

ALBERTA WATER COUNCIL

MEETING #33
March 22, 2012
Calgary, Alberta

Executive Summary

This meeting was preceded by a half-day strategic planning workshop. The Board was pleased to ratify Ernie Hui as the Council's new president, completing the term begun by former president, Jim Ellis.

The Downstream Petroleum Sector presented its sector plan for water conservation, efficiency and productivity (CEP), the fifth sector plan to be completed. The plan was prepared by the Canadian Petroleum Products Institute and identifies 15 CEP opportunities.

The Board approved amended terms of reference for two project teams. The Sector Planning for CEP team will now present its final report and recommendations in October 2012, whether all seven sector plans are completed or not. Timelines were also extended for the Riparian Land Conservation and Management project team, with its final report now expected in March 2013. The Board agreed to provide feedback by email to the Riparian team on its current draft definition of riparian lands so this feedback can be considered earlier in the team's work.

On behalf of the executive committee, staff circulated the first update report on tracking implementation progress of Council recommendations, and reminded the Board of the process that will be used to prepare future reports. The Board agreed that both the detailed report and the update report should be made public via the Council's website, but that a disclaimer should be developed to indicate that the text describing implementation status in the detailed report is prepared by the implementer, not the Council.

The next Board meeting will be held on June 14th at the Executive Royal Inn in Nisku. An optional wetlands field trip will be hosted the afternoon prior to the meeting by Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Summary of Discussion

John Skowronski convened the business meeting at 10:10 a.m.

1 Administration

1.1 Welcome and Approve Agenda

The chair reviewed the agenda, which was approved by consensus.

1.2 Summary Report from October 20, 2011 Meeting

One correction was noted on page 6, bullet 2 under item 7: change “efficient equality” to “effluent quality.”

Decision 33.1: The amended summary report for the October 20, 2011 meeting was adopted by consensus and will be posted on the Council website.

1.3 Action Items from October 20, 2011 Meeting

Gord Edwards reported that the action item from the October 20, 2011 meeting has been completed.

1.4 Appointment of President

Decision 33.2: The Board approved Ernie Hui as President of the Alberta Water Council to October 2013.

Ernie thanked the board for its endorsement and indicated that he looks forward to working with the Council.

1.5 Management Report

Gord Edwards referred the Board to the management report in the briefing package. Updates on several project teams will be provided during the course of the meeting, and the status reports feature updates on other teams. He also reviewed activities of the executive committee, summarized in the management report.

2 Strategic Planning Workshop Recap

Ernie Hui presented a recap of the strategic planning workshop, adding that this session will provide timely input to Alberta Environment and Water, helping to inform direction and potential actions for the GoA to consider. Council staff will collate material from the session and present a report to executive committee in May; the executive committee will then propose a path forward at the June board meeting. Board members briefly discussed the outcomes of the workshop, reiterating the importance of raising awareness and knowledge about water issues, as well as the need to ensure that the Council follows a strategic, measurable approach in deciding which issues it will tackle.

3 Sector Planning for CEP – Petrochemical Plan

John Skowronski presented the Water Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity (CEP) Plan from the Downstream Petroleum Sector, prepared by the Canadian Petroleum Products Institute (CPPI). He described the sector and how it uses water, noting that the sector has a

history of responsible water stewardship. The Plan covers three refineries, one asphalt plant and a large number of marketing and distribution facilities in Alberta that are operated or managed by CPPI member companies. The Plan identified 15 CEP opportunities for a potential of 22 CEP outcomes; these include nine conservation opportunities that could decrease overall use of water, eight efficiency opportunities that may decrease overall consumptive water use, and five productivity opportunities that may increase production while maintaining the same amount of water used. The Plan is a guidance document for members and reflects what competing companies were comfortable sharing. The detail that supports the plan is where much of the progress is expected to occur.

A brief discussion period followed the presentation, including the following points:

- A challenge for this sector, and others, is what will happen to water that may no longer be needed as a result of implementing CEP initiatives.
- Environmental management systems can be very useful in formalizing and operationalizing environmental goals, and in ensuring that continuous improvement, monitoring and reporting are all incorporated.
- The sector recognizes the importance and value of cogeneration and where practical and feasible implements the required investment and operational changes to optimize the use of this energy.
- The members of this sector are competitors and it is not appropriate to forecast business intentions. The outlook for water use for the CEP period has been cast as equal to the actual 2009 sector performance level.

4 Sector Planning for CEP Project Team

Giselle Beaudry provided an update on behalf of the CEP team, including a review of the team's objectives and progress since the last report to the Board. She noted some of the challenges faced by sectors in completing their plans, and by the team in completing its final report. Thus the team requested an extension to its terms of reference to October 2012. The team will present its final report to the Board at the October 2012 meeting whether all sector plans are finished or not.

Decision 33.3: The Board approved the amended terms of reference for the Sector Planning for CEP Project Team, which now has a completion date of October 2012 rather than March 2012.

5 Riparian Land Conservation and Management Project Team

Norine Ambrose reviewed the team's progress to date in developing a definition for riparian lands. She briefly noted the consultant's work on the current state of riparian lands in Alberta and on the management and stewardship best practices being used in Alberta and other jurisdictions. The team has agreed on the draft definition and told the consultants to use that definition in their work; however, pending the outcomes of this work and advice from experts, the team is open to modifying the definition. The team asked the Board to approve amended terms of reference covering changes in timelines and membership. They expect to present draft recommendations to the Board in October 2012 and bring forward their final report and recommendations in March 2013.

During discussion with the Board, it was noted that the definition has not been reviewed by lawyers in Alberta Justice. The team sought to create an ecological definition for riparian lands, not a legal one. As soon as there is agreement on the ecological definition, an opinion

could be requested on its legality, recognizing that this could take time. If GoA members on the Board were to ask Alberta Justice for this assessment, no financial costs are likely to be incurred. Board members agreed to provide comments on the current draft definition for the team to consider, rather than wait for the final definition to be presented.

Action 33.1: Council staff will email Board members with guidance and a deadline for providing comments on the draft definition of riparian lands.

Decision 33.4: The Board approved the amended terms of reference for the Riparian Land Conservation and Management Team, covering changes in the section on timelines and deliverables and the section on membership, as proposed in the briefing book decision sheet.

6 Tracking Implementation Progress of Council Recommendations

On behalf of the executive committee, Andre Asselin presented an update on work done to date to develop a system for tracking implementation progress of Council recommendations. He reviewed the background on this item and presented the proposed process for preparing the update report. Reports and recommendations would only be included in the tracking process after they are approved by the Board, and once recommendations have been implemented, they will not be included in subsequent updates. Twice a year, recommendations would be sent to implementers who will be asked to update implementation status. These updates will populate the detailed report from which the update report will be prepared. On a pilot basis, update reports will be presented to the Board in March and October. As the Council gains experience with this tool, it will be refined and modified as needed.

The following points were noted during the discussion of this item:

- A mechanism may be needed to indicate if a recommendation is only going to be partially implemented; that is, the implementer may not ever intend to implement the entire recommendation so there is no point in keeping it on the Council list.
- As part of the Council's commitment to transparency, both reports should be public. All Council reports are already publicly available.
- Although the total in-kind contribution to the Council is presented in the annual report, it might be useful to see the in-kind contributions broken down by project too.
- The exact words describing recommendation status will be the words of implementers, not the Council. Thus implementers have an opportunity to position the status report in the manner of their choosing. It should be made clear in the detailed tables that the status descriptions are provided by the implementers and not the Council.
- When the update report comes to the Board, members will have an opportunity to discuss the responses from implementers and provide advice back to them if necessary or appropriate.

Action 33.2: Staff will draft a disclaimer to accompany the tables in the detailed report, indicating that the text describing implementation status is provided by implementers, not the Council.

Action 33.3: Staff will examine the feasibility of reporting in-kind contributions by team, working group and committee.

Decision 33.5: The Board approved making the detailed and update reports public by posting them on the Council's website.

7 Status Reports

The Chair directed Board members to the status reports in the briefing package as information.

8 New or Other Business

There was no new or other business.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Attachment 1: Meeting #33 Attendees

Council Directors and Alternates

Peter Aku, NGO (Fisheries Habitat Conservation)
Maureen Bell, NGO (Environmental)
Mark Brostrom, Government (Large Urban)
Ken Brown, NGO (WPACs)
Bob Cameron, NGO (Environmental)
Carolyn Campbell, NGO (Environmental)
Lars De Pauw, Industry (Oil and Gas)
Les Gammie, NGO (WPACs)
Jim Hackett, Industry (Power Generation)
Ernie Hui, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Environment and Water)
Rick Istead, Industry (Cropping)
Al Kemmere, Government (Rural)
Stuart Lunn, Industry (Mining)
Ron McMullin, Industry (Irrigation)
Louis Pawlowich, Government (Métis Settlements)
Tara Payment, Industry (Oil and Gas)
Rob Pritchard, Government (Large Urban)
Janelle Saskiw, Government (Small Urban)

Tracy Scott, NGO (Wetland Habitat Conservation)
John Skowronski, Industry (Chemical and Petrochemical)
Jennifer Steber, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Energy)
Jeff Surtees, NGO (Fisheries Habitat Conservation)
Jason Unger, NGO (Environmental)
Jay White, NGO (Lake Environment Conservation)
Evelynne Wrangler, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Sustainable Resource Development)
Jamie Wuite, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development)
Bev Yee, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Environment and Water)
Gord Edwards, AWC Executive Director

Presenters:

Gord Edwards, *Report on Action Items; Management Report* (Items 1.3, 1.5)
Ernie Hui, *Strategic Planning Workshop Recap* (Item 2.0)
John Skowronski, *Sector Planning for CEP: Petrochemical Plan* (Item 3.0)
Giselle Beaudry, *Sector Planning for CEP Project Team* (Item 4.0)
Norine Ambrose, *Riparian Land Conservation and Management Project Team* (Item 5.0)
Andre Asselin, *Tracking Implementation Progress of Council Recommendations* (Item 6.0)

Guests:

Ron Axelson, Intensive Livestock Working Group
Curtis Horning, Alberta Environment & Water
Scott Millar, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development

AWC Staff and Contractors

Andre Asselin, Alesha Hill, Petra Rowell, Kim Sanderson, Terry Sly

Absent with Regrets:

Neil Boyd, Industry (Cropping)
Chris Fordham, Industry (Mining)
Dawn Friesen, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Health and Wellness)
Ray Gilmour, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Sustainable Resource Development)
David Hill, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Innovates – Energy-Environment Solutions)
Colin Jeffares, GOA and Provincial Authorities (Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development)
Perry McCormick, NGO (Wetland Habitat Conservation)
Keith Murray, Industry (Forestry)

Attachment 2: Meeting #33 Action Item Log

Action	Who	By when
33.1: Council staff will email Board members with guidance and a deadline for providing comments on the draft definition of riparian lands.	Staff	March 29, 2012
33.2: Staff will draft a disclaimer to accompany the tables in the detailed report, indicating that the text describing implementation status is provided by the implementers, not the Council	Staff	April 5, 2012
33.3: Staff will examine the feasibility of reporting in-kind contributions by team, working group and committee.	Staff	May 10, 2012

Attachment 3: Decision Log

Decision 33.1: The amended summary report for the October 20, 2011 meeting was adopted by consensus and will be posted on the Council website.

Decision 33.2: The Board approved Ernie Hui as President of the Alberta Water Council to October 2013.

Decision 33.3: The Board approved the amended terms of reference for the Sector Planning for CEP Project Team, which now has a completion date of October 2012 rather than March 2012.

Decision 33.4: The Board approved the amended terms of reference for the Riparian Land Conservation and Management Team, covering changes in the section on timelines and deliverables and the section on membership, as proposed in the briefing book decision sheet.

Decision 33.5: The Board approved making the detailed and update reports public by posting them on the Council's website.

ALBERTA WATER COUNCIL
AGENDA, MEETING #33

March 22, 2012
McDougall Centre – Calgary

NOTE: Broad Category caucusing from 8:00 to 9:00 am followed by Members meeting from 9:00 to 9:45 am

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

9:30 1.0 Administration – Chair 15 min

- 1.1 Welcome and approve agenda
- 1.2 Approve Summary Report from October 20, 2011 Board meeting
- 1.3 Review of actions from last meeting
- 1.4 Appointment of President
- 1.5 Management Report

10:00 2.0 Strategic Planning Workshop 15 min

Hear a recap of the strategic planning workshop.

10:15 Break 15 min

10:30 3.0 Sector Planning for CEP – Petrochemical Plan 45 min

Hear a presentation on the CEP plan prepared by the Canadian Petroleum Products Institute.

11:15 4.0 Sector Planning for CEP Project Team 45 min

Approve the proposed extension to the team's terms of reference to allow time for the Chemical and Power Generation sectors to complete their plans and then for the project team to finalize its report to the Board.

12:00 Lunch

12:45 5.0 Riparian Land Conservation and Management Project Team 30 min

Approve the proposed extension to the team's terms of reference.

1:15 6.0 Tracking Implementation Progress of Council Recommendations 30 min

Hear a presentation about the detailed and update (synopsis) reports and approve the audience for these reports.

1:45 7.0 Status Reports 15 min

Refer members to status reports in the board package with brief opportunity for questions or clarification.

2:00 8.0 New or Other Business 15 min

New items of business or other items of information for Council

2:15 Adjournment