



ALBERTA
INDIGENOUS RELATIONS

Office of the Minister

40541

October 24, 2017

Mr. Larry Buzan
President
Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen
Suite 1600, 520 – 5 Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 3R7

Dear Mr. Buzan:

Thank you for your September 26, 2017, letter inquiring about the delays in reviewing pre-consultation assessment and adequacy assessments. I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Government of Alberta.

As you are aware, the work of the Aboriginal Consultation Office (ACO) is guided by *The Government of Alberta's Guidelines on Consultation with First Nations on Land and Natural Resource Management, 2014*, which includes processing timelines.

The ACO is processing applications for both pre-consultation and adequacy assessments, and actively monitors incoming applications and processing timelines. The ACO is aware of the increased timelines and is taking steps to respond to delays in meeting our processing targets.

It is anticipated that with additional capacity focused on the current increased timeline issue, improvements should be seen in the next few weeks. In the meantime, if there is urgency on a particular project that you would like to discuss, I encourage you to contact the ACO general inbox, at ir.fnconsultlands-eds2110ea@gov.ab.ca, so that concerns can be directed to the appropriate staff member.

In regards to your suggestion regarding streamlining the consultation process as a potential contributing solution to the timeline issue, I recommend that you connect with the Acting Director of Policy Integration, Mr. Godlove Suh, for consideration as part of the Consultation Policy review that is currently underway. Mr. Suh can be contacted at 780-643-3889 or Godlove.Suh@gov.ab.ca, to elaborate on streamlining the consultation process, and any outstanding consultation-related issues or concerns you may have.

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Thank you once again for writing. I appreciate you bringing this issue to my attention.

Sincerely,



Richard Feehan
Minister of Indigenous Relations

cc: Premier Rachel Notley
Premier of Alberta

Honourable Deron Bilous
Minister of Economic Development and Trade

Honourable Shannon Phillips
Minister of Environment and Parks

Godlove Suh
Indigenous Relations