



Energy development in Alberta has become more complex over the decades. At the same time, Albertans' expectations have changed: they want more information about the projects that affect them. So, the AER is meeting with Albertans and indigenous communities across the province to gather input and recommendations on potential new participant involvement requirements.

What is the Integrated Decision Approach?

Today, the AER reviews several applications for individual parts of an energy development. For example, a company may submit separate applications to drill a well, use storage tanks, and build an access road. In this regulatory approach, local residents, municipalities, and indigenous communities may receive numerous notices of applications over time for one energy project, without knowing the end goal of the development. The AER makes decisions on each individual aspect of the project. This makes looking at the bigger picture difficult.

To improve this process, the AER is changing the way it makes decisions. Requirements for proposed projects are being integrated into a single application, including how it will be built, how it will operate, and how and when it will eventually end, with the land reclaimed. The AER will review all aspects of the proposed development at the same time and make one decision.

Evolving Engagement Requirements

The Integrated Decision Approach creates the opportunity that may enhance the AER's requirements for how operators engage stakeholders and indigenous communities as part of an integrated application. When integrated applications for projects get larger, some enhancements to existing requirements may be needed.

The AER is meeting with Albertans and indigenous communities across the province to gather input and recommendations on potential new participant involvement requirements and processes. Your feedback will help us shape conversations that operators, their stakeholders, and indigenous communities have about energy development in Alberta. We would like to investigate what isn't working well with the current requirements and together develop enhanced requirements that better meet the needs of Albertans, indigenous communities, industry, and the regulator. Please join us to share your views.