



REGULATORY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES ACROSS CANADA

Submission for the 2008 Energy and Mines Ministers' Conference

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Regulatory Performance Improvement Working Group
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Introduction

To improve regulatory processes that affect Canadian mines and energy industries, federal, provincial and territorial Energy and Mines Ministers directed energy and mines officials to continue their joint efforts to identify and resolve systemic regulatory issues. In September 2007, Ministers across Canada agreed to share information regarding their jurisdictions' regulatory improvement initiatives.

The Regulatory Performance Improvement Working Group (RPI WG)¹ was established in response to Ministers' direction that government officials work collaboratively with responsible authorities towards implementing a more streamlined, transparent, timely and certain regulatory regime. Each federal, provincial and territorial jurisdiction participating in the RPI WG was invited to contribute information on the initiatives under way or proposed by their respective government. These initiatives were consolidated into this *Regulatory Improvement Initiatives Across Canada* document for the purpose of sharing best practices and lessons learned.

As evidenced in the following report, a multitude of regulatory improvement initiatives are currently under way or planned across Canada. Some initiatives are energy- or mining-sector specific while others are wide-reaching with longer-term regulatory frameworks in mind. Viewed in their entirety, this collection of initiatives demonstrates an abiding commitment to improving the timeliness and predictability of regulatory approval processes at all levels of government in Canada. It should be noted that this collection of initiatives is an evergreen document and will be reviewed on a regular basis.

¹ The RPI WG replaces the former Council of Energy Ministers (CEM) Regulatory Effectiveness Working Group and the Canadian Mines Ministers Intergovernmental Working Group on the Mineral Industry (IGWG) Sub-Committee on Regulatory Effectiveness.



Summary Listing

INITIATIVE	Under Development	Implementation Initiated	Mines/Energy Focus Yes/No
Government of Canada			
Regulatory Improvement Initiative - Major Projects Management Office and Capacity Funding		2007	Y
Cabinet Directive on Implementing the <i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</i>		2005	N
Determining Scope of Project for Major Development Proposals – An Interim Approach		2006	N
Cabinet Directive on Streamlining Regulation		2007	N
Community of Federal Regulators		2005	N
Core Curriculum for Federal Regulators – Canada School of Public Service (CSPS)		2007	N
Substitution Under the <i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</i> – Brunswick Pipeline Pilot Project		2006	N
Strategic Environmental Assessments	Y		N
Transport Canada's Proponents' Guide for Environmental Assessment		2006	N
Transport Canada's Minor Works Policies	Y		N
Fisheries and Oceans' Operational Statements	Y		N
Fisheries and Oceans' <i>Fisheries Act</i> Regulatory Improvement Initiatives	Y		N
Environmental Assessment Projects Committee		2005	N
Class Screenings Under the <i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act</i>		2003	N
Aboriginal Consultation Policy		2007	N
Paper Burden Reduction Initiative		2007	N
Streamlining Amendments to the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER)		2007	Y
National Energy Board Streamlining Initiative		2006	Y
National Energy Board Risk-Based Life-Cycle Regulation	Y		Y
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada – Northern Regulatory Improvement Initiative	Y		N
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada – Amendments to the Northwest Territories and Nunavut Mining Regulations (Formerly Known as the Canada Mining Regulations)		2007	Y
Government of British Columbia			
British Columbia Regulatory Reform Initiative		2001	N
Oil and Gas Regulatory Improvement Initiative		2008	Y

INITIATIVE	Under Development	Implementation Initiated	Mines/Energy Focus Yes/No
Government of British Columbia (cont'd)			
FrontCounter BC		2005	N
BC Mining Plan Initiative – Protecting Workers, Protecting the Environment		2006	Y
BC Mining Plan Initiative – Collaborate on Environmental Challenges	Y		Y
BC Mining Plan Initiative – Lead in Environmental Standards and Practices		2008	Y
BC Mining Plan Initiative – Streamline Regulation	Y		Y
BC Mining Plan Initiative – Aggregate Business Strategy Review		2007	Y
BC Energy Plan Initiative – Hydrogen Regulatory Framework		2008	Y
BC Energy Plan Initiative – Improvements to the <i>Utilities Commission Act</i>		2007	Y
Energy Efficiency Standards Regulation	Y		Y
Independent Power Producers Office	Y		Y
BCUC Capital Expenditure Collar		2007	Y
The Canada-British Columbia Agreement on Environmental Assessment Cooperation		2004	N
Resource Management Coordination Project	Y	2008	N
Government of Alberta			
Upstream Oil and Gas Policy Integration	Y		Y
Sustainable Resource and Environmental Management (SREM)	Y		N
Metallic and Industrial Minerals Mining Regulation	Y		Y
Land-Use Framework (LUF)	Y	2008	N
Government of Saskatchewan			
Regulatory and Service Enhancement Initiative		2006	N
Oil and Gas Conservation Amendment Regulation		2007	Y
<i>Institutional Controls Act</i>		2007	Y
Review of Major Sectors Regulatory Processes Initiative		2002	Y
Best Management Practices for Mineral Exploration Initiative	Y		Y
Information Management Initiative	Y		N
Cost of Regulatory Delay Initiative		2007	Y

INITIATIVE	Under Development	Implementation Initiated	Mines/Energy Focus Yes/No
Government of Saskatchewan (cont'd)			
Crown Land Administration and Management System Initiative (CLAMS)	Y		N
One-Stop Web Site – BizPaL Initiative		2007	N
SaskGrid		2006	N
Promote Sharing of Environmental Monitoring Information		2007	N
New Environmental Management Approach to Achieve Compliance	Y		N
Amended Forest Regulations for Mineral Development in Far North		2007	N
Mineral Layer Parcel Identification – Petroleum Phase 1	Y		Y
Regulatory Modernization Council	Y	2008	N
Government of Manitoba			
Online Access to an Exploration and Mining Guide			Y
National Orphaned/Abandoned Mines Initiative (NOAMI)	Y		Y
Classes of Development Regulation Amendments		2007	Y
Government of Ontario			
MOE – Environmental Assessment Improvements Initiative		2006	N
MOE – Amendments to the Electricity Projects Regulation, O. Reg. 116/01, and the <i>Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects</i>		2007	Y
MOE – New Waste Management Projects Regulation, O. Reg. 101/07		2007	N
MOE – Development of Codes of Practice		2007	N
MOE – Electricity Team		2005	Y
MOE – Energy and Infrastructure/Environment Information Exchange Meetings		2004	Y
MOE – Government Review Team Protocol		2008	N
MOE – Integration of Planning Processes	Y		N
MNR – ADMs Energy Implementation Committee		2006	Y
MNR – ADM Energy Policy Forum		2005	Y
MNR – Waterpower Industry Executive Dialogues		2002	Y

INITIATIVE	Under Development	Implementation Initiated	Mines/Energy Focus Yes/No
Government of Ontario (cont'd)			
MNR – Renewable Energy Directors Committee		2005	Y
MNR – Inter-Ministerial Communications Strategy for Renewable Energy in Ontario		2006	Y
MNR – Amendments to Improve 2004 Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy		2007	Y
MNR – Tripartite Waterpower Working Group		2004	Y
MNR – Updating of MNR’s Renewable Energy Internet, Intranet and Extranet, and Survey of Staff Training Needs		2006	Y
MNR – Review of Water Management Planning for Waterpower	Y		Y
MNR – Development Guidelines for Government Staff and Proponents to Mitigate Adverse Effects of Renewable Energy Projects	Y		Y
MNR – Policy/Procedural Guidance on Tax Holidays for Waterpower	Y		Y
MNR – Renewable Energy Information Sessions and Other Training Opportunities		2007	Y
MNR – Renewable Energy Science Strategy	Y		Y
OEB – Filing Requirements for Transmission and Distribution Applications		2006	Y
OEB – Increased Delegation of Board Authority for Approval of Non-Controversial Projects		2006	Y
OEB – Multi-Year Rate Setting		2008	Y
OEB – Application Process Standardization		2007	Y
OEB – Eliminate Requirement for Approvals for Gas Storage Contracts That Are Market Based	Y		Y
OEB – Develop Performance Metrics Specifying the Processing Time for Specified Applications		2007	Y
MNDM – Delegation of Authority for Decisions From Minister to Director – Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch		2007	N
MNDM – Online Project Definition Template		2008	Y
MNDM – Online Practitioner’s Guide		2008	Y
MNDM – First Nation’s Location and Notification Tool		2008	Y
MNDM – Develop a “One-Window” Coordination Process to Assist Proponents		2008	Y

INITIATIVE	Under Development	Implementation Initiated	Mines/Energy Focus Yes/No
Government of Quebec			
Proposals to Modify the Environmental Impact Assessment Process	Y		N
Proposals to Make Environmental Regulations More Target-Based and Oriented Towards Market Mechanisms	Y		Y
Proposals to Better Integrate Consultation of Aboriginal Communities Into the Authorization Processes	Y		Y
Strategic Environmental Assessments on Marine Hydrocarbon Development Program	Y		Y
Draft Regulations on Air Pollution Control		2006	Y
Policy on Public Transit	Y		Y
Biogas Program	Y		Y
Regulations on Light-Duty Vehicle GHG Emissions	Y		Y
Quebec's Energy Authority (Régie de l'Énergie)		2005	Y
Government of New Brunswick			
<i>Pipeline Act</i>		2005	Y
Amendments to the <i>Pipeline Act</i>	Y		Y
<i>Gas Distribution Act</i>		1999	Y
Amendments to the <i>Gas Distribution Act</i>		2005	Y
Elimination of Regulatory Overlap and Duplication (Red Tape) With New Brunswick	Y		Y
Administrative Improvements to the Environmental Impact Assessment Process		2004	Y
<i>Fire Prevention Act</i>		2008	Y
<i>Energy and Utilities Board Act</i>		2007	Y
<i>Energy Efficiency Act</i>	Y		Y
Liquefied Natural Gas Regulatory Framework	Y		Y
Online Mineral Permits Information		2006	Y
Development of Industry Guidelines		2006	Y
Provision of Technical Information	Y		Y
Reduce Duplication in Regulatory Process	Y		Y
Provide Research Support	Y		Y

INITIATIVE	Under Development	Implementation Initiated	Mines/Energy Focus Yes/No
Government of New Brunswick (cont'd)			
Develop a "One-Window" Process to Assist Proponents		1988	Y
<i>Petroleum Act</i>		2007	Y
Common Approach to Onshore Oil and Gas Regulation in Atlantic Canada	Y		Y
Government of Nova Scotia			
Better Regulation Initiative		2005	N
Online Access to Forms		2007	N
Mineral Rights Registry Automation	Y		Y
Upgrade Mineral Registry Map Projections		2006	Y
Nova Scotia Pay for Performance Board Members		2005	Y
<i>Energy Efficient Appliances Act</i> Update		2008	Y
EnerGuide 80 by 2011	Y		Y
Development of a Modern Regulatory Approach	Y		Y
Frontier and Offshore Regulatory Renewal Initiative	Y		Y
Coordinated Regulatory Review Process – Deep Panuke		2007	Y
Development of a Regulatory Roadmap for Onshore Seismic Drilling and Offshore Renewable Energy Projects		2007	Y
Modernization of Nova Scotia's Onshore Energy Legislation and Regulations	Y		Y
Development of Procedures for Regulatory Development		2007	Y
Government of Prince Edward Island			
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador			
Mineral Exploration Standards for Labrador Inuit Lands		2006	Y
Red Tape Reduction Initiative		2005	N
Online Claim Staking		2005	Y
Online Exploration Approvals		2007	Y
Online Resource Atlas		2008	Y

INITIATIVE	Under Development	Implementation Initiated	Mines/Energy Focus Yes/No
Government of Nunavut			
Reduction of Barriers to Business Initiative	Y		N
Government of the Northwest Territories			
Review of Electricity Rates, Regulation and Subsidy Programs		2008	N
Government of Yukon			
Implementation of the <i>Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act</i> (YESAA) Process		2005	N
Yukon Placer Authorizations		2007	Y
Integrated Regulatory Regime for Yukon Placer Mining		2008	Y
Integrated Resource Management Strategy		2006	N
Closure and Reclamation Policy and Guidelines		2006	Y
Intergovernmental Initiatives			
Federal/Provincial Agreements on Environmental Assessment Cooperation	Y		N
Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) Initiative	Y		N
BizPal		2007	N
Passport System of Securities Regulation		2007	N
Multi-Regulator Integrity Management Awareness Program		2008	Y
Coordinated Review Processes in the Atlantic Offshore		2006	Y
Non-Accord Offshore Management	Y		Y
Cooperation Plan for the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP)		2002	Y
Atlantic Energy Roundtable (AER)		2002	Y
Frontier and Offshore Regulatory Renewal Initiative (FORRI)		2005	Y



Regulatory Improvement Initiative – Major Projects Management Office and Capacity Funding

Objective(s) To create a more accountable, predictable and timely regulatory review process that will facilitate investment and planning decisions and improve the competitiveness of Canada's resource industries.

Activities Budget 2007 invested \$150 million over five years in the Regulatory Improvement Initiative (including funding to establish the Major Projects Management Office [MPMO] and enhance the capacity of key federal regulatory departments). The MPMO will provide a single point of entry into the federal regulatory system for all stakeholders and provide overarching management of the federal regulatory process for major natural resource projects. It will identify areas where the consistency, efficiency and effectiveness of the federal regulatory process can be improved and work with other government departments and agencies to implement change. New capacity funding provided through this initiative will ensure key regulatory departments are positioned to respond to the significant growth in the number of new resource projects and will better enable departments to meet their legal responsibilities for Aboriginal Crown consultations.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, its focus is on regulatory improvement for all major resource projects.

Implementation The MPMO officially "opened its doors" on February 26, 2008, and is now fully operational.

Results Among the most tangible improvements resulting from this initiative will be in the timeliness and predictability of the regulatory process. The environmental review and permitting of major natural resource projects is targeted to be reduced from upwards of four years to an average of about two years. Other important outcomes from this proposal include a more accountable, predictable and timely regulatory review process that will facilitate investment and planning decisions and improve the competitiveness of Canada's resources industries; high-quality assessments of the environmental and social effects of resource development so that federal decisions about projects safeguard the environment and promote sustainability; and Aboriginal consultation responsibilities will be fulfilled in a more consistent, adequate and meaningful manner.

Cabinet Directive on Implementing the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*

Objective(s) The Government of Canada is committed to ensuring that administration of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (the Act) results in a timely and predictable environmental assessment process that produces high-quality environmental assessments (EA) so that federal decisions about projects safeguard the environment and promote sustainability. This Directive creates a framework within which federal authorities can exercise their respective powers, duties, and functions under the Act.

Activities This Directive was issued by Cabinet in November 2005 and published on the Internet. See also initiative on Interim Approach to Scoping.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at energy and mining projects; however, the Directive does apply to the sector.

Implementation November 2005, ongoing.

Results More systematic approach to federal delivery of high-quality EA in a predictable, certain and timely manner.

Determining Scope of Major Development Proposals – An Interim Approach

Objective(s) The Cabinet Directive on Implementing the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) provides a framework for determining the scope of projects within the CEAA's overarching context of ensuring the careful and precautionary identification of potential adverse environmental effects and means of mitigating them prior to federal decisions that would allow a project to proceed. In doing so, the Directive supports federal authorities in exercising their respective powers, duties and functions under the Act. The purpose of the Interim Approach is to provide guidance, for a specific category of development proposals, for applying the Cabinet Directive's scoping policy. It is aimed at facilitating consistency and timeliness for a type of scoping decision that, historically, has tended to be difficult and time-consuming.

Activities The Interim Approach was issued by the Environmental Assessment Projects Committee (EAPC) in December 2006 and published on the CEAA web site. Information and training sessions on implementing the Interim Approach have been provided for federal authorities across the country. An initial evaluation of the effectiveness of the Interim Approach will be undertaken by EAPC after the first year of implementation.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at energy and mining projects; however, the Interim Approach has been applied to major energy projects.

Implementation December 2006, ongoing.

Results Improved dialogue among federal authorities and with provincial counterparts on determining the federal scope of the project, leading to more timely and certain scoping decisions.

Cabinet Directive on Streamlining Regulation

Objective(s) This Directive commits the Government of Canada to protect and advance the public interest by working with Canadians and other governments to ensure that its regulatory activities result in the greatest overall benefit to present and future generations of Canadians. It replaces the Government of Canada Regulatory Policy (1999), and introduces several key improvements, including a more comprehensive life-cycle management approach with specific requirements for the development, implementation, evaluation and review of regulations; better performance measurement; coordination across jurisdictions; service standards; and reporting on results.

Activities This Directive was issued by Cabinet and published on the Internet. It applies to all departments and agencies involved in the federal regulatory process.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at energy and mining projects.

Implementation April 1, 2007.

Results It is expected that this Directive will result in better Government of Canada regulatory performance.

Community of Federal Regulators

Objective(s) The Community of Federal Regulators (CFR) is a partnership between federal departments and agencies that have a regulatory role in maintaining and strengthening the health, safety, security, and prosperity of Canadians. It is a professional community of interest where federal regulators come together to build capacity by learning from each other and exchanging ideas and best practices.

Activities The CFR encourages horizontal cooperation among federal departments and agencies by providing opportunities for federal regulators to discuss issues of common concern. Some of these fora include the CFR Annual National Workshop and CFR regional workshops held across the country. The CFR also conducts research and documents regulatory best practices to serve as learning tools for the federal regulatory community. The CFR actively supports other learning initiatives, including the development of a core curriculum for regulators by the Canada School of Public Service and hosting armchair discussions.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects, but may be addressed through CFR events and activities.

Implementation An MOU was signed by 14 departments and agencies.

Results As set out in the CFR's 2007-2010 business plan, the community aims to develop federal regulators as a recognized and valued functional community that is proud of its contributions, values and ethics; create opportunities to identify, address, and manage horizontal issues that contribute to the effective implementation of the Cabinet Directive on Streamlining Regulations (CDSR); and encourage a regulatory community learning environment to build core competencies and capacity to achieve the regulatory objectives of the federal government.

Core Curriculum for Federal Regulators – Canada School of Public Service (CSPS)

Objective(s) The Core Curriculum for Federal Regulators is being developed to ensure that all members of the federal regulatory community have the skills, knowledge and competencies to meet their regulatory responsibilities and to support their career development. It provides a learning path that managers and regulators should use to develop personal learning plans. The program complies with and supports the principles underlying the Cabinet Directive on Streamlining Regulation.

Activities The Core Curriculum has been approved and a first two-day course entitled "Introduction to Regulating" (R001) is now offered by CSPS. This course is intended for all regulators across the federal government and from all regulatory functions. Also, two new courses will be developed in the coming months: Regulatory Performance Measurement and Evaluation, and Cost-Benefit Analysis and Risk Assessment in a Regulatory Context. Furthermore, CSPS piloted in December 2007 a one-day course on the Duty of Care. This course will be reviewed in the next fiscal year and offered through the regular course calendar in 2008-09.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at energy and mining projects.

Implementation 2007 and ongoing.

Results It is expected that this Core Curriculum will result in capacity building and career development for the federal regulatory community.

Substitution Under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* – Brunswick Pipeline Pilot Project

Objective(s) In appropriate circumstances, use of the substitution provision (section 43) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) can allow for more efficient regulatory processes while achieving the objectives of the CEAA.

Activities Recently, the substitution provision of the CEAA was used for the first time, on a pilot basis, during the review of the Emera Brunswick Pipeline Project. The National Energy Board used its hearing process as a substitute for a panel review in order to meet the requirements of the CEAA. In addition, New Brunswick also collaborated to make this a one-window approach.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects, although the Brunswick Pipeline Project was the first use of this initiative and is an energy project.

Implementation The decision to use a substituted process on a pilot basis was made in 2006. The National Energy Board released its environmental assessment report in 2007.

Results This initiative resulted in an accelerated timeline for the Brunswick Pipeline. The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency is developing an evaluation of this pilot project to inform ongoing consideration of policy issues associated with the substitution, and has sought input from the Regulatory Advisory Committee (including provincial, NGO, and industry representatives), and federal departments.

Strategic Environmental Assessments

Objective(s) The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency is interested in working collaboratively with other federal partners, provinces and territories, and stakeholder groups to improve strategic environmental assessment (SEA) at the federal level, including using SEA as a tool to inform and streamline subsequent project-level reviews.

Activities A sub-committee of the Minister of the Environment's Regulatory Advisory Committee was established to look at ways to improve SEA and make recommendations on, among other things, linkages between SEA and project EA. The Agency will be leading a government-wide evaluation of the Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals and working with other departments and agencies to identify opportunities for using SEA to streamline subsequent project reviews.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Transport Canada's Proponents' Guide for Environmental Assessment

Objective(s) Transport Canada recently developed a "Proponents' Guide for Environmental Assessment" to provide clear guidance to proponents and stakeholders about the environmental assessment process as it relates to transport issues and the approvals under the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*.

Activities The Guide was completed and published on the Transport Canada web site.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation 2006, ongoing.

Results It is expected that this Proponents' Guide will result in better-informed proponents and a more efficient assessment process.

Transport Canada's Minor Works Policies

Objective(s) Transport Canada has developed a series of Minor Works policy documents to streamline the regulatory review of the placement of certain low-risk works in, on, over, under or through navigable waters. Each policy outlines specific criteria for the placement, construction and marking of such works that proponents can follow without creating any incremental impediment to navigation and thereby avoid application and review by the Department. These policies reduce unnecessary delays when the outcome of review can be predetermined if followed. They allow the Department to focus its resources on higher-risk projects that are more meaningful to ensuring the ongoing safety of navigation in Canadian waterways.

Activities Eight Minor Works policies are currently in effect and have been printed in brochure format for public information and posted on the Departmental Internet site. Four more policies are in final development for implementation in Spring 2008.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results The number of routine, low-risk project applications has decreased since initial implementation of the program in Summer 2006. It is expected that further decreases will be realized as public awareness of the program increases and additional Minor Works policies are developed and implemented.

Fisheries and Oceans' Operational Statements

Objective(s) The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has developed a series of Operational Statements to streamline the regulatory review of low-risk activities. Each Statement outlines measures to follow in order to protect fish and fish habitat so that proponents can carry out an activity without a review from the Department. These Statements allow proponents to proceed without delay, reduce unnecessary red tape, and allow the Department to focus resources on reviewing high-risk activities that affect fish and fish habitat.

Activities Eighteen Operational Statements are currently in effect and have been published on the Department of Fisheries and Oceans web site.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Ongoing. New Operational Statements are being developed and will be posted on the web site.

Results The number of routine, low-risk referrals received by the Department has decreased since 2005-06 when the Statements were implemented. It is expected that referrals for low-risk activities will continue to decrease as public awareness of the Operational Statements increases.

Fisheries and Oceans' *Fisheries Act* Regulatory Improvement Initiatives

Objective(s) The Department is developing several tools to enable *Fisheries Act* regulatory decisions to be made more effectively in terms of conserving and protecting fish habitat and in a more efficient, timelier, consistent and transparent manner. These tools include establishing one-window arrangements with provincial regulators, standardizing the information needed to make *Fisheries Act* decisions, and the development of guidelines for integrating *Fisheries Act* requirements in industry best management practices and options to streamline the review of medium-risk development proposals.

Activities

- 1) One-window delivery arrangements have been set up between departmental and provincial counterparts (New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia) to coordinate fish habitat protection requirements into one regulatory process. This collaboration greatly reduces duplicate paperwork and improves response times for proponents.
- 2) A *Guide on Preparing for Review Under the Habitat Protection Provisions of the Fisheries Act* provides guidelines to standardize the baseline information that is needed to inform and expedite the *Fisheries Act* reviews and decisions and reduce requests for additional information.
- 3) A *Guide to Development of Best Management Practices* clarifies the Department's requirements to protect fish and fish habitat for a given development activity or industry sector. Industry partners are encouraged to integrate these requirements into their best management practices applied to activities that have minimal impact on fish and fish habitat. Industry may follow the accepted practice without formal approval once the Department has endorsed the best management practice as low risk.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Ongoing. The Department is seeking to pursue one-window arrangements with other government departments (Environment Canada, Transport Canada) as well as with provinces, territories and municipalities, where applicable. The *Guide on Preparing for Review under the Habitat Protection Provisions of the Fisheries Act* will be released in fall 2007. The development of Industry Best Management Practices is ongoing. Ontario's Ministry of Transportation has developed technical guidelines endorsed by the Department; the Canadian Association of Petroleum Products (CAPP) developed the Watercourse Crossings guideline endorsed by the Department.

Results It is expected that referrals for low-risk activities will continue to decrease as Industry partners, stakeholders and other regulators become more aware of these regulatory improvement tools.

Environmental Assessment Projects Committee

Objective(s) The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency chairs the Environmental Assessment Projects Committee (EAPC), with representation from Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Health Canada, Transport Canada, and Natural Resources Canada. These federal authorities are routinely involved in environmental assessments of major projects and meet on a regular basis to discuss and implement processes and project-specific actions to encourage timely and predictable high-quality environmental assessments.

Activities Establish and direct the implementation of common strategies for addressing systemic operational issues that will produce concrete results in the field. Select and oversee pilots to test innovative EA processes. Provide direction on the EAs of specific projects to ensure a whole-of-government approach when agreement cannot be reached at the regional and director levels. Agree on and oversee initiatives to strengthen the federal government's internal EA capacity.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects; however, the EAPC mandate includes projects from the sector.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results Routinely providing project-specific and process guidance and direction to key federal authorities on federal delivery of high-quality environmental assessments in a predictable, certain and timely manner.

Class Screenings Under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*

Objective(s) Environmental assessment of projects that are relatively routine or repetitive, with well-understood or predictable effects that can be readily mitigated, may be expedited through the use of class screening, rather than through individual project screenings.

Activities Projects that are good candidates for class assessment should be identified and brought to the attention of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. There are two types of class screenings conducted: "model class screenings" and "replacement class screenings."

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results Assessment of repetitive projects pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* has been expedited through the use of class screenings.

Aboriginal Consultation Policy

Objective(s) The Government of Canada is developing an Aboriginal consultation policy to ensure that it fulfils its legal obligations to Aboriginal communities whenever a Crown activity could potentially affect an Aboriginal right.

Activities A policy framework is under development by Justice Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. The *Aboriginal Consultation and Accommodation Interim Guidelines for Federal Officials* are nearing completion.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation 2007-2008.

Results Effective Aboriginal consultation can ensure that regulatory processes related to mining projects are not delayed by unnecessary and costly litigation.

Paper Burden Reduction Initiative

Objective(s) The Paper Burden Reduction Initiative, led by the Secretary of State for Small Business and Tourism and the Minister of Industry, is focused on reducing the administrative and regulatory burden on small- and medium-sized businesses. This initiative requires a one-time, 20 percent reduction of administrative or regulatory requirements stemming from selected statutes, regulations, and related policies, guidelines and forms with which businesses must comply.

Activities The baseline count of regulatory requirements will be completed in the fall of 2007. Reductions will be implemented or identified by November 2008. Complementary initiatives demonstrating how the Government of Canada is achieving the intent of this initiative will also be identified on an ongoing basis. This initiative applies to statutes administered by the following departments and agencies: Health Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Industry Canada, the Canada Revenue Agency, Transport Canada, Finance Canada, Statistics Canada, Environment Canada, the Canada Border Services Agency, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Human Resources and Social Development Canada, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation April 1, 2007.

Results The overall objective of this initiative is to reduce “red tape” and improve the competitiveness of businesses in Canada.

Streamlining Amendments to the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER)

Objective(s) To reduce the time required to undertake MMER amendments relative to the proposed addition of new tailings impoundment areas to Schedule 2 of the Regulations. This objective must be undertaken in a manner that respects and aligns the requirements of the federal, provincial and territorial regulatory frameworks for regulatory decision-making. Discussions to allow this are ongoing.

Activities Working with federal government departments engaged in environmental assessments of mining projects to ensure that all necessary assessment work for federal decision-making is undertaken as an element of the EA process. Developing roles and responsibilities for the federal government authorities responsible for decision-making with respect to MMER amendments. Arranging for integration of required multi-stakeholder consultations on the proposed amendments into the EA process.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Fall 2007.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

National Energy Board Streamlining Initiative

Objective(s) To streamline both the application requirements and the assessment process for low-risk pipeline facilities involving less than 40 km of pipe while maintaining a desirable level of regulatory oversight. Other objectives are to reduce unnecessary time, resources and complexity for both industry and the regulator on small, routine pipeline facilities and to focus on areas of concern.

Activities "Point and click" web-based interface allows applicants to apply on-line by answering a series of questions and committing to certain design, activity and filing requirements. Applicants confirm that low-risk criteria apply in a number of areas (safety, environment, socio-economic, consultation, commercial, etc.). In the specific areas where there are issues or concerns, additional information is required and a further assessment is undertaken.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Pilot projects commenced in fall of 2006. The online application system is scheduled to "go live" in late spring 2008.

Results Pilot projects to date have resulted in significant time and resource savings with no reduction in the effectiveness of regulatory oversight.

National Energy Board Risk-Based Life-Cycle Regulation

Objective(s) Determine and apply the level of appropriate National Energy Board (NEB) regulatory oversight based on risk within each phase of the infrastructure life cycle and base the level of regulatory oversight on company performance and risk factors related to safety, environmental protection, economic efficiency, and stakeholder engagement.

Activities This initiative applies to every "interest area" the NEB has identified (i.e., safety, environmental protection, integrity, socio-economics, land matters, security, and emergency preparedness). The performance of every company regulated by the NEB is assessed through a variety of tools to allow the Board to focus its limited resources on higher-risk companies and projects. Tailored compliance plans are developed to align regulatory effort on the highest priority areas. Audits and inspections are carried out for companies and facilities that pose the highest risk.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Multiple projects with defined scope to fit the risk-based life-cycle approach have been initiated and will be implemented as they are completed. Expected completion is in mid-2009.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada – Northern Regulatory Improvement Initiative

Objective(s) 1) To review the regulatory system in the North and recommend improvements to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

Activities

- 1) Announcement of Ministerial Special Representative Neil McCrank.
- 2) Ministerial representative to meet with various stakeholders and groups in the North.
- 3) Preparation of a report on the regulatory system in the North and potential improvements.
- 4) Report released on July 17, 2008.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada – Amendments to the Northwestern Territories and Nunavut Mining Regulations (Formerly Known as the Canada Mining Regulations)

Objective(s) Amend royalties and leasing provisions.

Activities Registered in Part 2 of *Canada Gazette* as SOR / 2007-273.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes.

Implementation November 29, 2007.

Results N/A (too early to determine).



Government of British Columbia

British Columbia Regulatory Reform Initiative

Objective(s) Cross-government initiative that seeks to streamline and modernize British Columbia's regulatory environment, making sure public health, safety and the environment are protected.

Activities

The initiative is carried out through a five-component framework:

- 1) Comprehensive baseline measure of regulatory burden (complete).

- 2) Three-year Regulatory Reform Plans for each ministry (updated annually).
- 3) Regulatory Reform Policy, to control structure and amount of new regulation.
- 4) Performance measurement - development of regulatory reform targets and regular reporting on results to Cabinet and the public.
- 5) Structure - a Regulatory Reform Office has been established to lead the Regulatory Reform Initiative and implement the government's strategies.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at energy and mining projects.

Implementation June 2001. (Note: This commenced in 2001, but implementation is ongoing.)

Results As of March 2007, nearly 226 000 regulatory requirements had been eliminated across the Government of British Columbia. This represents a drop of 41.9 percent over 2001 levels.

Oil and Gas Regulatory Improvement Initiative

Objective(s) Modernize and consolidate B.C.'s oil and gas regulatory framework to maintain pace with technological change, encourage development of unconventional sources, and implement further improvements to ensure that the continued expansion of B.C.'s oil and gas sector consistently demonstrates a world-leading environmental ethic.

Activities Regulations are under development.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy (oil and gas) projects.

Implementation The Act and Regulations are scheduled to be brought into force in mid-2009.

Results N/A.

FrontCounter BC

Objective(s) A single-window access initiative to streamline permitting and application processes that will expand services for natural resource businesses.

Activities FrontCounter BC offices have been set up in nine communities across the province. They provide general information and accept applications and fees for up to 100 permits, licences, tenures and related authorizations on behalf of government agencies such as the B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. Services are also available via toll-free telephone and the Internet.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at energy or mining projects.

Implementation The first FrontCounter BC Centre opened in September 2005.

Results N/A.

BC Mining Plan Initiative – Protecting Workers, Protecting the Environment

Objective(s) Recommended management practices that advocate safe, environmentally responsible and sustainable mineral resource development.

Activities Joint partnership with the Mining Association of British Columbia and the Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Developed a Mineral Exploration Handbook in March 2006; revisions were made in early 2008 and scheduled to be posted in Spring 2008.

Results *Handbook for Mineral and Coal Exploration* in British Columbia (143 pp. in web version).

BC Mining Plan Initiative – Collaborate on Environmental Challenges

Objective(s) Harmonize provincial and federal fish and habitat management.

Activities Work towards harmonizing Fisheries and Oceans Canada and provincial fish and habitat management to reduce duplication and overlap.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining and oil and gas projects.

Implementation In progress – may collaborate with the Major Projects Management Office (MPMO).

Results In progress.

BC Mining Plan Initiative – Lead in Environmental Standards and Practices

Objective(s) Build on world-class environmental and reclamation guidelines by continuing to examine regulatory requirements with industry, labour, First Nations, NGOs and others.

Activities Review relevant sections of the B.C. Mine Health, Safety and Reclamation Code.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation 2008.

Results Code amendments to reflect health and safety recommendations resulting from the Sullivan inquest were made in early 2008. Code amendments to reflect no staking reserves for uranium come into effect in May 2008.

BC Mining Plan Initiative – Streamline Regulation

Objective(s) Develop a simplified approach to multi-agency exploration and mining approvals.

Activities

- 1) Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources acting as coordinating agency.
- 2) Increase presence of online information related to mine permitting.
- 3) Review existing regulatory requirements to find additional opportunities for appropriate reductions while ensuring the integrity of environmental, health and safety standards.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation

- 1) 2008.
- 2) In progress.
- 3) In progress.

Results

- 1) Completed new guidelines for the Terms of Reference and Guidelines for Regional Mine Development Review Committees. A new Guide to Mine Permit Applications is under review.
- 2) New initiatives:
 - New application (Notice of Work) for mineral exploration (under review for implementation in 2008).
 - Revisions to aggregate permitting, policies, and BMPs (under review).
 - ePermitting – coordination with other agencies to develop online permitting tools (under review).
- 3) Inter-agency coordination activities include:
 - EAO/CEAA Galore Creek Pilot (completed 2007).
 - Multi-agency review of the policy approach to mine projects (meeting held December 2007 with additional work expected in 2008).

BC Mining Plan Initiative – Aggregate Business Strategy Review

Objective(s) Develop a procedural framework that will guide an improved and streamlined aggregate management plan for the benefit of citizens and industry and that will enhance the protection of both the public and worker health and safety.

Activities Existing aggregate policies and operations are being reviewed for streamlining opportunities with permitting and governance.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Fall 2007.

Results Incorporated into the Business Transformation Project – scheduled for completion in the fall of 2008.

BC Energy Plan Initiative – Hydrogen Regulatory Framework

Objective(s) Establish standards for product design requirements, permitting and approval processes.

Activities Phase 1 – research and consultation; Phase 2 – draft amendments to regulations that apply to hydrogen energy applications.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation April 2008.

Results Scheduled for completion in 2010.

BC Energy Plan Initiative – Improvements to the *Utilities Commission Act*

Objective(s) Ensure that public utilities and the British Columbia Utilities Commission can carry out their functions in accordance with government policies set out in the Energy Plan.

Activities Amend both the *Utilities Commission Amendment Act* and the *Administrative Tribunals Act*.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation May 2008.

Results Legislative amendments came into force on May 1, 2008, that provide the British Columbia Utilities Commission with direction and clarity on decisions regarding utility plans, projects, rates and contracts. Utility initiatives must now address specific energy objectives such as: GHG reductions, conservation and efficiency, clean/renewable resource use, and transmission capacity.

Energy Efficiency Standards Regulation

Objective(s) Regulated energy efficiency standards are up-to-date and relevant to market trends and key policy drivers.

Activities This initiative implements regular updates of regulated energy efficiency standards for energy-using equipment and manufacturing building components under the *Energy Efficiency Act*. The next update is expected in 2008.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results All regulations are “Citizen Centred,” resulting in energy and cost savings and improved environmental quality through lower greenhouse gas and local air emissions.

Independent Power Producers Office

Objective(s) Establish an Independent Power Producers (IPP) office to coordinate the IPP portfolio province-wide in support of the BC Energy Plan (2007), greenhouse gas reduction goals, and optimizing government resources.

Activities Standardizing, streamlining and prioritizing IPP permitting in B.C. in consultation with regional offices and ministries/agencies. Supporting the success of FrontCounter BC as a single entry point for IPP applications. Serving as an IPP permitting information resource centre for the IPP sector and provincial staff. Facilitating integrated regional IPP project reviews and resolution of issues.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, the focus is to encourage the development of clean and renewable energy in the province.

Implementation The B.C. government committed through the 2008/2009 budget process to establishing an IPP office to assist ministries in responding to this emerging energy sector.

Results Manage the IPP caseload to enable focus on those IPP applications with the most likelihood of success. Improved tools and processes for IPP applications and government staff.

BCUC Capital Expenditure Collar

Objective(s) British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) capital expenditures collar encourages greater cost control on energy projects and more innovative project management.

Activities Implement an expenditure collar (i.e., +/- 10 percent of projected capital cost). If within 10 percent of budget, savings or additional costs are shared equally between company and ratepayers. If cost overrun is >10 percent, the company is responsible for additional costs. Focus on costs with management control (often considered in hearing).

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Used several times in 2007.

Results Incentive for aggressive management of capital costs. Reduced need for monitoring costs throughout construction. Fewer incidents of approved project ending up more costly than higher cost bids. Encourages provisions in supplier contracts to ensure on-time delivery.

The Canada-British Columbia Agreement on Environmental Assessment Cooperation

Objective(s) The Harmonization Agreement forms the basis for continued effective and efficient cooperation where federal and provincial environmental assessment legislation applies to the same project. The agreement preserves each government's authority and legislative requirements, and establishes one contact in each jurisdiction to coordinate consultation.

Activities The agreement describes principles and procedures for carrying out cooperative environmental assessments.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this agreement applies to energy and mining projects, as well as to other sectors.

Implementation Ministers' 1997 agreement was updated and renewed in 2004.

Results Approximately 70 percent of B.C. projects undergoing both a CEAA and provincial EA review are reviewed jointly with efforts to reduce overlap and duplication.

Resource Management Coordination Project

Objective(s) The Resource Management Coordination Project (RMCP) will see the Integrated Land Management Board (ILMB) develop natural resource management coordination in the areas of compliance and enforcement, and First Nations consultation. This will result in expanded utility, efficiency and efficacy of government resources.

Activities Identify opportunities for collaboration, train existing staff, and establish cross-organizational teams in regional offices.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at energy or mining projects.

Implementation A number of compliance and enforcement coordination opportunities will be in place for the summer of 2008. Other coordination efforts will roll out starting in the spring of 2009.

Results Too early to determine.



Government of Alberta

Upstream Oil and Gas Policy Integration

Objective(s) To assess the current upstream oil and gas policies, legislation, and associated guidance documents; to identify integration opportunities and barriers; and to develop a framework for an improved integrated regulatory delivery system.

Activities

- 1) A cross-Ministry project team led by Alberta Environment with Alberta Energy, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, and the Alberta Energy Resources Conservation Board are partnering in project development and deliverables.
- 2) Development of recommendations for an outcomes-based upstream oil and gas regulatory framework and integrated delivery model.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of upstream oil and gas energy projects; however, mineable oil sands projects are out of scope and other initiatives are addressing those issues.

Implementation October 2008.

Results Preliminary design of a new regulatory delivery model and a business case analysis to be used in the decision-making process for proceeding with implementation.

Sustainable Resource and Environmental Management (SREM)

Objective(s) To strengthen the ways in which Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Alberta Environment, and Alberta Energy work together to become the best resource and environmental managers in the world.

Activities

- 1) Cross-Ministry SREM Office established for two years to facilitate the implementation of Sustainable Resource and Environmental Management by Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Alberta Environment, and Alberta Energy.
- 2) Biweekly meetings of the Deputy Ministers of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Alberta Environment, and Alberta Energy.
- 3) Biennial Joint Executive Committee meetings of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Alberta Environment, and Alberta Energy to evaluate and approve strategic deliverables.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Fall 2008.

Results

- 1) Cross-Ministry Charter for Sustainable Resource and Environmental Management signed by the Executive Committees of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Alberta Environment, and Alberta Energy.
- 2) Cross-Ministry policy integration framework developed for the three involved departments. Implementation plan currently under development.
- 3) A Cross-Ministry SREM Strategic Plan is under development for the three involved departments.

Metallic and Industrial Minerals Mining Regulation

Objective(s) To ensure the province's regulatory regime for mining better meets the needs of the mineral industry and to better integrate the current processes and regulatory requirements into a single regulatory structure.

Activities Drafting is in progress on a new, consolidated regulation that will govern non-energy mining activities, including the approval process and ongoing operations. To provide direction in the development of the new regulation, consultations have been made with industry and an inter-agency committee.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Early 2009.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Land-Use Framework (LUF)

Objective(s) The LUF is a cross-ministerial initiative that will set a provincial vision and outcomes for land use on both public and private land and outline a planning and decision-making framework that reflects provincial goals and priorities, achieving Alberta's long-term social, economic and environmental goals.

Activities Consultations included sector focus groups, stakeholder working groups, a cross-sector workshop, and public information and input sessions held in 15 locations across the province. As well, more than 3000 Albertans provided their input on land-use management issues by submitting completed Land-Use Framework workbooks. Drafting of the LUF is under way.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Fall 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).



Government of Saskatchewan

Regulatory and Service Enhancement Initiative

Objective(s)

- 1) Enhance the business environment through regulatory, administrative, client service, policy, or other initiatives.
- 2) Modernize the regulatory framework.
- 3) Continue to protect the public's health and safety, workers, and the environment.

Activities

- 1) Review of all regulations to ensure they meet the principles of good regulation.
- 2) Sector working groups to identify and resolve regulatory barriers and opportunities to increase competitiveness.
- 3) Annual public reporting.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Spring 2006.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Oil and Gas Conservation Amendment Regulations

Objective(s) Provide a balanced approach to mitigating orphan wells and facility risk and liability, and provide more certainty to oil and gas investors.

Activities Conduct comprehensive consultations with oil and gas companies, associations, and stakeholders in the process of drafting new regulations.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Regulations drafted in spring 2007.

Results Amended regulations had the unanimous support of all three oil and gas industry associations.

Institutional Controls Act

Objective(s) Long-term management of mine sites with return to Crown land status following clean-up.

Activities Wide-spectrum consultations with industry and government combined with interjurisdictional research.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation March 2007.

Results Act and regulations enacted. They are the first of their type in Canada.

Review of Major Sectors Regulatory Processes Initiative

Objective(s) To ensure the province's regulatory framework continues to meet the challenges of an evolving industry and to better align the framework with the province's economic, environmental and social objectives.

Activities To map out regulatory processes for major sectors of the economy, including mining and petroleum, and to identify specific issues.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Completed in 2002.

Results A regulatory review for the mining sector identified problems in the following general areas:

- 1) Overlap and duplication.
- 2) Lack of coordination within and between provincial government departments.
- 3) Lack of guidelines to explain what actions industry is expected to take in a practical way.
- 4) Difficulty in locating existing government information.
- 5) Lack of technical/economic solutions for industry to meet government standards.
- 6) Lack of technical information to judge industry proposals.

Best Management Practices for Mineral Exploration Initiative

Objective(s) To provide specific and easily understood guidelines and process to aid mineral exploration.

Activities Provide a set of 16 best management practices ranging from staking to camp setup and community engagement.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Ongoing and being updated.

Results Simplified the industry's understanding of the requirements to conduct exploration.

Information Management Initiative

Objective(s) Making existing government information more available.

Activities Geoportal to link existing information. Updating government data sets including mineral ownership and land restrictions.

Energy/Mining Focus? This makes all resources more available.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results To be available within a year.

Cost of Regulatory Delay Initiative

Objective(s) Determine cost of regulatory delay to government.

Activities Modeling of a hypothetical uranium mine to determine costs to government of a one-year regulatory delay.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Available in 2007.

Results A one-year delay has a cost of about \$200 million to industry, \$60 million to the provincial government and \$40 million to the federal government.

Crown Land Administration and Management System Initiative (CLAMS)

Objective(s) Simplify the application for mineral rights and permits.

Activities Web enable the application of mineral registration, work permits, seismic permits, and potentially petroleum rights.

Energy/Mining Focus? The mining and energy sectors are important components.

Implementation Proposal.

Results For some components, it will reduce the time to issue rights and permits from months to weeks.

One-Stop Web Site – BizPaL Initiative

Objective(s) One-stop web site with information on business permits, licences and approvals required by all levels of government.

Activities Online customized information, based on responses to questions, on required permits, licences and approvals with links to more information for companies undertaking preliminary or advanced mineral exploration activities.

Energy/Mining Focus? The focus is on all business types; however, mineral exploration is an important industry sector added in 2007.

Implementation Implementation at the provincial and federal level is complete for Saskatchewan.

Results Mineral exploration businesses in Saskatchewan have access to comprehensive information (including costs, processes, online forms, inspections, etc.) about 67 potential federal, provincial and municipal permits, licences, registrations, leases, claims, guidelines, Best Management Practices, and other approval processes required to conduct exploration activities. Will save businesses significant time in navigating through the regulatory system.

SaskGrid

Objective(s) Allow government departments to reference and better manage Crown land for oil and gas, mining, etc.

Activities Develop a township fabric map for the province comprising surveyed (southern) and theoretic (northern) townships, and provincial legal subdivision coverage.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation December 2006.

Results Benefits oil and gas industry because many oil and gas leases are held at the legal subdivision level.

Promote Sharing of Environmental Monitoring Information

Objective(s) Implement a system for sharing environmental monitoring information that is received from federal, provincial, municipal, First Nations, and private sector programs.

Activities Evaluate and catalogue information, and make it accessible to authorized clients.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Spring 2007.

Results Draft report completed.

New Environmental Management Approach to Achieve Compliance

Objective(s) Encourage compliance while emphasizing performance and outcomes, rather than prescriptive regulation.

Activities Revise Saskatchewan Environment's legislative and regulatory framework in support of a new environmental management model that increases the range of tools to encourage compliance.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Initial risk assessment complete.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Amended Forest Regulations for Mineral Development in Far North

Objective(s) Improve the opportunity for the mineral industry to expand its activity in Saskatchewan's far north.

Activities Amend regulations to address mineral developments and Orders in Council for contract approval and the operation of advisory committees.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Complete.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Mineral Layer Parcel Identification – Petroleum Phase 1

Objective(s) Allow clients to easily identify the mineral layer parcels and which land titles relate to those parcels.

Activities Mineral Certification Priority Service, which offers tiered pricing depending on required turnaround times. Parcel Picture on Demand, which provides access to a GIS picture and data, linking the tile information to the parcel, with guaranteed turnaround times. Mineral Mapping Project, which will complete the Mineral Cadastral Ownership layer to 85 percent of the mineral ownership records.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation N/A.

Results Resource-based customers, including the oil and gas industry, Saskatchewan Industry and Resources, and Information Services Corporation (land titles), will benefit through improved client service, time savings, and reduced paperwork.

Regulatory Modernization Council

Objective(s) The Regulatory Modernization Council (RMC) will guide and direct regulatory reform and business service priorities that will make it easier for businesses to do business and interact with government.

The Council will:

- 1) Provide advice regarding proposed regulatory and service programs and policies;
- 2) Make recommendations to the Enterprise Saskatchewan (ES) Board of Directors; and
- 3) Assist the ES Board in monitoring progress towards meeting regulatory and service enhancement goals.

Activities The RMC might include:

- 1) guiding the development of a single-window business portal;
- 2) developing business service standards and codes of conduct;
- 3) advising on a consultative regulatory registry for new and amended regulations;
- 4) reviewing Saskatchewan's business fee structure and benchmarking those fees with those contained in other jurisdictions;
- 5) evaluating current regulatory review processes like the Regulatory Impact Assessment and identifying any possible improvements;
- 6) identifying potential opportunities to utilize alternative regulatory tools like performance-based regulations, self-regulatory frameworks, adopting standards and codes of practice, voluntary compliance, etc.;
- 7) identifying opportunities to harmonize regulations and codes standards with other provinces and trading partners; and
- 8) assessing opportunities to better coordinate Saskatchewan's regulatory reform and business service activities with federal government initiatives.

Energy/Mining Focus? This initiative is a government-wide action targeted at advancing business and economic development.

Implementation Summer 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).



Gouvernement of Manitoba

Online Access to an Exploration and Mining Guide

Objective(s) Improve access to government information regarding mineral exploration.

Activities Develop two web sites to provide improved information access.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Completed.

Results www.gov.mb.ca/stem/mrd/busdev/exp-guide/index.html
www.gov.mb.ca/iedm/mrd/busdev/exp-guide/index.html

National Orphaned/Abandoned Mines Initiative (NOAMI)

Objective(s) To become part of NOAMI.

Activities Discussions with federal/provincial/territorial partners regarding NOAMI.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results Ongoing.

Classes of Development Regulation Amendments

Objective(s) Streamline the process for alternative energy projects.

Activities Clarifying definitions and ensuring classifications are appropriate.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation May 2007.

Results Too early, ongoing. Another amendment will be proposed shortly to address wind issues.



MOE Environmental Assessment Improvements Initiative

Objective(s) Ministry of Environment:

- 1) Revitalize the EA program - To ensure that proponents understand provincial rules for environmental planning and decision-making.
- 2) Rebalance EA decision-making - To set out clear roles for all participants.
- 3) Refocus the EA process - To ensure that the level of review and/or assessment reflects the potential that each proposal has to affect the environment (as defined by the *Environmental Assessment Act*).
The EA Improvements Initiative is focused on three priority sectors: energy, waste, and transportation/transit. The proposed improvements will make the EA process more transparent and efficient for all stakeholders, allow for timelier approvals, achieve cost savings in the planning of projects, and protect the environment.

Activities

- 1) Regulatory enhancements: Amending existing regulations under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (EAA) to allow faster decisions to be made (consists of various projects - see below).
- 2) Operational enhancements: Developing and implementing procedures, guidance, and training to strengthen the conduct of EAs (consists of various projects - see below).
- 3) Policy development: Developing policy options to redefine how the EA program is delivered and managed.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects. It relates to the broad EA program.

Implementation Various (ranges from November 2006 to 2008).

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MOE – Amendments to the Electricity Projects Regulation, O. Reg. 116/01, and the *Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects*

Objective(s) Ministry of the Environment: As part of the overall EA Improvements Initiative, the Ministry is proposing improvements to the existing environmental assessment requirements for electricity projects to clarify and remove duplicate provisions, update the requirements, and add provisions to address new technologies.

Activities Proposed amendments to O. Reg. 116/01 and revisions to the companion *Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects* to be posted on the Environmental Bill of Rights Environmental Registry for public comment.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Environmental Bill of Rights posting of proposed improvements currently on hold.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MOE – New Waste Management Projects Regulation, O. Reg. 101/07

Objective(s) Ministry of the Environment: The Waste Management Projects Regulation will make the environmental assessment process for waste management projects clear, consistent and transparent for municipalities, the private waste industry, and the public.

Activities As part of the overall EA Improvement Initiative, the Ministry has made a new Waste Management Projects Regulation, O. Reg. 101/07, under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. The regulation classifies waste projects based on the type of waste, the size, and in some cases, the ability to generate electricity.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects. The regulation sets out EA requirements for waste thermal treatment facilities that generate electricity.

Implementation O. Reg. 101/07 made in March 2007.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MOE – Development of Codes of Practice

Objective(s) Ministry of the Environment: Codes of practice will provide clear direction and guidance on key aspects of Ontario's EA program and roles of all participants.

Activities Developing five prescriptive codes of practice and one guide as follows:

- 1) Terms of Reference (ToR) Code of Practice;
- 2) Mediation Code of Practice;
- 3) Consultation Code of Practice;
- 4) Individual EA Code of Practice;
- 5) Class EA Code of Practice;
- 6) Guide on Federal-Provincial EA Coordination.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects. Several of the codes will assist proponents of electricity projects and the public and agencies reviewing these projects.

Implementation Various (ranges from June 2007 to December 2007). Four of the Codes were approved in May 2007. Remaining Codes are being finalized.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MOE – Electricity Team

Objective(s) Ministry of the Environment: The Ministry is supporting the Ontario government's goal to increase the supply of electricity from new renewable and clean energy projects by ensuring that any environmental assessment and approval requirements for energy projects proceed in a timely manner while maintaining environmental protection.

Activities The Ministry has formed an Electricity Team to ensure timely application reviews for new electricity projects in the province. A priority is placed on these projects and internal process changes have been put in place to expedite application review.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Electricity Team formed in April 2005.

Results Since the Team was formed, approximately 50 government-supported electricity projects have completed all EA and MOE approval requirements. The Team is currently (March 2008) tracking an additional 100 government-supported electricity projects.

MOE – Energy and Infrastructure/Environment Information Exchange Meetings

Objective(s) Ministry of the Environment: The Ministry arranges and chairs quarterly energy/environment information exchange meetings to facilitate sharing of information and initiatives related to energy/electricity projects and environmental approvals among provincial ministries.

Activities Quarterly meetings to update other provincial ministries on ongoing and potential future initiatives related to energy/electricity projects and environmental approvals. Ministries represented include: Energy and Infrastructure, Environment, Natural Resources, Municipal Affairs and Housing, and Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Energy and Infrastructure/Environment Information Exchange Group formed in November 2004.

Results Feedback has been that this is a useful forum for exchanging information and staying informed about the many ongoing and potential future initiatives related to energy/ electricity projects and environmental approvals in the various ministries.

MOE – Government Review Team Protocol

Objective(s) Ministry of the Environment: The Protocol will provide Ministry expectations to the Government Review Team on how to review environmental assessment documents.

Activities Protocol has been completed.

Energy/Mining Focus? Will assist the broader EA program. May assist with the government review of major transmission facility EAs.

Implementation Summer 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MOE – Integration of Planning Processes

Objective(s) Ministry of the Environment: An inter-ministerial working group has been struck to look at ways of integrating various planning processes, specifically with respect to establishing the need or rationale for a project and examining the alternatives to a project.

Activities Developing an Options Paper.

Energy/Mining Focus? Will assist the broader EA program. May assist with the government review of major transmission facility EAs.

Implementation End of 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MNR – ADMs Energy Implementation Committee

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To provide an executive forum for representatives of Ontario government ministries, Ontario Power Generation, Hydro One, the Ontario Power Authority, and the Independent Electricity System Operator to discuss renewable energy policy and project implementation issues and achieve greater alignment in EA and development review and approvals.

Activities Monthly meetings. Helping to advance OPG waterpower redevelopments (e.g., Mattagami Extension) and Greenfield development, and associated EA/development review and approvals. Focus is on Lower Mattagami project.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2006.

Results An effective forum for exchanging information on, and dealing with, policy and project-related challenges.

MNR – ADM Energy Policy Forum

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To discuss strategic policy issues related to the development and management of waterpower with Ontario Waterpower Association.

Activities Every three months. To discuss the inter-relationship of government policies for advancing waterpower.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2005.

Results An effective forum for exchanging information on policy for advancing waterpower in Ontario.

MNR – Waterpower Industry Executive Dialogues

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: Led by MNR and the Ontario Waterpower Association, to provide a forum for government and industry executives to discuss issues affecting the development of waterpower in Ontario.

Activities Meetings held twice a year. Representation from key Ontario government ministries and agencies, and the federal government, e.g., MNR corporate, policy and field services executives, Finance, Energy and Infrastructure, Environment, Ontario Power Authority, Independent Electricity System Operator, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2002.

Results The executive dialogue has proven to be an effective form for discussing issues, concerns and possible solutions, and for informing policy and program development. Participation has gradually expanded to include more ministries and agencies, reflecting its growing importance as an opportunity for information exchange.

MNR – Renewable Energy Directors Committee

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To provide a forum for senior management in Ontario government ministries to discuss strategic policy issues related to renewable energy.

Activities Meetings every six to eight weeks.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2005.

Results The committee is a useful forum for discussing and exchanging information on government initiatives, coordinating action and problem solving.

MNR – Inter-Ministerial Communications Strategy for Renewable Energy in Ontario

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To provide clear messages to Ontarians about the benefits of renewable energy and the Ontario government's role in making it happen, as a basis for helping people appreciate and embrace renewable energy projects.

Activities To date, participating in development of web portal to help industry engage local communities.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation November 2006.

Results Draft web portal is being reviewed and approved by applicable ministries for release by June 2008.

MNR – Amendments to Improve 2004 Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To reduce complexity, costs and administrative burden to industry, Aboriginal communities and MNR staff associated with releasing waterpower opportunities located on Crown land up to 10 MW.

Activities Amendments such as: a) non-competitive release process increased from 1 MW to 10 MW, aligning with Ontario Power Authority's Standard Offer Program threshold; b) enhanced process for screening sites prior to awarding opportunities; c) better environment for fostering business-to-business relationships between industry and Aboriginal communities; and d) early public notification to help proponents identify interested parties more quickly.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation May 21, 2007.

Results Amendments to the Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy and Procedure have been well-accepted and effectively adopted by staff and proponents alike.

MNR – Tripartite Waterpower Working Group

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To provide a forum for MNR, the waterpower industry and Aboriginal communities and organizations to review experience and ways for improving the implementation of the Waterpower Site Release and Development Review Policy.

Activities Quarterly meetings to track policy implementation, to have industry and Aboriginal representatives discuss interests and opportunities for mutual gain (i.e., ways for achieving policy objective of sharing project benefits with local Aboriginal communities), and to discuss needs and ways for addressing them, e.g., capacity building.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation November 2004.

Results The working group has been a very important forum for government, industry and First Nations to discuss and resolve issues, as a basis for building acceptance and support for moving forward with the redevelopment and development of new waterpower facilities in Ontario. Has directly sponsored three First Nations capacity-building workshops in 2006.

MNR – Updating of MNR’s Renewable Energy Internet, Intranet and Extranet, and Survey of Staff Training Needs

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To provide more comprehensive information about MNR and other agencies' roles and responsibilities in renewable energy development and opportunities in Ontario, and efficient access to ministry policies, procedures and forms that govern the site release and development review process. To gain an understanding of MNR staff training needs.

Activities Intranet: Provide MNR staff with quick access to information on renewable energy. Internet: MNR internet site, including renewable energy theme, being refreshed to improve public accessibility. Extranet: refresh architecture of web site, updating of policy and procedures, addition of forms and web links. To create a three-year training plan for MNR staff.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Intranet: November 2006; Extranet: May 21, 2007; Internet: Spring 2008.

Results Extranet: Key mechanism for information for industry clients and other interested parties about opening of windows of opportunity; a key medium for business service delivery. MNR has over 1000 subscribers to the Extranet. The Internet is being corporately refreshed at present.

MNR – Review of Water Management Planning for Waterpower

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the planning process for setting and regulating flows and levels at Ontario waterpower facilities. To ensure planning process fairly considers all values affected by planning, e.g., natural environment and socio-economic, including waterpower as a GHG offset and contribution to reliable supply of electricity (system flexibility).

Activities Joint MNR-Ontario Waterpower Association-led review of Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower, and results in 70 Water Management Plans.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Fall 2008.

Results Workshop with industry was held July 2007; a report is being prepared to summarize findings.

MNR – Development Guidelines for Government Staff and Proponents to Mitigate Adverse Effects of Renewable Energy Projects

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To provide state-of-the-art criteria and guidelines for the review and approval of waterpower and wind power projects, and ways for mitigating the adverse effects of projects on natural and socio-economic values. To improve the quality of data to support decision-making.

Activities Updating of MNR Criteria and Guidelines for Review and Approval under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*. Preparation of guidelines for mitigating effects of waterpower development on aquatic ecosystems and socio-cultural and economic values. Improvements to MNR Natural Heritage Information Centre rare species database to inform decision-making for siting wind power projects.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results Updating of MNR Criteria and Guidelines for Review and Approval under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*. Preparation of guidelines for mitigating effects of waterpower development on aquatic ecosystems and socio-cultural and economic values. Improvements to MNR Natural Heritage Information Centre rare species database to inform decision-making for siting wind power projects.

MNR – Policy/Procedural Guidance on Tax Holidays for Waterpower

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To establish clear, efficient, effective guidance for proponents and MNR to determine the status of new, redeveloped and upgraded waterpower stations.

Activities Development of policy, procedure and implementation of review process. MNR determines proponent's eligibility for 100 percent or marginal tax deduction depending upon project type. Proponents may receive notices at planning stage (interim determinations) to help inform project development and project financing, with appeal process for decisions.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Fall 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MNR – Renewable Energy Information Sessions and Other Training Opportunities

Objective(s) Ministry of Natural Resources: To provide front-line staff across Ontario involved in decision-making on the sites of renewable energy projects with training in policy, the monitoring of bats (in relation to siting wind power), and riverine hydrology, and to provide forums to discuss issues and problem-solve.

Activities Information sessions in 12 communities across Ontario for staff in 25 districts; bat monitoring and riverine hydrology courses.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation June 2007.

Results Renewable energy information sessions were given in 12 communities across Ontario for staff in 25 districts; 3 bat monitoring and 1 riverine hydrology training courses were given.

MNR - Renewable Energy Science Strategy

Objective(s) To reduce the uncertainty and associated risk in meeting objectives related to the development and operation of renewable energy facilities, including clarity regarding regulatory oversight.

Activities Build knowledge; develop tools/methods/models to aid program implementation, and effective transfer of knowledge, tools and methods through communication and training.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation June 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

OEB – Filing Requirements for Transmission and Distribution Applications

Objective(s) Establish Board filing requirements for rate applications and for leave to construct applications.

Activities Review by electricity transmitters and distributors in the province - approval by the Ontario Energy Board.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation November 2006.

Results In use - for filing electricity rate and leave to construct applications - provides detailed descriptions of types of information and level of detail required to file such applications.

OEB – Increased Delegation of Board Authority for Approval of Non-Controversial Projects

Objective(s) Reduce approval times by reducing the workload on board members and senior management to concentrate on larger and sometimes controversial issues; also reduces timelines for administrative reviews.

Activities Review of application types that are eligible for delegation - ensure that there are guidelines in place for the delegated authority in order to make decisions on applications.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation December 2006.

Results In use – for all licensing applications, for all franchises and certificates of public convenience and necessity.

OEB – Multi-Year Rate Setting

Objective(s) Allows for long-term planning horizons by regulated utilities and encourages investment in critical infrastructure.

Activities Approval of incentive regulation or performance-based regulation for gas utilities.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Five-year plan effective January 2008 to December 2012.

Results N/A.

OEB – Application Process Standardization

Objective(s) To streamline regulatory process, reducing cycle times and therefore costs to participants and staff.

Activities Clear and specific guidelines so applicants know what is expected. If standard is not met, application is considered incomplete. Standardized forms for applicants. Aggressively automated hearing process including transcripts that can be annotated as they are occurring. Show exhibits electronically in hearing so all parties can follow. Electronic filing by virtually all parties. Use Internet aggressively for live communications.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Through 2007.

Results Time saving for hearings and processing of the application. Greater accessibility to hearing and regulatory process.

OEB – Eliminate Requirement for Approvals for Gas Storage Contracts That Are Market Based

Objective(s) The Board determined that there is a competitive market for certain aspects of natural gas storage and is refraining from regulatory oversight of those aspects deemed to be competitive.

Activities No approvals or Board review required from competitive gas storage activities.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results Reduced hearings and regulatory oversight.

OEB – Develop Performance Metrics Specifying the Processing Time for Specified Applications

Objective(s) Regulatory certainty and efficiency.

Activities This is an expansion of the types of applications that are subject to performance metrics (i.e., well drilling, license types).

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation December 2007.

Results Efficient processing of application.

MNDM – Delegation of Authority for Decisions From Minister to Director – Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch

Objective(s) Delegation of authority from Minister to Director will allow faster decisions to be made on "bump-up" requests and voluntary agreements.

Activities Preparing Minister's statements to delegate decision-making authority for bump-up requests and voluntary agreements to the Director, Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch, to allow faster decisions to be made.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Summer 2007.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MNDM – Online Project Definition Template

Objective(s) To help proponents develop a better understanding of the potential scope of their project and of the possible information needs of regulators when reviewing it, and to optimize and speed up the regulatory response.

Activities Create an online/downloadable Project Definition Template that proponents can discuss and complete with provincial Mineral Development Officers. The template, once completed, can be re-submitted in hard copy or digitally and used within government to help optimize government's advice/response to the proponent.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation January 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MNDM – Online Practitioner’s Guide

Objective(s) To help proponents understand, in plain language, how to navigate Ontario’s mineral sector permits and approvals system and to encourage proponents to start thinking early about the scope of the issues related to permitting their planned project.

Activities Create an online/downloadable guide for proponents.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation January 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine but some very positive verbal feedback is being reported from some clients).

MNDM – First Nation’s Location and Notification Tool

Objective(s) To assist First Nation communities to understand what exploration/mining activity is occurring on the land and to assist explorers and miners to understand the extent of potentially impacted FN communities.

Activities Issue quarterly maps and reports to FN communities throughout Ontario illustrating the location of claim-staking activity in their regions. Issue lists of potentially affected FN communities to newly recorded mineral claim holders.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation First quarter of 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

MNDM – Develop a “One-Window” Coordination Process to Assist Proponents

Objective(s) Improve service delivery standards for mineral sector proponents through greater coordination of involved regulatory agencies within government. Make the process more transparent and understandable to mineral sector proponents.

Activities Create a working framework that clearly articulates the roles, responsibilities and expectations of involved government ministries and agencies in the mineral sector permits and approvals process.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Second to third quarter of 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).



Proposals to Modify the Environmental Impact Assessment Process

Objective(s) To simplify and make more efficient the environmental impact assessment process, by various measures and by better scoping and targeting requirements with respect to the type of project and potential impacts.

Activities The proposals have been developed by the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs, and have been submitted to the ministerial authorities.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative does not specifically target energy and mining projects.

Implementation Too early to be determined. Also, there will be many dates, since some measures require only administrative changes, others require some regulatory adjustments, and some options would require legislative adjustments.

Results N/A.

Proposals to Make Environmental Regulations More Target-Based and Oriented Towards Market Mechanisms

Objective(s) The Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs, has undertaken a complete revision of the *Environment Quality Act* to adapt it to reflect the new approaches to environmental protection.

Activities A discussion paper has been produced and a consultative group has advised the Minister.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, targets all sectors, both for existing facilities and for the monitoring of new projects.

Implementation To be determined.

Results

Proposals to Better Integrate Consultation of Aboriginal Communities Into the Authorization Processes

Objective(s) Integrate consultation and accommodation of Aboriginal communities in relation to initiatives that may affect their rights.

Activities In connection with environmental assessments and the issuing of various authorizations, the Aboriginal communities may be consulted to various extents at various stages in the process.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, most of the energy-related projects, particularly the hydro-electric and wind turbine projects, are targeted by these consultations.

Implementation Under way.

Results

Strategic Environmental Assessments on Marine Hydrocarbon Development Program

Objective(s) Better understand the marine environment to better reconcile oil and gas exploration and development with marine species protection, and harmonize that exploration and development with, among other things, commercial fishing and marine mammal observation tourism.

Activities Production of a study and guide for better reconciling oil and gas exploration and development with marine species protection and other uses of the environment.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, marine oil and gas exploration and development (Gulf of St. Lawrence).

Implementation Dates of the various stages have yet to be determined.

Results Production of the study and guide by a consulting firm.

Draft Regulations on Air Pollution Control

Objective(s) Replacement of the Quality of the Atmosphere Regulation with regulations on air pollution control (Règlement sur l'assainissement de l'atmosphère).

Activities Revise all the air emissions standards on the basis of the various sectors and introduce ambient air standards.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, all sectors producing or using hydrocarbons or other fuels.

Implementation Draft regulations were published in 2005-2006, and comments and opinions were submitted to the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs. Adoption of the regulations to come.

Results

Policy on Public Transit

Objective(s) Implementation of the Quebec policy on public transit (Politique québécoise du transport collectif).

Activities Putting in place seven assistance programs.

Energy/Mining Focus? Improving the energy efficiency of road transportation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Implementation Under way.

Results To come.

Biogas Program

Objective(s) The biogas program (Programme Biogaz) is designed to provide financial support for projects to capture and eliminate or upgrade biogases from landfill sites.

Activities The program targets biogas development projects designed to replace or avoid use of a greenhouse-gas-emitting energy source at landfills.

Energy/Mining Focus? Reduction of greenhouse gases and availability of an alternative fuel.

Implementation Under way.

Results

Regulations on Light-Duty Vehicle GHG Emissions

Objective(s) Adoption of strict standards for motor vehicle emissions.

Activities

Energy/Mining Focus? Energy efficiency, reduction of GHG and air emissions in general.

Implementation To come.

Results

Quebec's Energy Authority (Régie de l'Énergie)

Objective(s) To improve communication and trust between regulated companies and stakeholders in order to reduce regulatory complexity and shorten timelines, to improve the regulatory process, and to discuss possible solutions for specific issues.

Activities Each year a one-day facilitated workshop is held to address:

- 1) What should the Régie do to improve regulatory processes?
- 2) What are you ready to do to help the Régie achieve these goals?

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Commenced in 2005.

Results Improved communication between stakeholders. Greater level of trust between regulated entities and intervenors. Improvement in regulatory processes. Feedback from stakeholders on Régie processes.



Government of New Brunswick

Pipeline Act

Objective(s) Provide a clear and modern regulatory environment for new pipeline projects planned for New Brunswick.

Activities *New Pipeline Act.*

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2005.

Results The *Pipeline Act* consolidates and modernizes previous pipeline safety legislation under a single act and creates a common, integrated, multi-disciplinary regulatory approval process for pipeline projects. It expands the scope of coverage to include pipelines carrying gas for export.

Amendments to the Pipeline Act

Objective(s) Streamline permitting of pipelines in petroleum field operations and clarify certain sections of the Act.

Activities *Amendments to the Pipeline Act.* Discussions are planned between the Energy and Utilities Board and Department of Environment, with participation of the Department of Natural Resources.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Legislative amendments are planned for 2009.

Results Amendments being proposed aim to create a more efficient, streamlined Act.

Gas Distribution Act

Objective(s) To update, expand and consolidate the Province's laws on gas distribution and regulation previously found in the *Gas Distribution Act* (1981), *Pipe Line Act*, *Public Utilities Act*, *Underground Storage Act* and *Municipalities Act*.

Activities New *Gas Distribution Act*.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 1999.

Results The Act consolidated and modernized previous legislation under a single act and was created to reflect the path New Brunswick had initiated with respect to development of a natural gas infrastructure.

Amendments to the *Gas Distribution Act*

Objective(s) Reduce the regulatory burden on the province's developing natural gas distribution system.

Activities A series of amendments were made to the *Gas Distribution Act* (1999) that came into force in 2005.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Fall 2005.

Results The mandatory seven-year review of the province-wide distribution company was removed to allow the Energy and Utilities Board to use discretion regarding the frequency of reviews. Flexibility was added to allow amendments/updates to franchise agreements to reflect changes in the operating environment, e.g., market conditions, insurance requirements, etc.

Elimination of Regulatory Overlap and Duplication (Red Tape) Within New Brunswick

Objective(s) Eliminate elements of duplication and overlap of legislative requirements that exist between different government departments and at different levels of government.

Activities During the drafting of the new *Petroleum Act*, significant effort was made to eliminate those tasks that were already being done by other provincial departments. Efforts continue to eliminate duplication and overlap with respect to agencies such as District Planning Commissions.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of resource projects.

Implementation This activity is ongoing, with no specific date set for completion.

Results Good progress made with departments such as Environment, Public Safety, the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission (WHSCC), and the Energy and Utilities Board (EUB). Other areas still require work such as the rural and district planning commissions.

Administrative Improvements to the Environmental Impact Assessment Process

Objective(s) To provide better information to the public and stakeholders on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, to promote public contribution to the EIA process, and to enhance the turnaround time for the EIA process to the extent within the control of the Department.

Activities Amendments have been made for:

- 1) An enhanced website, a revised guide to the EIA process and a new brochure.
- 2) Minimum standards for proponent-sponsored public involvement are now required by the Department to ensure that opportunities for public involvement are provided by proponents, for all registered projects within 60 days of project registration.
- 3) A revised and enhanced Registration Guide, 17 Sector-specific supplements to the generic Registration Guide.
- 4) A renewed Memorandum of Understanding between Project Assessment Branch and the Technical Review Committee, reinforced authority for the Department's Project Managers and provision for pre-submission consultation between proponents and the review committee in advance of formal registration.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation November 2004.

Results In terms of the transparency initiative, by the fact that there is an enhanced web site, updated registration guide, and required public outreach with every registration, it can be concluded that the results of this initiative have improved the transparency of the EIA process for New Brunswick. In terms of the streamlining initiative that included a renewed MOU and pre-submission consultation, an internal 90 to 120-day turnaround time target has resulted in an increased turnaround of registrations. For projects that were registered in 2005, approximately 75 percent of the projects met the internal turnaround time target, and for those that did not, the reasons were outside the control of the Department.

Fire Prevention Act

Objective(s) To ensure that only licensed people will be allowed to install or alter oil burning systems.

Activities Amendments to the *Fire Prevention Act* were completed in the fall of 2007 to make oil burner mechanic trade compulsory. The N.B. Department of Public Safety is now in the process of preparing the necessary regulatory changes for consideration by government.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Spring 2008.

Results Results are intended to be increased safety and efficiency of oil burning devices and fewer spills due to improper installation of petroleum storage tanks.

Energy and Utilities Board Act

Objective(s) To consolidate and modernize legislation.

Activities New *Energy and Utilities Board Act* drafted.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation January 2007.

Results The *Energy and Utilities Board Act* replaced the *Public Utilities Act* (which came into force in 1911). Regulatory elements that were common to multiple sectors such as natural gas distribution, electricity and pipelines, were consolidated into the *Energy and Utilities Board Act*.

Energy Efficiency Act

Objective(s) To modernize legislation and to update energy efficiency regulations to eliminate the least efficient equipment from the market with an aim to reduce energy consumption and associated air emissions.

Activities The New Brunswick *Energy Efficiency Act* (1992) provides authority to regulate minimum energy efficiency levels in energy using equipment or equipment affecting the use of energy and is under review. Updates may be proposed to the regulated minimal energy efficiency levels in energy-using equipment or equipment affecting the use of energy.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Legislative amendments are being considered for 2009.

Results Updates to the regulated energy efficiency level standards of energy-using equipment or equipment affecting the use of energy. Changes will contribute to New Brunswick's environmental and economic objectives by decreasing energy use, greenhouse gas emissions and energy costs for consumers.

Liquefied Natural Gas Regulatory Framework

Objective(s) Assess and implement a model framework to address specialized regulatory requirements for the operation of an LNG storage and regasification facility.

Activities Discussions are under way between the Department of Energy, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Environment, the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission, and an independent consultant.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Assessment to be completed by fall of 2008 with required amendments to the current framework in place by late 2008.

Results Intended to provide improvements to the regulated environment for LNG operations, permitting greater predictability, best industry practices, and certainty for the operator of an LNG facility to meet compliance standards.

Online Mineral Permits Information

Objective(s) To reduce process uncertainty, thereby resulting in less wasted time and effort on the part of both industry and regulators.

Activities Clear explanation on Department of Natural Resources web site of:

- 1) Required steps in applying for exploration and mining permits,
- 2) Nature of information sought under provincial legislation.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation 2006.

Results Too early to determine.

Development of Industry Guidelines

Objective(s) To reduce process uncertainty, thereby resulting in less wasted time and effort on the part of both industry and regulators.

Activities Guidelines for exploration activities.

Guide to mine approval process, incorporating:

- 1) Guide to drafting a reclamation plan (completed).
- 2) Guide to drafting a feasibility study (pending).

Links to Department of Environment EIA requirements, Watercourse and Wetland Alteration permitting requirements.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation 2006.

Results Too early to determine.

Provision of Technical Information

Objective(s) Assist in the drafting of mining lease applications.

Activities Geological maps and databases available, GIS system and electronic resource allocation and minerals management system now under development.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is targeted at improving energy and mining projects.

Implementation 2008.

Results In progress.

Reduce Duplication in Regulatory Process

Objective(s) To reduce process uncertainty, thereby resulting in less wasted time and effort on the part of both industry and regulators and to reduce/eliminate duplication.

Activities In discussion with provincial planning commissions to eliminate duplication in permitting process and possibly conflicting requirements of local and provincial legislation.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is targeted at improving energy and mining projects.

Implementation 2008.

Results In progress.

Provide Research Support

Objective(s) Improve or meet regulatory requirements.

Activities Indirect support through programs such as Mine Environmental Neutral Drainage (MEND) and NOAMI.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results In progress.

Develop a “One-Window” Process to Assist Proponents

Objective(s) Guide proponents through regulatory process.

Activities Standing Committee on Mining and the Environment, which comprises representatives from the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environment, and Environment Canada to present a one-window to applicants.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Began in 1988.

Results Provides guidance to proponents regarding process and required elements of applications. Results in less wasted time and effort on the part of both industry and regulators.

Petroleum Act

Objective(s) With regard to the exploration and development of petroleum resources, develop comprehensive legislation that is streamlined and transparent. Be less prescriptive, relying on good industry practices through reference to established guides and standards.

Activities New *Petroleum Act* drafted, regulations in progress.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation *Petroleum Act* received Royal Assent on May 30, 2007. Will be proclaimed when regulations have been finalized, expected before the end of 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Common Approach to Onshore Oil and Gas Regulation in Atlantic Canada

Objective(s) Develop regional policy to allow streamlining and harmonization of onshore oil and gas legislation.

Activities Dialogue has been undertaken with representatives of the Atlantic provinces in an effort to move towards a regional approach - creating a uniform set of guidelines and/or policies to attract petroleum resource exploration and development.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Early stages, no date set.

Results N/A.



Government of Nova Scotia

Better Regulation Initiative

Objective(s)

- 1) Reduce the effort for business to comply with regulations;
- 2) Improve quality of regulations;
- 3) Increase compliance with regulations;
- 4) Report and demonstrate progress.

Activities

- 1) Provide a baseline inventory and consistent approach for tracking progress;
- 2) Help government understand the impact of paperwork on business (including the cumulative impact of multiple departments);
- 3) Competitiveness and Compliance Initiative;
- 4) Small Business Solutions Initiative.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Spring 2005, reduce paperwork burden 20 percent by 2010.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Online Access to Forms

Objective(s) To ensure that government clients have easy access to prescribed forms required to do business with government.

Activities Putting digital versions of forms on-line for download by clients.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation 2007.

Results Digitally acquired forms are now widely used, particularly in the mineral rights registry.

Mineral Rights Registry Automation

Objective(s) To transfer the mineral rights registry from a paper-based to a fully digital system. To provide clients with on-line, remote access to claim staking and maintenance.

Activities Completing a detailed model of information flow and business practice for the registry. Contract to develop software has been let and development is in progress.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Fall 2008.

Results In progress.

Upgrade Mineral Registry Map Projections

Objective(s) Bring mineral claims maps into conformity with map projections in use elsewhere in the province and to allow mineral claims information to be easily compared with other map-based information (e.g., land registry). Upgrade base from NAD27 to NAD83.

Activities Extensive consultations with clients to inform them of the impacts on their existing claims. Production of a new set of claims maps on the NAD83 projection.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation 2006.

Results Successfully completed, few complaints from mineral rights holders were easily dealt with; general approval for updated map system.

Nova Scotia Pay for Performance Board Members

Objective(s) To encourage timely, efficient and cost-effective regulation and to encourage excellence by Board members.

Activities Up to 15 percent of income is based on performance (20 percent the organization, 80 percent the individual). Individual criteria include timeliness of decisions, excellence in decision writing and hearing administration, organization and efficiency, leadership, collegiality, and the highest standard of ethical behaviour. Has an impact on following year salary level.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Commenced fall 2005.

Results Improvement in timeline for decisions. Buy-in from stakeholders, including government.

Energy Efficient Appliances Act Update

Objective(s) To ensure that Nova Scotia's *Energy Efficient Appliances Act* is aligned with the federal act and to ensure appliances manufactured/sold in Nova Scotia meet a minimum efficiency level.

Activities Review existing federal and provincial energy efficiency regulations. Update Nova Scotia regulations to align with other jurisdictions.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation January 2008.

Results N/A.

EnerGuide 80 by 2011

Objective(s) To require that all new single family homes be built to meet EnerGuide 80 designation by 2001 and to provide builders, homeowners and developers with clear guidelines with regard to energy efficiency in new home construction.

Activities Draft legislation that will include mandatory EnerGuide labelling by January 2008. Initial consultation with builders, developers and municipal governments.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation January 2011.

Results N/A.

Development of a Modern Regulatory Approach

Objective(s) To develop an *Energy Act* that consolidates existing legislation consistent with a modern regulatory approach.

Activities Working with technical experts to ensure the province's regulatory approach is consistent with best practices in other parts of Canada and protects the public interest in Nova Scotia. Consulting with stakeholders. Identifying and analyzing policy issues. Review the draft Act, related regulations, codes of practice, guidelines, and policy documents.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving legislation and regulations administered by the Department of Energy.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results Draft Act created; review of best practices and experience with energy legislation in relevant jurisdictions. It is anticipated to result in modern regulatory policy practice and drafting approaches; the advice of key energy stakeholder groups in Nova Scotia; the advice of energy experts including those in the Nova Scotia government.

Frontier and Offshore Regulatory Renewal Initiative

Objective(s)

- 1) Renewing and modernizing frontier and offshore petroleum regulations.
- 2) Reviewing all frontier and offshore regulations with the aim of applying the principles of "goal-oriented" regulation.

Activities

- 1) Drafting new Drilling and Production Regulations in a goal-oriented style to replace the current Drilling Regulations and the Production and Conservation Regulations;
- 2) Established a Seismic Statement of Practice for Geophysical Operations in the offshore that allows regulators the flexibility to change provisions without the need for regulatory amendment.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2008-2009.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Coordinated Regulatory Review Process – Deep Panuke

Objective(s) Concurrent environmental and technical review processes; efficient and effective regulatory process; federal-provincial coordination.

Activities Energy was involved in a coordinated Regulatory Review Process with federal and provincial regulators for Deep Panuke. The Department of Energy worked with the federal government and the regulators to streamline the process and integrate environmental assessment with the regulatory approvals for the Deep Panuke offshore gas project.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2005-2007.

Results Improved process timelines from 30 months to 11 months.

Development of a Regulatory Roadmap for Onshore Seismic Drilling and Offshore Renewable Energy Projects

Objective(s) Will provide industry (business) with the requirements to ensure their applications are complete upon submission. This will guarantee that time is not wasted clarifying missed information. Establishes multi-jurisdictional, coordinated approach to regulatory of energy projects.

Activities Development of Regulatory Roadmap and Guidance Notes for developers.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation Offshore Renewable Energy – January 2007; Seismic and Drilling, February 2009.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Modernization of Nova Scotia's Onshore Energy Legislation and Regulations

Objective(s)

- 1) Consistent, modern regulatory approach;
- 2) Move towards goal-oriented regulation.

Activities The Department of Energy is currently working to reduce prescriptive requirements and minimize overlap/duplication. Pipeline and drilling and production legislation and regulations are currently being updated consistent with government and departmental objectives with respect to the Better Regulation Initiative. Work is being undertaken to harmonize the Nova Scotia regime to make it consistent with neighbouring provinces and incorporate best industry practices.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2008-2009.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Development of Procedures for Regulatory Development

Objective(s) Department of Energy developed procedure to provide greater clarity to staff and establish a step-by-step process for regulatory issue analysis; it creates a consistent and thorough approach to regulatory development.

Activities

- 1) Prioritizing and Planning;
- 2) Stakeholder engagement;
- 3) Minimizing overlap and duplication;
- 4) Informed decisions – based on science, stakeholder and legal input;
- 5) Focuses on outcomes/performance objectives.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation October 2007.

Results N/A (too early to determine).



Government of Prince Edward Island

Prince Edward Island has no significant regulatory improvement initiatives under way.



Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Mineral Exploration Standards for Labrador Inuit Lands

Objective(s) To meet requirements of the Labrador Inuit Land claim settlement for joint provincial-Inuit approval of exploration on Inuit-owned lands.

Activities

- 1) Standards negotiated and passed into law March 31, 2007, provided for joint approval system.
- 2) Since then, all exploration projects on Labrador Inuit Lands have had to receive approval under the Standards.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Initiative started late 2006, completed March 2007.

Results Provision of a clear set of requirements and approval procedures for exploration on Labrador Inuit Lands. Exploration on these lands has surged in 2007.

Red Tape Reduction Initiative

Objective(s) To reduce administrative and regulatory inefficiencies while maintaining high standards, a level playing field for businesses, and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of government services to citizens.

Activities

- 1) Red Tape Reduction Task Force established in 2005.
- 2) Inventory of regulations compiled in 2005.
- 3) Work ongoing to meet reduction targets.

Energy/Mining Focus? No (government-wide).

Implementation 2005.

Results 10.5 percent reduction achieved by October 2007, but minimal impact on mining industry.

Online Claim Staking

Objective(s) To reduce client time and cost needed to acquire mineral licences, and to reduce government administration costs.

Activities Newfoundland and Labrador claims staking now entirely Internet based through the Mineral Rights Administration (MIRIAD) system, which provides real-time claim acquisition with fees paid through e-commerce system.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Launched in 2005.

Results Major reduction in time and travel cost for clients who previously had to travel to St. John's to acquire claims.

Online Exploration Approvals

Objective(s) To decrease time taken to issue exploration approvals (required for any exploration activity involving ground disturbance). Currently these can be prolonged due to the need for circulation of e-mails and paper documents to referred agencies. To eventually provide a portal for one-window approval of mineral exploration projects.

Activities Design started in 2007 of web portal for:

- 1) Submission of requests for exploration approval, including GIS-based map locations.
- 2) Input of comments from other government and Aboriginal agencies.
- 3) Issuance of approvals and conditions to client.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation 2007.

Results Design has started; funds for implementation have been requested in 2008-09 budget.

Online Resource Atlas

Objective(s)

- 1) To provide mineral claim and geoscience information through the Department of Natural Resources web site.
- 2) To reduce conflicts between mineral exploration, protected areas, and other resource users.

Activities

- 1) Atlas was created in 2000, but has been steadily improved. Mineral claims can be superimposed on geoscience and mineral occurrence layers derived from GIS map server. Claims and geoscience databases can be accessed through query tools. Also serves as information base for MIRIAD on-line claims staking system.
- 2) Current focus is on adding protected areas, sensitive wildlife areas, municipal, plans, etc.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation 2008.

Results Atlas works together with on-line staking system to allow clients to make fully informed decisions on acquisition of mineral claims.



Government of Nunavut²

Reduction of Barriers to Business Initiative

Objective(s)

- 1) Removal of barriers will help improve the business environment in Nunavut; and
- 2) Licensing, permits and fees will be streamlined and unnecessary regulations will be improved.

Activities The territorial government is creating a framework for a collaborative across-the-board review of industry-specific licensing and permitting requirements.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation The initiative was launched in 2005 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2007.

Results N/A (too early to determine).



Government of the Northwest Territories

See Government of Canada – Indian and Northern Affairs Canada for regulatory improvement initiatives related to resource development currently under way in the Northwest Territories. The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) is committed to regulatory improvement and views the devolution of authority for lands and resources from the federal government as an important step in improving regulatory effectiveness in the Northwest Territories. Below is an example of an initiative currently under way that is designed to ensure the electricity system in the N.W.T. reflects the unique nature of the N.W.T. market and the operating realities in the north.

Review of Electricity Rates, Regulation and Subsidy Programs

Objective(s)

- 1) Streamline complex electricity regulation and rate-setting process to reduce overall system costs.
- 2) Review electricity subsidies to ensure residents have equitable access to affordable, reliable power.

Activities The GNWT is undertaking a detailed review of the current quasi-judicial process that sees 33 individual electricity rate zones for the 33 N.W.T. communities, many of which have populations under 1000.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

² Mineral exploration and development are regulated by INAC (see Government of Canada – Indian and Northern Affairs Canada for additional regulatory improvement initiatives currently under way in Nunavut).

Implementation The Electricity Review was launched in 2008 and is expected to be completed by late 2009.

Results N/A (too early to determine).



Government of Yukon

Implementation of the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act* (YESAA) Process

Objective(s)

- 1) To ensure that projects are undertaken in accordance with principles that foster beneficial socio-economic change without undermining the ecological and social systems on which communities and their residents, and societies in general, depend;
- 2) To ensure that the assessment process is conducted in a timely, efficient and effective manner that avoids duplication; and
- 3) To provide certainty to the extent practicable with respect to assessment procedures, including information requirements, time limits and costs to participants.

Activities

- 1) Development of detailed rules for the assessment process to provide certainty with respect to procedures, information requirements, timelines, and costs to participants.
- 2) Establishment of a web site registry to enable the efficient dissemination of information between the assessor, government agencies, the proponent, and the public, and provide transparency and accessibility in the assessment process for all participants.
- 3) Regular interagency meetings to address process issues as they emerge and facilitate communications between YESAA assessors and regulators from all levels of government (federal, territorial and First Nation).
- 4) A decision body forum consisting of Yukon government, all federal agencies, and FNs with settled land claims agreements meets three to four times per year to discuss emerging and government-to-government relationships as they pertain to YESAA.
- 5) A five-year review of the entire assessment process has been initiated, including the statute, regulations, rules and procedures. Results will be used to improve the process and to incorporate the experiences gained during the start-up years.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation November 2005.

Results

- 1) Nearly 400 projects have been assessed under the YESAA process, including a major mine and a transmission project.
- 2) Considering that this is a new process for the Yukon (YESAA has been operational for less than two years) and is a significant change to how projects have been assessed in the Yukon, the first years of implementation have gone smoothly.
- 3) Assessors continue to adhere to specific timelines for various steps in the assessment process.

Yukon Placer Authorizations

Objective(s)

- 1) Clear pre-determined standards that will provide certainty to industry and regulators.
- 2) Encourage regulatory streamlining, make regulatory decision-making transparent and predictable.
- 3) Facilitate a balance between the objectives of conservation and protection of fish and fish habitat, and a sustainable placer industry.

Activities

- 1) Consultations with First Nations, mandated boards, stakeholders and other interested parties, and the public are nearing completion.
- 2) Final decisions on implementation, informed by extensive consultations, to be made during fall 2007 in time for 2008 season.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Will replace the existing Yukon Placer Authorization in late 2007.

Results

- 1) Adaptive management approach to managing effluent discharges and fish habitat on a watershed (instead of creek-by-creek) basis.
- 2) Strict discharge standards, relative to the sensitivity of habitat.
- 3) Ongoing monitoring to ensure management objectives for fisheries are being met, with mechanisms for corrective action.
- 4) Roles of regulators will not change.

Integrated Regulatory Regime for Yukon Placer Mining

Objective(s)

- 1) Integrates the regulatory requirements of the three levels of government.
- 2) Provides greater certainty for placer mining operations by setting clear, pre-determined regulatory requirements for the better protection of fish habitat.

Activities

- 1) Establishes a single-window approach through a secretariat.
- 2) A watershed focus on setting sediment discharge standards and other requirements to ensure a healthy aquatic system.
- 3) Uses a risk-based approach, careful watershed monitoring, adaptive management, and strong compliance and enforcement.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation Spring 2008.

Results N/A.

Integrated Resource Management Strategy

Objective(s) Internal to the Yukon Government - Streamlines the project review process by addressing internal policies and legislation gaps, and establishes better collaboration between government departments.

Activities Project management process that assists mining companies in their efforts to secure permits for development proposals by assigning project coordinators to individual projects to assist with the reviews and timely resolution of issues. Deputy Minister's Oversight Committee consisting of representatives from the departments of Energy, Mines and Resources, and Environment, as well as the Executive Council Office, to provide advice and decisions on major mine projects.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Spring 2006.

Results Ongoing. Project coordinators are currently assigned to four major projects (Ketzka, Division Mt., Tagish Lake Gold, Carmacks Copper). The Deputy Ministers Oversight Committee meets quarterly or more often if issues arise.

Closure and Reclamation Policy and Guidelines

Objective(s) Requires mining companies to plan for and finance the costs of restoring land used for mining to former or other productive uses, encourages early reclamation and closure planning, recognizes progressive reclamation, and minimizes public risk.

Activities

- 1) Ensure every mine has a reclamation and closure plan that has been approved by the Yukon government before development proceeds.
- 2) Determine the form and amount of security, to be provided by the mine operator, to cover the full amount of outstanding mine reclamation and closure liability.
- 3) Issue a Certificate of Closure when mine development or production is terminated and the Yukon government is satisfied that the mine operator has complied with all licence conditions.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of mining projects.

Implementation January 2006.

Results Ongoing. Guidelines are pending (2008). The reclamation and closure sections of a mine's production licence, as well as the security requirements, are based on the reclamation and closure policy.



Intergovernmental Initiatives

Federal/Provincial Agreements on Environmental Assessment Cooperation

Objective(s) Federal/provincial environmental cooperation agreements have been signed with most provinces. When federal and provincial environmental assessment processes both apply to the same project, these agreements enable both governments to utilize public resources more efficiently through a single cooperative assessment.

Activities Cooperative federal/provincial assessments have been conducted.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at mining projects; however, many mineral projects have been subject to cooperative environmental assessments.

Implementation Ongoing.

Results Public resources have been used more efficiently through cooperative assessments. Proponents receive coordinated EA process and technical/scientific information requirements from both governments.

Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) Initiative

Objective(s) A streamlined regulatory process for all Canadian jurisdictions whereby decisions on environmental assessments for projects are made in a certain, predictable and timely fashion, while safeguarding the environment. Options include a one-window approach for assessments that involve more than one agency or government.

Activities

- 1) A task group has been identified with representation from all jurisdictions; Manitoba, British Columbia and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency are co-chairs.
- 2) Work is progressing on developing a scoping paper for Ministers review in September meeting.
- 3) Work will be carried out in 2008 to develop implementation options for all jurisdictions.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Launched in fall of 2006, implementation in 2008 and beyond.

Results Too early to determine.

BizPal

Objective(s) BizPal is a web-based service that allows business clients to easily generate a customized list of the permits and licences they require from all levels of government by answering some simple, generic questions about the business. The objectives of BizPal are to:

- 1) Reduce the time and effort required for developers and entrepreneurs to identify required business permits and licences; and
- 2) Increase compliance.

Activities Implement an interactive web site that provides customized information on business permits and licences required from all levels of government.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative streamlines access to permits and licences for all businesses.

Implementation BizPaL is now operating in sustainable program mode and rapidly expanding to other governments across Canada. British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Yukon have their mineral exploration requirements online and each are currently working to include additional natural resource sectors. Other provincial/territorial partners are also committed to including their natural resource requirements as a component of BizPaL implementation. BizPaL MOU signed with Industry Canada, B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia, and the Yukon in 2007.

Results Positive feedback received from business and government. Will save businesses significant time in navigating through the regulatory system in jurisdictions where implemented.

Passport System of Securities Regulation

Objective(s) Increase harmonization and reduce duplication between jurisdictions.

Activities Implement a "one decision" system of securities regulation whereby a market participant would have access to the capital markets in multiple jurisdictions by dealing with the regulator in its principle jurisdiction.

Energy/Mining Focus? No, this initiative is not specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy and mining projects.

Implementation Draft regulatory instruments published for comment in 2007.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Multi-Regulator Integrity Management Awareness Program

Objective(s) To reduce the number of integrity and safety-related incidents on oil and gas pipelines, to improve education and awareness amongst pipeline owners and operators and ensure that regulatory requirements for Integrity Management Systems are well understood, and to communicate to industry that there is a high degree of cooperation and intelligence sharing between agencies.

Activities This is a joint initiative between the BC Oil and Gas Commission, National Energy Board, Saskatchewan Energy and Resources, and the Manitoba Public Utilities Board. Other regulators may also join. A series of workshops will be provided to educate, communicate common requirements, and address specific industry issues.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving safety regulation of oil and gas pipelines.

Implementation Commencing May 2008.

Results N/A (too early to determine).

Coordinated Review Processes in the Atlantic Offshore

Objective(s) Two Memoranda of Understanding on effective, coordinated and concurrent environmental assessment and regulatory processes were signed in 2006 by all regulators and environmental assessment authorities with responsibilities related to offshore petroleum development projects in Accord areas. The agreements ensure that the environmental and regulatory reviews proceed concurrently rather than sequentially. This is expected to result in important time savings and efficiencies without compromising on public interest objectives.

Activities The streamlined process is to be implemented as large-scale offshore development projects are brought forward by industry. The MOU was recently applied to the Deep Panuke Offshore Natural Gas Project.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving regulation of offshore hydrocarbon development projects.

Implementation 2006 – ongoing.

Results Application of the MOU to the Deep Panuke project resulted in better regulatory coordination, information-sharing, and shared targets for approval timeframes. The project is expected to receive all approvals within 11 months, consistent with timelines in international jurisdictions.

Non-Accord Offshore Management

Objective(s) Development (in concert with the federal government, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Quebec) of a management regime to allow for the exploration, development and production of petroleum in adjacent offshore areas.

Activities Initial discussions held leading to New Brunswick appointing a committee tasked with negotiating an MOU with Canada to facilitate offshore management regime.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving safety regulation of energy projects.

Implementation To be established through negotiation.

Results N.B. negotiating committee established.

Cooperation Plan for the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP)

Objective(s) Intended to coordinate regulatory processes pursuant to the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement*, the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. The objectives are:

- 1) To coordinate the regulatory reviews of the MGP;
- 2) To avoid unnecessary duplication and seek process efficiency in the regulatory review of the project;
- 3) To contribute to clarity, certainty and timeliness in the review process; and
- 4) To enhance public participation.

Activities Reduced the number of public hearings required by the regulators and provided for concurrent, instead of sequential Joint Review Panel (JRP) and National Energy Board hearings.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of an energy project.

Implementation Signed in 2002.

Results While held as a good example of a one-window approach, there are some areas for future improvement:

- 1) All regulators signed the agreement, but it is not binding, so if any feel their legal responsibilities are not met through the JRP process they could embark on their own process;
- 2) Subsequent to the current process, the MGP will require a number of permits that could result in delays and additional hearings, although it is hoped that this will be addressed through a Regulators Agreement;
- 3) There have still been delays partly attributable to standard regulatory inefficiencies caused by jurisdictional confusion and capacity issues (as well as proponent preparedness and planning issues);
- 4) The Coop Plan was also challenged by the Dene Tha' based on governments' failure to consult with them in developing the Plan. The courts have agreed, causing additional delays; and
- 5) Positive outcomes from this process are that deficiencies have been highlighted and a much closer working relationship among regulators has evolved.

Atlantic Energy Roundtable (AER)

Objective(s)

- 1) Achieve greater regulatory efficiency;
- 2) Encouraging increased investment and local involvement in the offshore areas.

Activities

- 1) Developing effective, transparent and efficient regulatory systems consistent with those in other similar international jurisdictions.
- 2) Increasing value for the Atlantic Region and Canada by enhancing local service and supply companies' understanding of opportunities in the offshore and building capacity to respond to those opportunities.
- 3) Reducing exploration and development costs in Atlantic Canada to enhance the investment attractiveness of this region.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2002.

Results MOU on concurrent environmental assessment and regulatory processes for offshore developments; developing a Seismic Statement of Practice to set baseline environmental protection requirements and as a mitigative measure for offshore seismic programs, resulting in flexibility and predictability; elimination of the regulatory requirement to flow test the first exploration well on a geological structure; first wells in an offshore area released from a detailed comprehensive study to a screening process under federal environment legislation; and the modernization of offshore regulations to performance (goal-oriented) based regulations (See FORRI, a direct extension from AER).

Frontier and Offshore Regulatory Renewal Initiative (FORRI)

Objective(s)

- 1) Working towards renewing and modernizing frontier and offshore petroleum regulations;
- 2) Reviewing all frontier and offshore regulations with the aim of applying the principles of "goal-oriented regulation."

Activities

- 1) Drafting new Drilling and Production Regulations in a goal-oriented style to replace the current Drilling Regulations and the Production and Conservation Regulations.
- 2) Establishing a seismic statement of practice for geophysical operations in the offshore that would also allow regulators the flexibility to change provisions without the need for regulatory amendment.

Energy/Mining Focus? Yes, this initiative is specifically targeted at improving the regulation of energy projects.

Implementation 2005.

Results

- 1) Drilling and Production Regulations: work under way to implement goal-oriented provisions related to offshore drilling and production operations.
- 2) Flow testing requirements: Amendments to the current Drilling Regulations to exempt first wells on a geologic structure from flow testing requirements came into force on December 31, 2006.