MINUTES
REGIONAL ENERGY COMMITTEE (REC)
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024 AT 10:30 AM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN OF PEACE RIVER

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87450517639?pwd=0af9c3UxrUeRFBrMBQ9Y0EpszajT80.1

Present:

Terry Ungarian (Chair)	Reeve, County of Northern Lights
Brenda Yasinski	Deputy Reeve, County of Northern Lights
Gerhard Stickling	CAO, County of Northern Lights
Teresa Tupper	Executive Assistant, County of Northern Lights *(Admin Support)*
Bob Willing (Vice Chair)	Reeve, MD of Peace
Sandra Eastman	Deputy Reeve, MD of Peace
Corinna Williams	Reeve, Northern Sunrise County
Cindy Millar	CAO, Northern Sunrise County
Wendy Wald	Mayor, Town of Grimshaw
Stacey Messner	Deputy Mayor, Town of Grimshaw
Brian Allen	CAO, Town of Grimshaw
Elaine Manzer	Mayor, Town of Peace River
Shelly Shannon	Councillor, Town of Peace River *(10:45 a.m.)*

Guests:

Scott Henuset	CEO & President of Energy Alberta *(virtual at 10:51 a.m.)*

Regrets:

Art Laurin	Deputy Reeve, Northern Sunrise County
Margaret McClarity	CAO, MD of Peace
Barb Miller	CAO, Town of Peace River

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1. Call to Order

Chair Ungarian called the Thursday, December 12, 2024 Regional Energy Committee Meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

By consensus, the committee adopted the December 12, 2024 Regional Energy Committee Meeting Agenda with the following additions:

- 5.b) Chair and Vice Chair meeting with MLA, Dan Williams
- 5.c) Energy Alberta Update

3. Adoption of Previous Minutes

a) *Thursday, November 14, 2024*

By consensus, the committee adopted the Thursday, November 14, 2024 Regional Energy Committee Meeting Minutes as presented.

4. Updates from Old Business

a) Reply from CANHC on member application

By consensus, the committee agreed to pay the CANHC membership fee for 2025 out of the monies received from the municipal membership fees.

ACTION STEP: Admin support to have County of Northern Lights send a cheque to CANHC for the REC.

b) Reply from Duncan's First Nations regarding Introduction Letter

Discussion took place around the table regarding nuclear education, information, the nuclear proposed project and the fact that engagement and communication of that level should come from Energy Alberta.

ACTION STEP: Reeve Corinna Williams moved that Admin Support draft a letter of reply and email it to the Chief and Council of Duncan's First Nations.

5. New Business

a) January 27, 2025 teleconference with Minister Neudorf

Reminder to members of the virtual meeting invitation from Minister Neudorf for Monday, January 27th from 2:30pm to 3:30pm.

ACTION STEP: Remind committee at the next REC meeting and if required, place on the agenda for discussion.

b) Chair and Vice Chair meeting with MLA, Dan Williams

- The Provincial government is happy with the information and communication they are receiving from Energy Alberta.
- Heading to Ottawa to advocate for the proposed project, for funding and placing Alberta on their radar.
- Discussed the viability of the Peace Regional Airport.

c) Energy Alberta Update

- Participated in a non-formal discussion with the Chief and some Council representatives from Duncan's First Nation that morning.
- Capital Power is conducting a province wide survey on nuclear power. Getting the thoughts, understanding and socio-economic feel of nuclear from Albertans.
- Draft IPD is almost ready and will be formally submitted to the government in the first quarter of 2025.
- See the Kevin O'Leary IA Data Storage Project as a positive to Energy Alberta's proposed project as it will be the largest single data centre in Alberta which will have an extremely large power draw and a large carbon output.
- Energy Alberta meets monthly with Minister Neudorf.

- IAAC will consult REC member municipalities. This is an opportunity for municipalities to convey their social and economic concerns, etc; and then it will be a part of the IPD working (living) document.
- Briefly reviewed timeline, nuclear employment (89,000 people in Canada), water use in a power plant, and nuclear waste management.
- Energy Alberta is looking to hire more staff.
- Believe they have support from all levels of government.

Scott Henuset exited the meeting virtually at 11:46 a.m.

6. Round Table

- Councillor, Shelly Shannon said the topic of the Peace River Airport came up at the Peace River Chamber of Commerce meeting. Very interested in finding a solution to the viability of the airport.
- Mayor Elaine Manzer said the Town of Peace River submitted an application for the 'Enabling Housing Choice Project'.

7. Action Item List Review

Step 8 – Energy Alberta will come in person to meet with the five regional councils to go over the proposed project, timeline and to explain the process. A date after January 27th is advisable.

Step 16 – Ongoing as Deputy Mayor Stacey Messner speaks with AM Northwest Representative.

Step 22 – Peace Area Council Meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 16th at 5pm. NSC offered to host. Location TBD. The Airport Board is to be invited to the meeting.

ACTION STEP: Ask CANHC what the REC should be asking for/looking at during the IPD process.

8. Next Steps

   a) *Host for next Meeting, which is scheduled for Thursday, January 09, 2025*

ACTION STEP: The MD of Peace will host the Thursday, January 9th, 2025 REC meeting in their chambers at 10 a.m.

9. Adjournment

Chair Ungarian adjourned the Thursday, December 12, 2024 Regional Energy Committee meeting at 12:28 p.m.

Reeve Terry Ungarian, Chair

Jan 23/25
Date Signed