

Oil and Gas Facilities Policy

2009 Annual Report

Recommendation:

That the January 7, 2010, Planning and Development Department report 2010PPP105, be received for information.

Report Summary

This is the second annual report outlining the impact of the City of Edmonton's Oil and Gas Liaison Officer.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the January 30, 2008, City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

That an annual report be provided to Executive Committee outlining the impact of the Oil and Gas Liaison Officer.

Report

- The name of the Oil and Gas Multi-party Working Group was changed to the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee to be consistent with how other committees are named within the City.
- The membership of the committee remains the same: representatives from the oil and gas industry, Alberta Environment, Energy Resources Conservation Board, Capital Health/Alberta Health Services, Urban Development Institute, Canadian Homebuilders Association, Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues, Edmonton and Area Pipeline and Utilities Operators Committee, and Parkland County as well as City departments including Planning and Development, Transportation and the Office of Emergency Preparedness.
- Although two members of the group are expected to be from communities affected by oil and gas activity, an ongoing recruitment process has been unsuccessful in retaining public members-at-large. The Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues had a representative in 2008 and for a portion of 2009. Administration has approached the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues about sending a replacement.
- Four meetings of the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee were held in 2009. Varied presentations by industry and regulators occurred.
- Public awareness was a priority for the Liaison Officer in 2009. An Oil and Gas website is regularly updated to provide current information to the public and industry. The Advisory Committee activities are also posted on the website with links to Energy Resources Conservation Board resources and updates.
- The Liaison Officer responded to 33 oil and gas well and pipeline inquiries, notifications and referrals from City staff, consultants and industry in 2009.
- The Liaison Officer worked with Administration to ensure that the Oil and Gas Facilities Policy (C515) and the recommendations of the Implementation Plan were incorporated into the City's Statutory Plans. Specific plans that were worked on include: the Maple Ridge Industrial Area Structure Plan, Maple Neighbourhood Structure Plan, Albany Subdivision Plan, Heritage

Valley Town Centre Neighbourhood Area Structure Plan and a Proposed Business Employment Campus in the Ellerslie Area Structure Plan.

- The Liaison Officer worked collaboratively with Office of Emergency Preparedness on matters including reclaimed abandoned wells throughout the City of Edmonton and with Transportation on pipeline crossings and agreements and the Edmonton Area Pipeline and Utility Operator's Committee pipeline map.
- The Liaison Officer started an initial review of the City of Edmonton's pipeline policy.
- The Liaison Officer began working with Office of Emergency Preparedness and Transportation on the planning of an oil and gas wells tour in 2010 for planners and other relevant staff.
- An initiative started in 2008 and continuing in 2009 is the Alberta Oil and Gas Liaison Officers Group established by the Energy Resources Conservation Board. Several meetings have been held in the Capital Region and in Red Deer as more municipal Oil and Gas Liaison Officers have been hired. The City of Edmonton's Oil and Gas Advisory Committee is considered a model for other municipalities by the Energy Resources Conservation Board.
- In 2010, the Oil and Gas Liaison Officer will continue to support and administer the Implementation Plan activities initiated in 2008.

Policy

This is the second annual report required by the Council approved

implementation plan for Oil and Gas Facilities Policy C515.

Focus Area

The topic of this report is most directly related to the City of Edmonton Strategic Plan ten-year strategic goal to "Improve Edmonton's Livability" through measures to protect health and safety and processes that support and facilitate community involvement and participation.