

What is the BC Energy Regulator (BCER)?

The BCER is the regulatory agency responsible for overseeing energy activities in British Columbia. Our role includes the management of natural gas, hydrogen, ammonia, methanol, oil and aspects of geothermal resources, with an expanded role in carbon capture and storage (CCS). We regulate energy resources through the [Energy Resource Activities Act \(ERAA\)](#) and other associated laws.

What Do We Do?

We oversee the full life cycle of energy resource activities from exploration and site planning, development and pipeline transportation to final site restoration. We ensure activities are undertaken in a manner that protects public safety and the environment, supports reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, conserves energy resources and fosters a sound economy and social well-being.

We work collaboratively across government and industry sharing policy and technical expertise to evolve our regulatory model in support of B.C.'s transition to low-carbon energy and to help meet future global energy needs.



2023 marks the organization's 25th year of protecting public and environmental safety while balancing a broad range of stewardship, economic and social considerations.



Natural resource basins & BCER office locations in B.C.

How Do We Effectively Oversee Energy Resource Activities?

Any company looking to explore, develop, produce and market energy resources in B.C. must apply to the BCER. We have the legislative authority to make decisions on proposed activities, and with our diverse expertise and experience, we provide critical insight at every level of development.

Over 280 highly skilled professionals across the province are committed to safe and responsible energy resource management.

Our team includes:

- Engineers
- Hydrologists
- Foresters
- Natural Resource Officers
- Agrologists
- Geologists
- Inspectors
- Environmental Specialists
- First Nations Liaison Officers
- Land Owner Liaison Officers
- Heritage Conservation Officers
- Emergency Management Specialists

Key Priorities

Transparency

We are improving public understanding and trust in our role within the energy sector we regulate. We do this by being transparent and continually sharing information on how we proactively engage with First Nations and Indigenous communities, industry, academia, stakeholders and governments in order to make responsible, progressive and informed decisions.

Meaningful Reconciliation & Partnerships

We are focused on advancing reconciliation and building trust with First Nations and Indigenous communities. We respect Indigenous knowledge as we collaborate and co-develop new processes in all facets of our work and decision-making. We work to honour Indigenous rights, titles and values as we enhance our Indigenous relations and capacity at the BCER.

Safety

We monitor, inspect, audit and enforce the life cycle of regulated activities, ensuring technical assessments, safety and stewardship measures are effective and reflect best practice. Our annual safety audits of pipelines and facilities are shared publicly to provide insight into operator performance and compliance.

Responsible Resource Development

We use trusted processes and embrace innovative technologies to ensure energy resource activities are developed, managed, maintained and restored in a manner that fully considers the province's resources, the environment, community well-being and the rights of land owners. We are building better processes that consider cumulative effects while accelerating stewardship and restoration activities.

Priority Highlights

1-877-500-BCER

We've launched a new province-wide toll-free phone number to report concerns or emergencies.

Our key priorities include safety and transparency with the public.

1-877-500-BCER will be staffed 24/7.



4,200+ consultations*

Nearly all proposed activities require consultation with First Nations.

We respect Indigenous knowledge and seek learning opportunities as we endeavour to meet our goal of meaningful reconciliation and partnerships with Indigenous peoples.

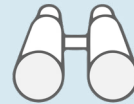
Learn more at bc-er.ca.



4,500+ site inspections*

In 2022, we inspected over 16,800 activities at sites related to pipelines, facilities, roads, water use and more.

After identifying and addressing deficiencies, the final compliance rate was 99.81%.



Industry pays approach

The public does not pay for the clean-up of inactive oil and gas sites.

We collect deposits from operators to pay for timely site reclamation and restoration to protect public safety and the environment.

We hold operators accountable for their restoration obligations.



*2022 data

Our Values

RESPECT

INTEGRITY

TRANSPARENCY

INNOVATION

RESPONSIVENESS

Explore our latest initiatives at bc-er.ca:

New Dormant Sites Map

Search for dormant sites by location, operator and status using our new online, interactive maps. Orphan sites can also be viewed and include wells, facilities, pipelines and associated areas. See more at bc-er.ca/what-we-regulate/oil-gas/dormant-sites.

New Data Narratives

Explore drilling and production, water allocation and use and more through our interactive, visually-driven data narratives. Additional data narratives are underway as we pursue our value of transparency. Check them out at bc-er.ca/data-reports/data-narratives.



Public Concerns and Complaints

1-250-794-5200 (24-hour public number)

1-877-500-BCER (2237) (24-hour toll free)

Report concerns such as odours, spills or noise.

Incident Reporting for Industry

1-800-663-3456 (24-hour emergency number)

Report oil and gas related incidents.