November 2023

The Community Connector

BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 8

INSIDE

BCER
BRITISH COLUMBIA ENERGY REGULATOR

Contents

We acknowledge and respect the many Indigenous Territories and Treaty areas, each with unique cultures, languages, legal traditions and relationships to the land and water, which the BC Energy Regulator's work spans. We also respectfully acknowledge the Métis and Inuit people living across B.C.

Message from Michelle Carr

Commissioner & CEO

Welcome to the Community Connector which gives you an in depth look at some of the many initiatives underway with the British Columbia Energy Regulator (BCER), including the people who help ensure B.C.'s energy resource activities are safe, environmentally leading and socially responsible.

In this fall edition, we outline some of the changes that have come about with new governing legislation – the Energy Resource Activities Act – including a profile with our Executive Director, Energy Transition and Inter - Governmental Relations.

The BCER always has an ongoing co-op program with students from across Canada and this edition features a question and answer with many of our summer field students.

You'll also see details of the "Mind Over Metal" youth camp which the BCER sponsors and which helps inspire young people into welding and metalwork careers. There's also a celebration of the 76th Annual North Peace Fall Fair where the BCER was able to engage with many attendees and gather valuable feedback.

The fall is one of my favourite seasons, with students starting or returning to school and university, and it also feels like a time of renewal or "getting back at it" with work. I know here at the BCER we're busy implementing new ways of doing our business, including closer partnerships and collaboration with Indigenous communities.

Hopefully you'll have a few minutes to look through this edition of the Community Connector and it provides you with some insights on the people and work the BCER is engaged in.

New Energy Resources Activities & BCER's Expanded Mandate

The Energy Statutes Amendment Act (Bill 37, 2022), introduced legislation to streamline the regulation of hydrogen and other energy resources in the province. Bill 37 introduced changes to both the Oil and Gas Activities Act and the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act. Under this new legislation, the Oil and Gas Commission was renamed the British Columbia Energy Regulator (BCER) and the BCER's mandate was expanded beyond oil, gas, and geothermal to now include hydrogen, ammonia, methanol and carbon dioxide storage reservoirs. The name of the Oil and Gas Activities Act changed to the Energy Resource Activities Act (ERAA), to appropriately describe the province's expansion of the regulatory framework to include the new energy resource activities.

This new legislation aligns with the British Columbia Hydrogen Strategy and CleanBC Roadmap to 2030, both of which identify hydrogen as a key component of the transition towards a low-carbon economy.

The BCER is starting broad engagement to seek input and participation from stakeholders and First Nations to review, update, and develop regulations for manufacturing and pipeline transportation of hydrogen, ammonia and methanol. Regulations must ensure the life cycle of energy resource activities in B.C., from site planning to restoration, are undertaken in a manner that:

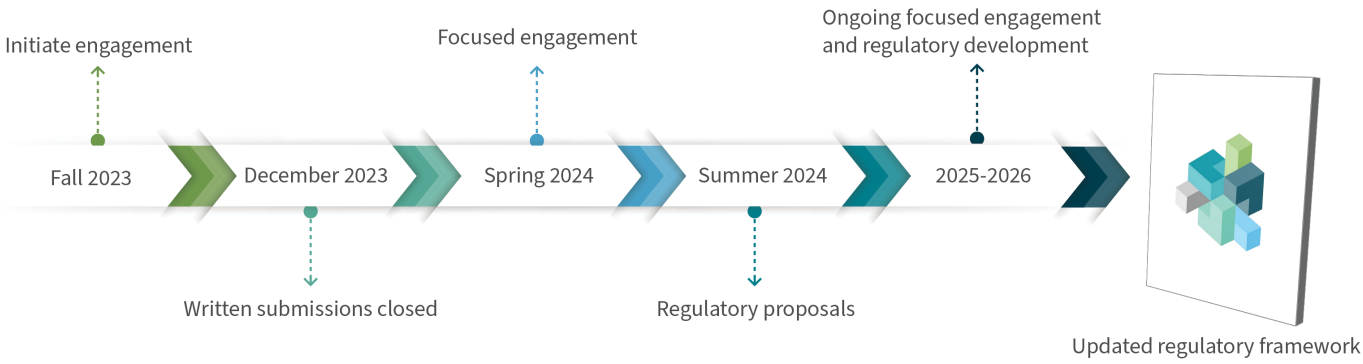
- Supports meaningful reconciliation,
- Advances the public interest and contributes to B.C.'s economy,
- Protects public safety, and
- Safeguards the environment.

The purpose of the broad engagement is identifying how stakeholders and First Nations would like to participate and provide input on regulations. Engagement begins with a recently released Discussion Paper, raising awareness on the new energy resource activities to support early engagement activities. Feedback on the paper and on how interested parties may want to participate will be open until the end of the year. The paper is posted on the BCER's regulatory updates web page along with information on how direct engagement opportunities will be available.

As the discussion paper is the initial engagement activity, the graphic on page six illustrates continuous engagement throughout the regulatory development and estimated timelines.

If you have an inquiry or concern about an oil and gas activity, please call us at 1-877-500-BCER (2237).

Proposed Timeline:



We want to hear from you!

Input from those interested in learning more and contributing to the regulations helps ensure future sessions and formats are effective and valuable. This engagement is crucial in establishing a modern and comprehensive regulatory framework for the development of B.C.'s diverse energy resources.

Please submit any questions or comments to RegulatoryAffairs@bc-er.ca.

Operational Update: BCER's Interim Approval Process

As the BCER is now the regulator for the manufacturing and pipeline transportation of hydrogen, methanol, and ammonia, we can now receive applications from proponents. Our applications management system is ready to accept them. During this interim period, the BCER will follow several principles to manage these applications while regulations are being developed:

- Existing regulatory requirements apply to new types of projects now included under the BCER's expanded mandate, effective immediately.
- Project-specific engagement will be conducted to identify and impose project-specific requirements in permits.
- Existing regulations for similar activities will also be considered to determine permit requirements for specific projects.
- The BCER will provide and publish interim guidance identifying minimum expectations for specific activities. This guidance will be revised as necessary.

If you have any questions regarding the BCER's Interim Approval Process for facilities that manufacture hydrogen, ammonia and methanol and associated pipelines, please contact:

Geoff Turner
Executive Director, Energy Transition & Inter-Governmental Relations
BC Energy Regulator
energy.transition@bc-er.ca

Staff Profile: Geoff Turner

Executive Director, Energy Transition & Inter-Governmental Relations

I started in the B.C. Public Service as a summer student in 1998 at the Ministry of Health – spending my days boxing up different public health brochures to send to doctor's offices around the province and sending letters to people with instructions on how to register for the medical services plan. After finishing my economics degree at university I took a series of roles with the short-lived Ministry of Provincial Revenue before an opportunity came up to work on an area I was (and remain) really passionate about: energy policy.

In 2006, I joined the team working to prepare a new energy plan for B.C. – considering issues such as what to do about the increasing interest in unconventional natural gas resources in the province, how to grow clean electricity supply in B.C. while maintaining affordable BC Hydro rates, and how to spur the development of clean energy technologies in the province. I spent the next several years working to implement parts of the energy plan related to renewable energy – particularly solar, wave and tidal power and geothermal energy. I had the opportunity to set up a program that installed thousands of solar water heaters in homes across the province and tackled the question of how to treat waste-to-energy projects within B.C.'s requirements for clean power generation.

In 2011, I moved from clean energy to work on oil and gas – an area that would be my focus for over a decade. I led a review of the oil and gas tenure system to better align it with the (then) new unconventional natural gas development techniques, oversaw a major overhaul of oil and gas royalties with a goal of eliminating subsidies and balancing economic development, fair return on the resource and environmental protection, and worked to help secure LNG Canada's positive final investment decision.

I joined the BC Energy Regulator in October 2022. Shortly after I joined, government introduced new legislation that expanded our mandate to include hydrogen, methanol and ammonia manufacturing alongside oil and gas. Today I'm working with a cross-organizational team to bring the same focus on safety, reconciliation and environmental protection to our regulation of hydrogen, methanol and ammonia as we bring to regulating oil and gas. My team is working with project proponents considering large and small hydrogen projects across the province to help them to understand how their activities will be overseen by the BCER. We will also be supporting the engagement work mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter that is going to shape the development of the comprehensive regulatory framework for hydrogen.

BCER Mandate Expansion 101

Why Was Our Mandate Expanded?

The CleanBC plan identifies hydrogen as a key energy source to support emissions reductions in hard-to-decarbonize sectors (such as long distance trucking). Hydrogen manufacturing is a technically complex, emerging industry. With more than 25 years' experience overseeing oil and gas activities, we're well positioned to take action on new energy projects and help provide a strong, informed transition to low-carbon energy while supporting the goals of the B.C. Hydrogen Strategy.

When Did Our Mandate Change?

Legislation passed by the B.C. Government in November 2022 provided our organization with an expanded mandate to include the regulation of hydrogen, ammonia and methanol, plus an expanded role in carbon capture and storage (CCS).

It also renamed the BC Oil and Gas Commission as the British Columbia Energy Regulator (BCER). See the Province's News Release and Legislation.

Nov. 24, 2022

These changes did not take immediate effect when the legislation was passed – they required a regulation to bring them into force.

On Feb. 17, 2023, the B.C. Government issued a regulation bringing into effect the name change and establishing a new Board structure for the BCER.

Feb. 17, 2023

Further mandate changes, including the regulation of hydrogen, ammonia and methanol, were brought into effect on Sept. 1, 2023, as determined by the Provincial Government's Order in Council 464.

On that date, the Energy Resource Activities Act (ERAA) formally replaced the Oil and Gas Activities Act.

Sept. 1, 2023

These Legislative Changes Give Us the Ability To:

- Regulate facilities that manufacture hydrogen, ammonia and methanol and regulate the associated pipelines. These BCER activities support achieving the goals identified in the B.C. Hydrogen Strategy.
- Regulate geological storage of all sources of carbon dioxide in B.C., not just those from oil and gas activities.
- Achieve our Strategic Framework outcome of supporting B.C.'s energy transition, low-carbon economy and meet future global energy needs.
- Ensure hydrogen, methanol, ammonia and carbon storage projects are part of our transparent, responsive engagement with Indigenous peoples, consistent with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.

Subsurface Storage of Natural Gas

What is gas storage?

Underground gas storage is the injection of natural gas into a suitable deep reservoir for later re-production, a big “storage tank”. The source gas is from natural gas processing plants that have removed impurities and components like propane and butane, so storage is of “sweet” marketable natural gas ready for consumers. Large-scale storage provides security of supply for times of peak demand, usually during the coldest days of winter, and a business opportunity to “buy low and sell high”, storing lower-priced gas in summer to sell for a profit when winter demand drives up prices. This ready source also helps to buffer consumers from short-term price volatility.

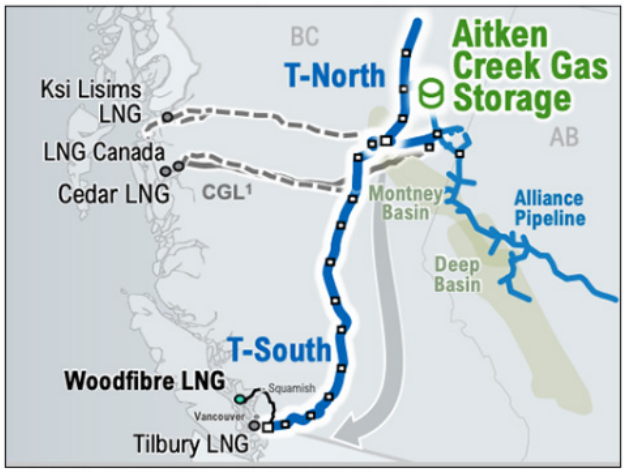
Underground gas storage reservoirs are ideally large and very full of pores (gaps or spaces in the rock). There are two types; salt caverns and geologic pools. Both possess characteristics of very high permeability (pathways) to enable high flow rates (deliverability) on-demand.

Salt caverns are human-made void spaces in deep, thick salt accumulations. The salt layer is a result of the drying out of inland saltwater seas millions of years ago. A well is drilled into the salt and then solution mining occurs, injecting water horizontally from a high-pressure nozzle, dissolving the salt, and producing highly saline water, for controlled cavern design. Salt cavern creation, operation and maintenance is a specialization in reservoir engineering. Salt caverns are expected to be the primary means of storing quantities of hydrogen gas, due to the impermeable barrier of the crystalline salt. While B.C. does not have salt deposits of sufficient thickness for storing hydrogen gas, existing gas storage salt caverns that could be used for hydrogen storage exist in central Alberta as well as in Saskatchewan and southwestern Ontario.

Does B.C. have underground gas storage?

B.C. does boast the Aitken Creek Gas Storage Project, consisting of two conglomerate sedimentary geologic pools, about 1,200 meters deep, with active total storage capacity of about 77 Bcf (billion cubic feet) of natural gas. Conglomerates are a jumble of rounded stones, as you see in a riverbed, with lots of space between the rocks. The main Aitken Creek pool was discovered in 1959 and the existing oil and gas was produced before being converted for storage use. Aitken Creek field, located about 115 km north from Fort St. John on Highway 97, then another 10 kms on the Tommy Creek Road, is situated on or at the beginning of several major natural gas pipelines (see map) - not a coincidence as this valuable asset is a key to keeping lines full when needed.

Aitken Creek Natural Gas Storage and Nearby LNG Projects



Note: (1) Coastal Gaslink owned by TC Energy Corp.

Source: Enbridge Inc.

The Aitken Creek Gas Storage Project is currently owned and operated by Enbridge. Summer injection, with large compressors and an increase in pressure, alternates with winter production and a pressure depletion cycle. When LNG Canada starts operation, the natural gas supply for that plant is expected to result in frequent switching between injection and production at Aitken Creek. The few storage wells at Aitken Creek are capable of a maximum withdrawal rate of 565 mmscf/d (equivalent to eight per cent of total B.C. production). One Aitken Creek well is approved for temporary storage of condensate, should the need arise.

Can Aitken Creek store other products?

Is the Aitken Creek reservoir suitable for hydrogen storage, in a blend with natural gas? Research into this question is ongoing for similar pools around the world, as H2 is a tiny molecule able to permeate most substances, thus potentially escaping a storage reservoir.

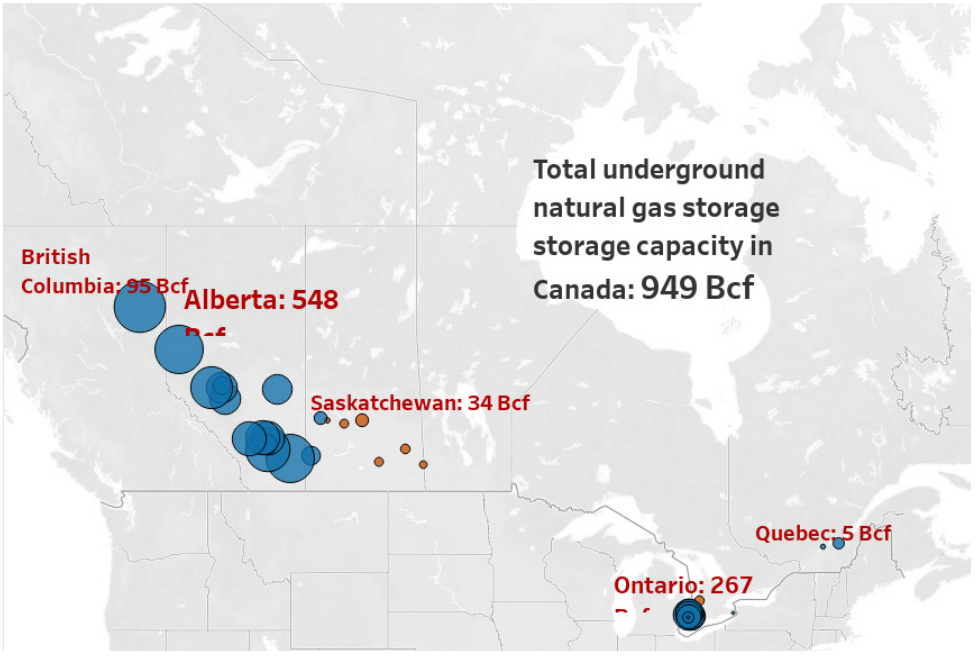
The BCER regulates the wells and reservoirs of the Aitken Creek Gas Storage Project as an ERAA Special Project Order, with specific requirements for operation, monitoring, testing, and reporting. The BCER actively participates on the national CSA standard technical committee Z341 “Storage of Hydrocarbons in Underground Formations”, and the ISO equivalent standard.

Why don’t we have more underground gas storage projects in B.C.?

This quality of reservoir is very rare and exploration efforts have been unsuccessful in finding another, so far.

BCER staff at the Aitken Creek Gas Storage Project.

Natural Gas Underground Storage Facilities in Canada



Source: Canada Energy Regulator, *Market Snapshot: Where does Canada store natural gas?* North American Cooperation on Energy Information

Upcoming Webinar: Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) 101

The BCER can now receive applications for carbon dioxide underground storage reservoir projects. To support the application and review process, the BCER is offering opportunities to learn more about Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and the potential storage reservoir opportunities in British Columbia.

A public webinar, CCS 101, will be offered in November. The webinar will be an opportunity to learn:

- What is CCS?
- Where are the potential carbon dioxide storage reservoirs in the province?
- High-level look at subsurface tenure and storage reservoir projects.
- BCER regulatory oversight.

Stay tuned for an invite to this webinar. For further information on the project approval process regarding carbon dioxide storage reservoir, please contact reservoir@bc-er.ca.

Our past webinars are ready to watch at the touch of a button! We've produced 12 to date, on topics relevant to land owners, other stakeholders and Indigenous nations. New webinars are presented regularly so check out the webinars page on our website.

New Fact Sheets Available

You're not alone if you find some energy resource topics and their regulatory facets hard to wrap your head around. Luckily, our Public Trust team has been hard at work tapping into our varied subject matter experts for updates to our educational factsheets. From a primer on our newly-expanded mandate to an overview of liquefied natural gas regulation, these lay-friendly, illustrated two-pagers are a good entry point into the dynamic land-, water- and air-scape of energy resource activities and regulation in B.C.

View our fact sheets here: www.bc-er.ca/news-publications/factsheets/

2022 Oil & Gas Reserves Report Now Available

Our Reservoir Engineering team is excited to announce the 2022 Oil and Gas Reserves and Production Report has been posted on the bc-er.ca website. This annual report summarizes provincial oil and gas production and remaining recoverable reserves in British Columbia, providing assurance of supply for the development of policy, regulation and industry investment. The report also qualifies the growth and future potential of unconventional resources as a long-term source of natural gas for the province.

Some highlights include:

- In 2022, 288 new well applications were approved and 374 wells drilled – 20 per cent less than in 2021.
- The Montney basin continues to be the focus of activity; of the 374 wells rig released, only one was drilled outside the Montney.
- Despite the decrease in wells drilled in 2022, natural gas production and reserves continued to grow, with an 18.3 per cent annual increase in reserves and 40 per cent increase in gas production over the past five years.
- On average, new wells in the Montney have delivered higher reserves and production rates, requiring fewer wells to maintain or increase the provincial production rate.
- Since 2020, the pace of well decommissioning has exceeded the number of new wells drilled.

Read the full report here: www.bc-er.ca/data-reports/reports/

Request a Core Research Facility Tour

Want to inspect petroleum well cores and drill cutting samples firsthand? Request a tour at our Core Facility in Fort St. John! Facility tours can be arranged to accommodate geologists, corporations, the general public, and educational groups from elementary school to university level. Tour requests are by reservation only and must be pre-approved by the onsite Core Facility Supervisor. Request a tour and learn more about our Core Research Facility on our website at www.bc-er.ca/energy-professionals/core-research-facility/.

Unleashing Potential: BCER Sponsors Second Mind Over Metal™ Youth Camp

From July 24 to 28, the BCER sponsored another Mind Over Metal™ camp at the Thompson Rivers University (TRU) campus in Williams Lake. Kate Hewitt, from the BCER's Indigenous Relations Team, was fortunate to join for the closing ceremonies.

At the BCER, we believe investing in young people means empowering the next generation. One of the ways we do this is through our sponsorship of the Mind Over Metal Camp. This transformative and unforgettable experience, for youth aged 12 to 17, is designed to introduce young minds to the fascinating world of welding and metalwork while nurturing their creativity, camaraderie, and confidence. It's also about removing barriers for women: this time, four out of 16 students were young women.

Students, instructors, family and friends gather at the closing ceremonies.

The camp's foundation is built on accessibility. Participation is free, ensuring everyone, regardless of their background or financial situation, can take part in this enriching week (the only challenge was an overwhelming waitlist!). This commitment to inclusivity aligns perfectly with BCER's values of promoting growth and advancement for all.

Hosted at the TRU's impressive trades facility, the camp's setting is nothing short of inspiring. Their state-of-the-art facilities provide an immersive, hands-on learning environment, ideal for sparking the curiosity and passion of young minds.

Background on Mind Over Metal:

The camp is offered by the CWB Welding Foundation, a national registered charity established in 2013 by the Canadian Welding Bureau (CWB) Group. Through hands-on learning, these camps are designed to introduce youth to welding and welding-related careers while building confidence and self-esteem through the development of new skills. To learn more about Mind Over Metal camps and the CWB Welding Foundation, visit www.cwbweldingfoundation.org.

Mind Over Metal is not merely about inspiring careers in welding; it's a transformative journey that instills a sense of purpose and self-belief. Tyler, a TRU welding instructor, expressed his enthusiasm for the camp, saying that witnessing the growth, progress, and ingenuity of the students is a source of great satisfaction for him and the team, many of whom are volunteers. As the days pass, the campers form new friendships, learn from one another, and create a sense of camaraderie.

The closing ceremony itself is a joyous occasion, as students proudly showcase their impressive works to an audience of parents and friends. Each student is recognized during a certificate ceremony, acknowledging their dedication and achievements. It’s heartwarming to see the beaming faces of students, proud of their accomplishments and newfound abilities. During the closing ceremony it's evident how this environment positively influences the young participants. The sheer number of projects created by the students is nothing short of spectacular!

To add to the celebratory atmosphere, a delightful BBQ spread was laid out, allowing everyone to come together and gather. Instructors and organizers took the opportunity to commend the students for their astounding creativity and impeccable behaviour. The sense of respect and appreciation at the camp is a testament to its profoundly positive impact on young people.

The camp provides a glimpse of the infinite potential that lies within our youth, inspiring hope for a brighter future. BCER is proud to be a part of this journey, fostering the growth of young minds and contributing to a better tomorrow. Together, we can unlock the potential of the next generation and create a stronger, more innovative society.

Two projects welded at the camp.

Fall 2023 Update: Expanding Northeast B.C.'s Water Monitoring Network

Following the November 2022 Community Connector article on the expansion of Northeast B.C.'s Water Monitoring Network, the BCER's Stewardship Water Team completed another field season working on projects with the BC Oil and Gas Research and Innovation Society (OGRIS) and Geoscience BC in partnership with Treaty 8 Nations.

We collected hydrometric data from these projects, which will be processed and shared on the provincial Aquarius website and the Water Portal in the coming months. These data locations include Osborn River and Doig River (Doig River First Nation), Aitken Creek and Blueberry River (Blueberry River First Nations), Le Bleu Creek (Saulteau First Nations), Hulcross Creek (Saulteau First Nations and West Moberly First Nations), Stewart Creek (McLeod Lake Indian Band), and Martin Creek (Prophet River First Nation).

The expansion of this hydrometric program through the Geoscience BC project has helped strengthen our relationships with First Nation communities, which began during the OGRIS project. Ministry of Forests Water Authorization Specialists from the Fort St. John office have been supporting the monitoring efforts at both project stations. As Geoscience BC funding is concluding this year, our team is exploring ways to continue monitoring by consolidating both projects into a single program.

We are excited to continue this hydrometric monitoring in collaboration with our partners in the future. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ryan Rolick, Hydrologist, at Ryan.Rolick@bc-er.ca.

Join Our Regional Networking Group!

The BCER Regional Networking Group (RNG) connects land owners with the BCER. Group members receive land owner focused news, announcements and invitations to participate in BCER events. We also welcome input on new guidelines, fact sheets and other information useful for land owners.

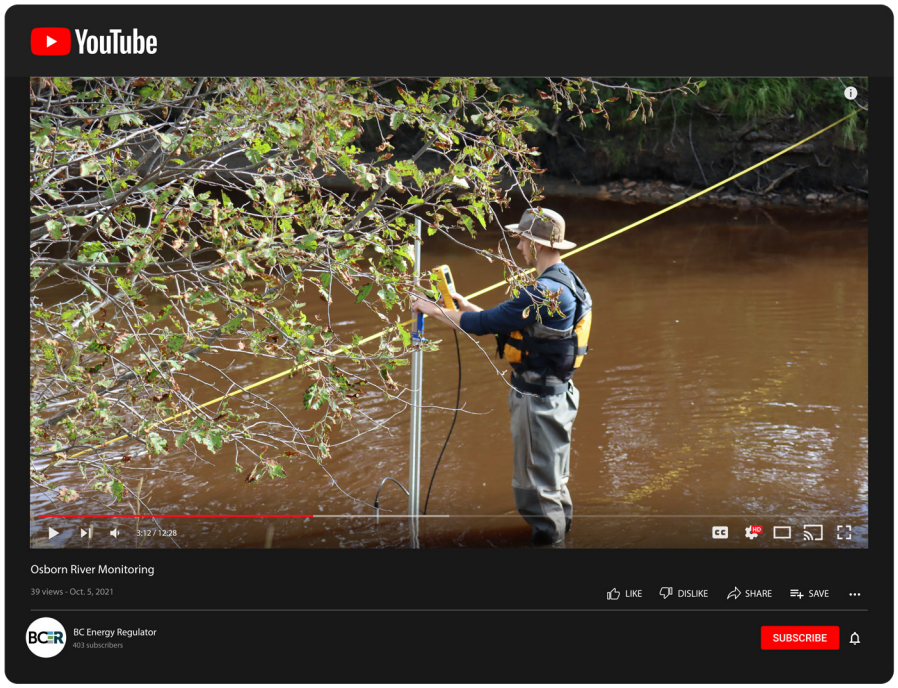
New members welcome! Join the RNG by emailing CommunityEngagement@bc-er.ca.

Fall 2023 Update: Reviewing Industry Water Use

To follow-up on the audit of BCER-administered groundwater licences conducted in 2022, and with the goal of increasing and ensuring compliance with water licence conditions, the BCER's Stewardship Water Team has been busy working with the Audit and Integrity group for another round of audits focused on surface water licences. Water licences administered by the BCER have standard conditions for withdrawal reporting as well as diversion rate conditions specific to the water source. A kick-off meeting was held in September 2023 to identify 10 water licences held by 10 operators who will be audited to ensure they adhere to individual licence conditions. A letter will soon be sent to each licence holder requesting them to demonstrate the process(es) by which they comply with diversion rate conditions and calculate actual daily withdrawal volumes.

These submissions will then be reviewed, and next steps defined for any identified issues of compliance. The 2022 audit saw a 10 out of 10 compliance rate and the team is hopeful for another positive return with the 2023 round.

Hydrometric station, Blueberry River at Mile 98 Road.



Learn more about the Northeast B.C. Water Monitoring Network by checking out our YouTube channel! We have two short videos of our Stewardship group, a water team comprised of our hydrologist and an environmental specialist, heading out into the field to monitor flows in streams across the northeast.

Summer Field Student Recap

Every year we hire a diverse group of summer field co-op students to work closely with our environmental program areas, gaining skills and experience to move forward in their careers.

This year we were pleased to have five summer field students support our Responsible Stewardship Branch:

- Haley Korfmann – ESSG Implementation
- Lauren Cote – Heritage Conservation Program-Archaeology
- Mitzi Tejada – Hydrometric Monitoring
- Quinton Persson – COR Audit Program
- Ruby Corpuz – COR Audit Program

Co-op students bring so much to the BC Energy Regulator, and we are proud to play a role in developing the next generation of leaders in responsible energy development. Here is what they had to say about their experience with the BCER:

Haley Korfmann, Carleton University – Engineering Physics

What was your favourite experience and/or highlight during your co-op?

I have enjoyed participating in field days as it allows for me to gain insight into the visual representation of the work I am assisting with in office. An experience that stands out to me was the trip I attended in the Sikanni area to observe restoration practices for well sites and access roads. Having a visual representation of restoration work was useful for me in the application to related office activities. In addition to this, having the chance to chat with engineers within the BCER was beneficial to learning about the practices of engineers within the oil and gas industry.

Lauren Cote, University of Saskatchewan – Palaeobiology & Geology (Minor)

How will this experience help you meet your career goals?

This position has provided me with the opportunity to learn invaluable field skills, and become more familiar with provincial regulations surrounding archaeology, as well as palaeontology.

Photo submitted by Lauren Cote.

Mitzi Tejada, Northern Lights College – Land and Water Resources Diploma

What did you learn during your co-op?

I learned a lot from this experience, especially about water dynamics and its environmental impact. Also, I now understand the significance of reliable data collection using advanced technology in hydrometric monitoring. Additionally, river and stream gauging stations have proven to be essential tools for understanding hydrological trends, and this data is crucial for addressing the effects of climate change and managing water resources effectively. Additionally, what I found most rewarding about the project is the involvement of the First Nation communities, as it facilitates knowledge transfer and empowers them to monitor and preserve their natural resources.

Haley Korfmann (left) and Mitzi Tejada (right) measuring water velocity and discharge at Doig River. Photo submitted by Mitzi Tejada.

Photo submitted by Ruby Corpuz.

Photo submitted by Quinton Persson.

Quinton Persson, University of Saskatchewan – Environmental Engineering

Did you see any interesting wildlife in the field?

During my field experiences, I have encountered a diverse array of wildlife, ranging from majestic black bears, moose, and elk to captivating birds, smaller mammals, and insects. These encounters have been humbling and have further solidified my commitment to safeguarding our precious ecosystems.

Ruby Corpuz, Northern Lights College – Land and Water Resources Diploma

What are your career plans after you graduate?

After graduation, I will be able to secure an EIT certificate and apply for an employment opportunity in oil and gas companies and environmental consultants.

BCER Joins Community at 76th Annual North Peace Fall Fair

From Aug. 18-20, 2023, the BCER had the opportunity to attend the 76th Annual North Peace Fall Fair and celebrate the region's strong agricultural traditions. From tractor pulls and music entertainment, to livestock shows and a variety of local crafts and food vendors, the event attracted a diverse crowd of all ages from across the North Peace Region. The splendid weather, with temperatures in the low to mid-20s and abundant sunshine, added to the fair's success.

The fair buzzed with excitement as visitors of all ages enjoyed a wide range of activities and attractions. BCER had a prominent information booth, fostering insightful discussions with visitors.

BCER used a unique "dot vote" stakeholder engagement method to gather valuable feedback. Water Management and Restoration emerged as top interests among attendees, with Online Resources and Public Information Sessions as preferred information sources.

Over the two-day event, BCER engaged in substantive conversations with attendees, covering topics like permitting, restoration initiatives, emergency management, compliance and enforcement, orphan sites, and personal BCER experiences.

The fair was a resounding success, fostering engagement and enthusiasm among visitors and BCER staff. It provided a platform for the community to voice opinions and learn about BCER's new name and expanded mandate.

Dane Eggleston (Landowner Liaison) and Kelly Bentley (Community Engagement Assistant)

Conan Drummond (Manager, Community Engagement)

Is there an opportunity for us to participate in your community? Please contact our community engagement team with event details at CommunityEngagement@bc-er.ca.

Your Participation and Feedback Helps Us Stay Informed!

Keep an eye out in January for your opportunity to provide valuable input to our 2024 survey!

Every year we conduct an annual survey with stakeholders across British Columbia. For the past five years, the focus has been on land owners and local government who live directly in, or adjacent to, areas where oil and gas activities take place or are planned to take place.

This anonymous information is very useful in helping us know where we are doing well and where there are opportunities to improve. As with our previous surveys, we will analyze the data and use it to inform initiatives and processes throughout the BCER to ensure our continuous commitment to being a responsible, respectful and effective regulator.

Check out our June 2023 Community Connector Issue to see last year's survey results.

In Case You Missed It! Our New Public Toll-Free Number is Now Available!

One of the BC Energy Regulator's key priorities is safety and transparency with the public. As a result, the BCER has launched a new province-wide toll-free number for the public to use when calling to report concerns or emergencies. The new number is staffed 24-hours a day and is for public use only.

This number is in addition to a local number for callers from Fort St. John and surrounding areas to reach the BCER.

New Public Toll-free number:
1-877-500-BCER (2237)

Public Fort St. John number:
250-794-5200

The Community Connector

BCER
BRITISH COLUMBIA ENERGY REGULATOR

Discover how we regulate energy in B.C.