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PROVINCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOUR GAS RELEASES REPORT: EVALUATION OF KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EUB'S IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS - SEPTEMBER 2004

(Calgary, Alberta, October 15, 2004) The Advisory Committee on Public Safety and Sour Gas today released its report entitled *Evaluation of Key Developments in the EUB's Implementation Progress - September 2004*.

The *Advisory Committee on Public Safety and Sour Gas* (the Advisory Committee), formed in January 2000 by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB), reviewed the regulatory system for sour gas as related to public health and safety. The outcome was a report to the EUB in December 2000, detailing 87 recommendations aimed at improving the sour gas regulatory system and reducing impacts of sour gas on public health and safety. The EUB's subsequent endeavors to implement all 87 recommendations have been monitored by the Advisory Committee who, as representatives of a broad spectrum of stakeholders, publishes its observations and comments in report form.

On September 7, 2004, the Advisory Committee met to discuss certain key developments in the EUB's implementation work. The resulting observations and comments to the EUB are contained in a report titled *Advisory Committee on Public Safety and Sour Gas Evaluation of Key Developments in the EUB's Implementation Progress – September 2004*.

Gerry DeSorcy, Advisory Committee Chair, commented - "With 50 of the 87 recommendations now complete and most of the remaining recommendation work well underway, Advisory Committee discussions focused on a few key areas that Committee members believed would benefit from observation and comment." The Advisory Committee noted that progress on many of the remaining recommendations is slower than some earlier work due to the complexity of these recommendations and their inter-relationships with earlier and/or on-going implementation work.

In its report to the EUB, the Advisory Committee strongly supports the establishment of an Air Research Chair at an Alberta university, suggesting that the importance of this initiative should be brought to the attention of Government at senior levels. The report also urges the EUB to do all it can to secure the funding necessary for the 'Human Health and Air Quality Monitoring System' software development.

The Advisory Committee will likely meet at least one more time to review key developments in the EUB's implementation progress and publish the results. This would likely be in the first half of 2005. In the meantime, implementation progress will continue to be monitored by individual Advisory Committee members who remain in contact with the EUB as matters arise. Many Advisory Committee members participate in the implementation work through direct stakeholder involvement.

The Advisory Committee's *Evaluation of Key Developments in the EUB's Implementation Progress – September 2004* report is available on the Advisory Committee's website at

<http://www.publicsafetyandsourgas.org>, or on the EUB website at www.eub.gov.ab.ca, or by contacting the Advisory Committee at:

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The EUB's *PSSG Project Status, Completion, Implementation, Sustainability and Performance Measure Tables* (published in June 2004), and the Advisory Committee's original *Findings and Recommendations Final Report* (detailing the 87 recommendations) are both available at the EUB's Calgary Office and Field Centers, and on the EUB website at www.eub.gov.ab.ca