



October 26, 2017

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**ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Attention: Bob Heggie, Chief Executive; Doug Larder, QC, General Counsel and Executive Director,  
Law; Fino Tiberi, Executive Director, Market Oversight and Enforcement**

**Gentlemen:**

**Re: Renewables and Surface Access Agreements with Albertans  
Use of Licenced and Professionally Designated Landmen (CAPL)**

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On behalf of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen (CAPL), it is our responsibility, and has been since 1948, to meet and exceed the regulations associated with the taking of land. As we welcome innovation and investment in Alberta, our members continue to be educated, formulate standard documentation and influence Alberta regulations by ensuring we have sound policies impacting Albertans at every level.

This letter is being written as a direct result of actions being taken by company representatives who are effectively unlicensed agents for the taking of land by the renewables industry, which is clearly under your jurisdiction. The CAPL is concerned for the landowners and occupants, and the public at large, affected by dealings with non-licensed individuals, some of which may have acted in an unethical manner. As you may be aware, Land Agents are held to a Standard of Conduct and any land agent who acts in contravention of these standards would face disciplinary action. The public has the ability to file a complaint to the Registrar of Land Agents relating to the actions of the land agent. Directly from the Alberta Labour website, "... a Land Agent should observe the highest standards of conduct on a personal and professional level so as to retain the trust, respect and confidence of clients, landowners, and the public. Disciplinary assessment of a land agent's conduct will be based on all facts and circumstances as they existed at the time of the alleged breach of conduct."

Currently, the Surface Rights Act and thus the Land Agents Licensing Act, does not include a provision for renewable energy land acquisition. All Albertans deserve fair and equal treatment. The fact that the surface acquisitions do not require licensed and professional (CAPL designation PSL) land agents does not mean that they *should not* require such.

We would ask that the AUC take it upon themselves to work with the Registrar of Land Agents Licensing to put the appropriate licensing provisions into place.



This will ensure fulfilment of the public and AUC's best practices' goal that they are doing what is right for all. CAPL would encourage a conversation in this regard. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the writer.

Yours very truly,

**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM LANDMEN**

**Larry Buzan, P.Land, B. Comm**

**President 2016-2018 C: 403-808-8575 D: 403-774-2906**

LB/dg

c.c. Alberta Registrar, Farmer's Advocate Office, AER

Land Agents Licensing – Registrar Nadine Triska

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