



### Interim Consultation Procedures in Effect

FORT ST. JOHN — Consultation Process Agreements (CPA) between Treaty 8 First Nations (Doig River, Fort Nelson, Halfway River, Prophet River, Saulteau and West Moberly) and the provincial government, as represented by the Ministry of Energy and Mines and the BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission), expired Mar. 31, 2011.

The government is currently engaged with First Nations in discussions related to the negotiation of new consultation agreements.

As an interim step, the Commission drafted Interim Consultation Procedures (ICP), effective Apr. 1, 2011, to guide the conduct of Commission staff in situations where consultation obligations arise and there is no signed CPA in effect with a Treaty 8 First Nation. The draft ICP has been shared with the First Nations to provide opportunity for review and comment.

There is no change to the application process for industry or, in how industry participates, as appropriate, in consultation processes at this time. The primary change relates to the internal processes within the Commission and how the Commission engages with First Nations without CPAs.

Updates to the Commission website, such as posting the ICP, form changes and manual updates, will occur immediately.

The Commission is the province's independent regulator of oil and gas activities and is responsible for permitting and overseeing petroleum and natural gas operations in British Columbia. It has responsibility and authority to ensure the Crown's obligations to consult with First Nations and accommodate, if appropriate, are fulfilled with respect to decision making on oil and gas activities where activities have the potential to adversely impact First Nations rights as recognized and affirmed by Section 35(1) of the Constitution Act, 1982.

The ICP and supporting documents can be found [here](#).

#### **For more information on this Information Bulletin contact:**

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