



ALBERTA

SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Minister

AR21303

FEB 13 2009

Mr. Robert Telford, President
Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen
Suite 350, 500 - 5 Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3L5

Dear Mr. Telford:

Premier Ed Stelmach forwarded your December 19, 2008 letter regarding the establishment of a committee to review surface rights compensation. I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Alberta government.

I am aware of the strong interest being shown for a review of compensation under the *Surface Rights Act*. My department has gathered and reviewed input from many stakeholders, including the report prepared by the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties in 2007.

Based on feedback from key stakeholders, the Alberta government agreed to complete the development of the Land-use Framework prior to undertaking a review of the *Surface Rights Act*. My department will not be pursuing a review until further development of the Land-use Framework. Should a committee be established as proposed in Motion 512 during the 2008 Fall Session, representatives from the provincial government, landowners and the energy industry will have the opportunity to participate.

Thank you for taking the time to write to share your views and interest on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Ted Morton
Minister

cc: The Honourable Ed Stelmach
Premier

The Honourable George Groeneveld
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development

