

Hearing Commissioners' Office

Andrew MacPherson Chief Hearing Commissioner

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Proceeding 463

September 9, 2025

To: Keith Talbot
For: Cancen Oil Processors Inc.

To: Maria Lavelle, Counsel

For: Alberta Energy Regulator –

Regulatory Compliance Branch

[By email only]

Regulatory appeal of the decision to issue an administrative penalty to Cancen Oil Processors Inc. on February 18, 2025, under section 237 of the *Environmental Protection Enhancement Act*

The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has requested that I assign a hearing panel to conduct a hearing for the above noted regulatory appeal. The regulatory appeal was granted by the AER as a result of Cancen Oil Processors Inc.'s request for regulatory appeal 1957492 dated March 18, 2025. A hearing will be held unless the request for regulatory appeal is withdrawn. Hearings are led by hearing commissioners who are independent from the day-to-day operations of the AER. I assign one or more hearing commissioners to sit on hearing panels to decide matters sent to them by the AER. Their decisions may only be reviewed by the Court of Appeal of Alberta, and they must adhere to the Hearing Commissioner Code of Conduct.

Hearing Process

This is not a notice of hearing. Once a hearing panel is assigned, they will decide any procedural matters related to the hearing such as issuing a notice of hearing. Before a notice of hearing can be issued, the record of the decision maker must be compiled and placed on the <u>public record</u>.

For more information about the AER hearing process please see <u>Manual 003: Participant Guide to the Hearing Process</u>. This manual provides an overview of the hearing process and tries to answer common questions. The requirements for hearings are set out in the <u>Responsible Energy Development Act</u> and the <u>Alberta Energy Regulator Rules of Practice</u>.

Andrew Lung is the Hearing Coordinator for this proceeding and will be your main point of contact during this process. If you have any questions, please contact **Andrew** at hearing.services@aer.ca.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

I have assigned Parand Meysami to conduct <u>Alternative Dispute Resolution</u> (ADR) regarding this matter. Commissioner Meysami is not a member of the hearing panel for the proceeding as ADR is separate from the hearing process. ADR is voluntary and party led. The parties control the outcomes. ADR may support parties

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to resolve their conflict. However, ADR can also be used to support parties to effectively communicate and prepare for a hearing. The following topics are examples of what parties can address through ADR and propose to the hearing panel:

- An agreed statement of facts
- The issues for a hearing
- The process steps for the hearing, such as a mutually agreeable submission schedule or the inclusion of an information request process
- The parties' preferences for hearing dates
- The format of the hearing (electronic, oral, written or a hybrid approach)

Reaching agreement on some of these or other topics through ADR can support an efficient hearing process.

The ADR by Hearing Commissioner brochure and Manual 004: Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs and Guidelines for Energy Industry Disputes have information on ADR. All discussions in ADR including offers to settle, proposals, and concessions, are subject to settlement privilege and remain confidential and cannot be used in the hearing unless all parties agree otherwise.

Parties may request the hearing process be adjourned while participating in ADR. To request an adjournment please contact hearing.services@aer.ca. The hearing panel assigned to this proceeding will decide on the adjournment request. Alternatively, the hearing process and ADR can proceed simultaneously.

Commissioner Meysami will be in touch with you in due course.

Regards,

Andrew MacPherson, P.Eng.

Chief Hearing Commissioner Hearing Commissioners' Office

cc: Tammy Loiselle, AER Regulatory Compliance Branch
Parand Meysami, Hearing Commissioner assigned for ADR
Bronwhyn Simmons and Simone Tielesh, AER Counsel for hearing panel