

**May 6, 2021**  
**3:00 pm**  
**Via ZOOM (Online)**



**Attendance:**

- |                                 |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Alister Wilson, CNRL            | Jeff Lennard, Community         | Pamela Hollinger, Shell     |
| Bettina van Nieuwkerk, CWL      | Jerry Pratt, Clearwater County  | Preston Seier, TC Energy    |
| Cammie Laird, Clearwater County | John Vandermeer, County         | Renata Pinto, Shell         |
| Cole Thomson, TC Energy         | Ken Brophy, Ram Coal            | Spencer Sinclair, Paramount |
| Connie Sands, Community         | Lyle Leadley, Keyera            | Thalia Aspeslet, Pieridae   |
| Darcy Allen, FAO                | Marcie Nieman, AER              | Rick Anderson, Facilitator  |
| Don Riddle, Community           | Michelle Meatheringham, Chamber | Dawn Thomas, Note taker     |
| Glenn Miller, Ram Coal          | Murray Welch, Community         |                             |

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

**REVIEW AGENDA:**

- Reviewed & approved

**REVIEW MEETING NOTES:**

- Reviewed April meeting notes; Approved

**UPDATES/ACTION ITEMS:**

Invoicing cheques are coming in.

CER (Canada Energy Regulator): Rick has been in contact and they will attend our next meeting and give a short presentation/update.

**MEMBER UPDATES/IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD:**

*Members present gave verbal updates. Only written updates submitted are included in the meeting notes. Attendees shared activity updates, and information about local events. Please provide any written updates to Rick via email ([rick@rickandersonconsulting.com](mailto:rick@rickandersonconsulting.com))*

- TC Energy scholarship page (via chat) [www.tcscholarships.com](http://www.tcscholarships.com)

## WRITTEN UPDATES:

### AER

**NOTE:** for regular updates, please sign up for our [News Release Subscription](#) and [Subscribe to Updates](#)

### **News Releases:**

SanLing Energy Ltd. has informed the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) that it intends to cease operations as of April 30.

<https://www.aer.ca/providing-information/news-and-resources/news-and-announcements/news-releases/news-release-2021-04-21>

### **Bulletin 2021-15 Invitation for Feedback on New Water Conservation Policy Manual (April 20, 2021)**

The AER is working to implement the Government of Alberta's [Water Conservation Policy for upstream oil and gas operations](#). As a result, we recently released the draft manual ([Manual XXX: Water Conservation Policy for Upstream Oil and Gas Operations](#)) for a 30-day public review period. We want to hear what people think before it is finalized. Please also review the [Questions and Answers \(Q&As\)](#) for greater context. Once you have read the Q&A and the draft manual, please provide your feedback using the form in [this bulletin](#). This may be submitted to [regman@aer.ca](mailto:regman@ aer.ca) by May 21, 2021 at the latest.

You can also read our story on [Resource](#)

### **Bulletin 2021-11 New Edition of Directive 067: Eligibility Requirements for Acquiring and Holding Energy Licences and Approvals (April 7, 2021)**

Acquiring and holding a licence or approval for energy development in Alberta is a privilege, not a right. This directive ensures that this privilege is only granted to responsible parties. It sets out requirements for applying for, maintaining, and amending licence eligibility. It also identifies the circumstances in which the AER may revoke or restrict licence eligibility.

<https://www.aer.ca/regulating-development/rules-and-directives/bulletins/bulletin-2021-11>

### **Government of Alberta – Coal Policy Engagement**

<https://www.alberta.ca/coal-policy-engagement.aspx>

<https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=7801300005F6F-02C6-8BE0-44B167B8913C4304>

Should members of the public want to report emergencies or operational complaints related to coal exploration/development activity and/or oil and gas activity, **the best way is to call the 24-hour emergency and operational complaint line – 1-800-222-6514.**

### **Resource:**

Escalating Enforcement, Education and Prevention lay foundation to ensure companies follow the rules.

<https://resource.aer.ca/stories/escalating-enforcement>

### **Bonavista**

Normal operations at Bonavista. Drilling rigs will start back up after spring break.

## **PRESENTATION:**

### **West Country Update – Jerry Pratt, Clearwater County**

- Jerry provided an extensive update / presentation to the group, with a Q&A, and provided a written version for the meeting notes.

### **Nordegg and David Thompson Country Update**

David Thompson Country is the regional tourism brand for Caroline, Rocky Mountain House, and Clearwater County. Highlights include Nordegg, Abraham Lake, Burnstick Lake, Cow Lake, Crimson Lake, Crescent Falls, Ram Falls, Siffleur Falls, and the Ya Ha Tinda.

David Thompson Country has seen the number of visitors to rise each year for about a decade, resulting in an estimate of about 10,000 people in the County on weekends from May through September, and between 30,000 to 50,000 on long weekends depending on the weather.

2020 saw a significant increase in visitors as Albertans were encouraged to not go to B.C. or to the U.S. Despite the restrictions in May and June of 2020, it was a banner year for our campgrounds, both provincial and private, and drive-through restaurants and liquor stores also did very well. Unfortunately, the hotels, B&Bs, sit-down restaurants, Main Street shops, and guided tour businesses did not see the same economic benefit with the rise in visitors.

The increase in traffic on trails and random camping areas also saw a rise in garbage and human and pet waste being left behind. Business garbage bins in Nordegg were filled by visitors, and then garbage was left surrounding the bins once they were full. Volunteer groups made national news cleaning up garbage and poop, trying to keep the area clean for others.

We also had a surge in emergency callouts and rescues. There were multiple rescues on Abraham Lake, on trails for hikers and OHV riders, and a tragedy that claimed 3 lives at Crescent Falls.

We also saw an increase in wildlife incidents as people had to be educated about storing food and garbage safely.

Existing parking was overwhelmed as people parked on the sides of highways and in ditches. Siffleur Falls has a parking lot for 100 vehicles, but there were traffic counts of over 300 vehicles parking there.

River rescues were low because the water levels were high right into August.

In response to the rise in activity

- The Province and County both started sharing the message of “If you brought it with you, you have the responsibility to take it home.”
- The Province built an additional parking area along Abraham Lake and has plans for 2 more.

- The Province built latrines at Preachers Point, the Cline River Trail Head, and plans for 2 more locations.
- The Province serviced some latrines all winter.
- The Province is controlling traffic not Crescent Falls for 2021 at the turn off on the David Thompson Highway. They will also manage traffic at Siffleur Falls.
- The Province has put up signs telling motorized vehicles to stay off the lakebed at Abraham Lake and has increased enforcement.
- Trans Alta has installed a gate onto the lase at the Bighorn Dam.
- The County built public latrines at the Nordegg Discovery Centre.
- The County cleared snow at Goldeye Lake and at Shunda Lake (Fish Lake) all winter.
- David Thompson Country switched its messaging from “Come and enjoy the views in David Thompson Country” to “Come and enjoy this tour/camping experience in David Thompson Country.”

#### Additional information

The County and Town are teaming up to promote the tourism businesses of David Thompson Country. We will be collecting film content this spring and summer and ads will be on CTV Edmonton as well as targeted social media.

The Rail Trail – Alberta Environment and Parks and Clearwater County have been working together to build a multi-use trail along some of the former rail line. The trail from the Nordegg Industrial Park to Saunders-Alexo should be completed later in 2021. This includes a new surface for the Taunton trestle.

Nordegg is now sold out of Cottage lots and there is only 1 Industrial Park lot left. 4 lots have sold in the new manufactured home subdivision. Services will be completed this summer in the Historic Main Street and business lots will go on sale in early 2022. The Discovery Centre (formerly Nordegg Museum) is undergoing renovations this summer and will hopefully be completed for the 2022 summer season.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- **Future Topics**
  - CER (Canadian Energy Regulator)
  - Ken Brophy and Glenn Miller (Ram Coal) presentation on coal development/project.

#### **Next Meeting(s):**

**June 3, 2021 via ZOOM**

**3:00-5:00 pm**