Alberta Energy Regulator

Hearing Commissioners' Office

Andrew MacPherson
Chief Hearing Commissioner

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Proceeding 471

September 17, 2026

To: **Sean Steed**

To: **Paul Muyers**
For: Sean Steed

To: **Anu Saini**
For: Imperial Oil Resources Limited

To: **Alison Doebele**
For: Counsel for AER Enterprise Reclamation Group

[By Email Only]

Regulatory Appeal by Sean Steed of the Decision by AER Enterprise Regulation Group (ERG) to Issue Reclamation Certificate No. 33723060 to Imperial Oil Resources Limited on December 5, 2025.

On behalf of Chief Hearing Commissioner Andrew MacPherson, I am writing to inform you that the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has requested the Chief Hearing Commissioner 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 Mr. Sean Steed's request for regulatory appeal 1961040 dated January 17, 2026. A hearing will be held unless the request for regulatory appeal is withdrawn.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. Chief Hearing Commissioner MacPherson assigns 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 public record.

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

Security Classification: Public

A Hearing Coordinator for this proceeding will be assigned and be your main point of contact during this process. If you have any questions, please contact Hearing Services at hearing.services@aer.ca.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Chief Hearing Commissioner MacPherson has assigned Commissioner Tracey Stock to conduct Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) regarding this matter. Commissioner Stock 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 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 (attached) 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 Stock will be in touch with you in due course.

Regards,

Nerissa Hymers
Executive Assistant
Hearing Commissioners' Office

cc: Corey Zadko, Statutory Decision Maker, AER ERG Branch
Shauna Gibbons, Counsel for hearing panel, AER
Tracey Stock, ADR Hearing Commissioner, AER
Andrew MacPherson, Chief Hearing Commissioner, AER