MINUTES
PEACE REGIONAL ENERGY COMMITTEE (PREC)
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025 2:30 PM
NORTHERN SUNRISE COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84159148845?pwd=aGyTuoGKS1wGytI4WPZbfWKtGaMMcJ.1

Present:

Terry Ungarian (Chair)	Reeve, County of Northern Lights
Brenda Yasinski	Deputy Reeve, County of Northern Lights (virtual)
Gerhard Stickling	CAO, County of Northern Lights (virtual)
Teresa Tupper	Executive Assistant, County of Northern Lights (Admin Support) (virtual)
Bob Willing (Vice Chair)	Reeve, MD of Peace
Sandra Eastman	Deputy Reeve, MD of Peace
Kelly Bunn	Acting CAO, MD of Peace
Corinna Williams	Reeve, Northern Sunrise County
Art Laurin	Deputy Reeve, Northern Sunrise County
Cindy Millar	CAO, Northern Sunrise County
Stacey Messner	Deputy Mayor, Town of Grimshaw
Brian Allen	CAO, Town of Grimshaw
Elaine Manzer	Mayor, Town of Peace River
Barb Miller	CAO, Town of Peace River (virtual)

Guests:

Scott Henuset	CEO & President of Energy Alberta (virtual)
Nicole Nelles	Regional Economic Development Services, Government of Alberta (virtual)

Regrets:

Wendy Wald	Mayor, Town of Grimshaw
Shelly Shannon	Councillor, Town of Peace River

1. Call to Order

Chair Terry Ungarian called the Thursday, March 13th, 2025 Peace Regional Energy Committee Meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda *(by consensus)*

By consensus, the committee adopted the Thursday, March 13, 2025 Peace Regional Energy Committee Meeting agenda with the addition of 5. E) Impact Assessment Process Participant Funding (Elaine Manzer, Mayor of Peace River)

3. Adoption of Previous Minutes

    a) *Thursday, February 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes*

By consensus, the committee adopted the Thursday, February 13, 2025 Regional Energy Committee Meeting Minutes.

4. Updates from Old Business

    a) *Summary of SMR Conference*

Attendees of the SMR Conference provided a written brief of the conference and verbal brief to the committee. It looks like many nuclear opportunities will be available within the province.

5. *c) Logo*

Discussion around the logo took place. Admin support will go back and talk with the designer.

    b) *Summary/Debrief of Energy Alberta's Open House (Scott Henuset joined meeting at 2:55 p.m. and gave a short brief on the Open house hosted.)*

Discussion and input was had by all who attended the Open House hosted by Energy Alberta.

Energy Alberta:

- Scott had not yet had a chance to debrief with his Team, but some highlights are:
- Over 375 people signed in.
- 32 feed-back forms were filed on-site.
- Good questions: population increase & effects, community readiness, nuclear waste, & supply chain.
- Rally outside – an invitation was given to come in, participants said no but eventually they did come in to warm up and we welcomed them.
- Energy Alberta thought the Open House was successful, they did not anticipate the large turn-out. Were happy to see representation from Metis and First Nations.
- Ken was unable to attend as he was tied up with the 2 reactors in Romania. Ken is also employed by the Canadian Federal Government and the United States Government. Chair of the Rolls Royce Nuclear Board and is integral in nuclear engineering designs.
- Mayor of Peace River mentioned that there were many comments on water and asked Energy Alberta to provide more information concerning water. It was suggested that Scott get in touch with the Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance.
- Scott reiterated that there will be Public Engagement for years to come.

The committee touched on addition: 5.e) *Impact Assessment Process Participant Funding* at this time as Mayor Manzer had spoken to people at the Open House and wanted clarification.

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) and Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission CNSC had representatives in the room. Four federal government employees.
Claudette Bois – Crown Consultation Coordinator for IAAC – there is available funding for public entities to participate IAAC and CNSC integrated impact assessment process for nuclear projects.
They have a duty to consult. Letters from IAAC will be sent to each Municipality. There will be help to answer questions and guide you through the process. You have the option to have or not have Energy Alberta in the room during that process. It's possible there is funding for that consultation process.
Link to visit: https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/programs/impact-assessments-101.html

Scott presented an update:

- On-going communications with Metis and First Nations going well. They are keen to see job creation.
- A future Open House will be geared to just a few topics. Possibility to address the Operator and who they are now and who they were.
- PREC suggested the schools should have an education presentation. Energy Alberta stated that it has 'a duty' as does Atkins, who have it on their list.
- Had a meeting with IAAC this morning regarding the IPD. Energy Alberta wants to make sure they have everything in order before submitting.

Scott Henuset exited the meeting at 3:28 p.m.

6. New Business

c) *Nicole Nelles, BAHon, MEDes, CMed. Regional Economic Development Services*

Nicole Nelles gave a visual and verbal presentation and gave an invitation to the April 29, 2025 Round Table at the provincial building in Grande Prairie where the facilitator from Alberta Community Development will discuss 'project inventory': shelf ready but still has potential, current projects that need menial support, and future projects that may need financial support. The assessment of inventory is especially worthwhile to municipalities that do not employee or are involved with Economic Development Officers.

Reach Nicole at nicole.nelles@gov.ab.ca

Nicole mentioned that there is a fall intake for Northern Development, maybe PREC should apply for a feasibility study. There is $300,000 available for public consultation.

a) *CNA Conference – April 15 – 17, 2025 https://conference.cna.ca/*

Chair Ungarian brought forward the conference and mentioned that CANHC members receive one free registration.

Sandra Eastman, Deputy Reeve, MD of Peace moved that the Peace Regional Energy Committee pay for two registrations of their members to attend the Canadian Nuclear Association Conference in April 2025. CARRIED

d) Grant/Marketing – Next steps

Discussion was held concerning the need to have a communications plan and a communications person.

ACTION STEP: CAO, Cindy Millar will touch base with CANHC to inquire about communication strategies/plans/etc.

7. Round Table

Corinna Williams, Reeve, Northern Sunrise County – Really enjoyed the Open House. Commented on the surprising number of people and the good questions asked.

Kelly Bunn, CAO, MD of Peace – Confirmed that the attendee numbers and viewpoints from Scott were equal to his own. Noticed that it was, for the most part, an older crowd. People were ready to listen to the speakers at the stations.

Brenda Yasinski, Deputy Reeve, County of Northern Lights – reinforced the need that Energy Alberta communicates to School Boards and Parent Groups. As for communications from PREC, there must be an understanding of what we have control of and what we don't - first objective in public awareness.

Terry Ungarian, Reeve, County of Northern Lights – indicated that CNL has a meeting with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Transportation & Minister Dan Williams while at RMA convention. He will see if they can request highway 743 be placed on the projects list.

Nicole Nelles mentioned that Greenview Industrial Gateway Centre just brought on a communications person, may be valuable to talk with someone from that organization. Bob Willings, Reeve, MD of Peace will be at the EDA Conference and will try to speak with Kyle.

8. Next Steps

a) Host for next Meeting, County of Northern Lights, Monday, April 7th, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. at the Weberville Fire Hall Upstairs meeting room.

9. Adjournment

Chair Ungarian adjourned the Thursday, March 13, 2025 Peace Regional Energy Committee Meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Chair, Reeve Terry Ungarian

April 5/2025

Date Signed