



File: 200-20/ADV

October 23, 2001

Derek Doyle
Commissioner
Oil and Gas Commission
200 10003 110 Ave
Fort St. John, BC V1J 6M7

Dear Derek Doyle:

Re: Advice from the Advisory Committee

Thank you for coming to our Advisory Committee meeting September 11 and 12, 2001. It was pleasurable meeting you, and we appreciate the information you and your staff provided.

I am writing on behalf of the committee and am writing in regards to the specific advice we gave you at the meeting. We look forward to hearing how you will use it.

- We believe that the OGC should examine whether the requirements for public consultation should be placed into Regulation, or whether a guideline is sufficient
- OGC look at the fundamental issue of ownership of the resource in conjunction with its increased role with First Nations
- We believe that the OGC's operational budget must increase so that it can handle increased workloads and still continue to do the job effectively. This is especially important for the inspection and enforcement functions. The OGC needs to do this so it doesn't look as if it's a rubber stamp operation
- We believe the OGC must renegotiate the Environmental Fund agreement to allow for more administrative costs (greater than 1 percent) then the OGC can improve the delivery of the Fund and hire a dedicated resource
- OGC needs to be part of the pre-tenure plans, but only as a resource, otherwise it is a conflict of interest.
- There needs to be a public process to look at the new permanent bridge over the Prophet River
- We think the OGC is not going to be viewed as a captive regulator and its staff need to be trained and educated to understand their role, and the public must be educated as well. Very encouraged by the news of an Administrative Law course.
- OGC needs to come up with information and procedures on how to deal with helicopter-supported drilling

- OGC must build and maintain a relationship with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and prevent their process infringing on the industry
- The OGC application staff need to have known (publicized) and trained back-ups during the “peak” season
- We also suggest that the OGC investigate the British Columbia Assets and Lands survey currently happening

The committee also acknowledges that you have asked us to look at the principles behind engagement of First Nations and provide you advice. We have attached the Principles for Prosperity in the Oil and Gas Sector for you to review as well.

We are looking forward to working with you and being part of the Core review.

Sincerely,

Bob Fedderly
Chair

Attachment (1)

pc: Advisory Committee