 13 different locations across the province in an effort to meet with as many employees as possible.

“Already I am finding that people are extremely helpful, extremely professional, and extremely supportive. Obviously, being one of the Top 40 employers in Alberta speaks to what kind of culture exists within the ERCB and what kind of people we employ,” he said.

Also, Dark looks forward to interacting with energy companies, industry associations, and the public in the role of COO.

In his personal life, Dark plans to pursue his love of golf and hiking and continue his strong connection to the CFL—he was part of the organizing committee in one of the two Grey Cups held in Regina—by cheering on the Saskatchewan Roughriders when they come to Calgary.

“Being from Saskatchewan, I’ve got green blood,” he joked.

Dark is married and has three children, two of whom are studying at the University of Regina; the other is located in Calgary.

UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Application No.	Applicant	Hearing Purpose
1553726	CCS Inc.	Review of a Class II disposal scheme back to a Class 1B waste disposal scheme, Brazeau River
Hearing Date: Nov 5 – 6, ERCB Office Calgary, Govier Hall		
1548019	Canyon Oil & Gas Corporation	Application to re-enter an abandoned well to produce natural gas, Pembina Field
Hearing Date: Nov 5 – 6, ERCB Causeway Bay Westwind Hotel, 4225-50 St, Drayton Valley AB		
1552791	Tykewest Ltd.	Application for a common carrier, Knopcik Field
Hearing Date: Nov 12 – 13, 5 Calgary Downtown Suites, 618-5th Ave SW, Calgary AB		
1520388 1512822 1513051 1517148 1517151 1517160 1517168 1517170 1517176 1520922 1520923 1574414 1574409 1574366	Petro-Canada	Sullivan Sour Gas Development Project - applications for a facility, eleven wells and fourteen pipeline segments, Sullivan Creek Area
Hearing Date: Nov 12 – 28, Heritage Inn, 1104-11 Ave, High River AB		
1571005	Pennine Petroleum Corporation	Application for a pipeline to transport natural gas, Pincher Creek Field
Hearing Date: Nov 26 – 28, Heritage Inn, 919 Waterton Ave, Pincher Creek AB		
1523329	Nexstep Resources Ltd.	Application to redesignate the Lower Mannville C pool as the Jurassic Rock Creek Member, Wilson Creek
Hearing Date: Nov 1 – 5, ERCB Office Calgary, Govier Hall		
1493283 1504244 1504245 1504248 1504249	Nexen Inc.	Applications for four gas wells with 31.75% H ₂ S and one pipeline to transport natural gas, Crossfield Field
Hearing Date: Dec 9 – 12, 5 Calgary Downtown Suites, 618-5th Ave SW, Calgary AB		
1494136 1580112	Paramount Energy Operation Corporation	Application for an experimental scheme for Class III gas injection and underground storage in the McMurray C Pool, Corner Field
Hearing Date: Dec 15 – 19, ERCB Office Calgary, Govier Hall		
1562431	EnCana Corporation	Application for a temporary oil battery, Elnora Field
Hearing Date: Dec 17 – 18, Red Deer Lodge, 4311-49 Ave, Red Deer AB		

PENDING DECISIONS

Application No.	Applicant	Hearing Purpose
1566883	ConocoPhillips Canada Resources Corporation Cancelled Hearing	Application for a well with 11% H ₂ S, Grande Prairie Field
1551722	EnCana Corporation	Application for a holding for the production of gas from the Viking, Basal Colorado, Mannville, Nikanassin and Rock Creek Formations, Lawrence Field
1554799 1578005	Hunt Oil Company of Canada	Application for an Enhanced Recovery Scheme Amendment, Kleskun Field

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Alberta Geological Survey (AGS) documents on geological research

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Questions, complaints, problems?

For information or complaints about new or existing oil and gas developments and facilities, we recommend contacting the operating company first. If the company does not respond appropriately, you may contact the nearest ERCB Field Centre.

ERCB Field Centres (24-hour service)

Bonnyville 780-826-5352*
Drayton Valley 780-542-5182*
Grande Prairie 780-538-5138*
Fort McMurray 780-743-7214*
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*

*To call toll free from anywhere in Alberta, dial 310-0000 and enter the phone number, including area code, or press zero for a RITE operator.

Across the Board Advisory Committee

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