

Navigating the Regulatory Process for Alberta's Energy Resources

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Alberta's Industrial Heartland is home to 40+ companies, and continues to grow in size and scale. New companies to the Heartland or those expanding existing facilities must obtain the necessary approvals and permits, depending on the type of project.

Regulatory approval for projects relating to Alberta's energy resources is granted by the Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB). The process begins when a company discloses their proposed project to the public to gather feedback and refine their plans.

Once public consultation is complete, an application for the project is submitted to the ERCB. If there are no outstanding concerns with landowners/residents and the proposed project is technically sound, safe, and ensures environmental protection, the ERCB may approve the project. If landowner/resident concerns exist, the ERCB may issue a notice, which invites written submissions from people, organizations, or companies who feel they may be directly and adversely affected by the project.

Based on the submissions, the ERCB may conclude a public hearing is necessary. A hearing allows for an open, public testing of technical, environmental, social, and economic evidence from those involved. The process ensures that all relevant arguments are heard both for and against the project. In their final decision, the ERCB may approve the project as presented, approve the project with additional conditions, or reject the project. If approval is granted, the company is then free to move ahead with its project.

Most of our province's energy resources are owned by the people of Alberta through our provincial government. This regulatory process helps ensure that energy resource development is safe, responsible, and in the public interest.

For more information on industrial development or the regulatory process for Alberta's energy resources, visit www.industrialheartland.com or www.ercb.ca.

*Brought to you by **Life in the Heartland**, a partnership aimed at improving access to information, contacts, and resources for residents in and around Alberta's Industrial Heartland. For more information, visit www.lifeintheheartland.com or email info@lifeintheheartland.com.*