



# Upstream Oil & Gas Reclamation & Remediation Program

## Information for Landowners

September 2003  
R&R/03-11

As part of Alberta's Upstream Oil and Gas Reclamation and Remediation program, Alberta Environment requires oil and gas operators to share all materials submitted as part of a Reclamation Certificate application with you, the landowner.

As the landowner, when a site on your property is reclaimed, you will receive several documents outlining how the surface disturbances of the site were reclaimed and how any potential contamination has been addressed.

These documents include:

### Reclamation Certificate Application

The Reclamation Certificate Application will outline the surface soils and vegetation at the site.

### Environmental Site Assessment

Environmental Site Assessments are studies that identify and investigate the potential for contamination on a site.

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment provides the information needed to determine if further assessment or cleanup work is required.

The Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment in your package includes:

- A company file review
- A review of the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board's (EUB) spills database
- An historical aerial photograph review
- Details of a site visit including any facilities or pits remaining on the site, evidence of surface spills, vegetation, topography, surrounding land use and photographs of the site
- An interview with a past or present operator and/or you as the landowner

If the Phase I assessment concludes that contamination is likely present or that there was not enough information to determine if there is contamination, your package will also include a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment Report.

A Phase II Environmental Site Assessment includes details of soil and groundwater sampling and outlines which areas of the site, if any, do not meet Alberta Environment's remediation guideline values.

If contamination is present, the report may contain information on:

- The volume of contaminated soil
- Groundwater contamination (if applicable)
- Remediation options available
- Remediation option(s) chosen
- Lab results to confirm Alberta Environment's remediation values were achieved after cleanup

### Complaint Form

If you wish to file a complaint regarding the reclamation and remediation work done on your land, please fill out the complaint form included in your package and forward it to Alberta Environment.

Complaints made to Alberta Environment will be fully investigated and could result in cancellation of the reclamation certificate. Concerns regarding lease payments should be directed to the Surface Rights Board.



## Information for Landowners

### Information Disclosure

Included in your package is an Acknowledgment of Information Disclosure form. By signing the form, you or a designate acknowledge that you have received the Reclamation Certificate Application, Complaint Form and the Phase I and/or Phase II Environmental Site Assessment.

The form also provides information to Alberta Environment on whether you have had the opportunity to discuss reclamation and remediation issues with the operator. Signing this form is voluntary.

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Alberta Environment protects Alberta's land resources by ensuring that land used for industrial activities is developed and reclaimed in an environmentally sound manner.

When an upstream oil and gas facility (e.g., well, pipeline or battery site) is no longer productive, operators are required to apply for a Reclamation Certificate under the Alberta Upstream Oil and Gas Reclamation and Remediation program.

Effective October 1, 2003, Alberta Environment expanded the Upstream Oil and Gas Reclamation and Remediation program to ensure sound management of contamination.

Effective October 1, formal inquiries will no longer be held at every site. Alberta Environment staff will thoroughly review every application and only issue a Reclamation Certificate if all standards for reclamation and remediation are met.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information about the Alberta Upstream Oil and Gas Reclamation and Remediation program is available on the Alberta Environment Web site at [www.gov.ab.ca/env](http://www.gov.ab.ca/env)

If you have questions about the program, or any of the contents of the application package, please contact:

**Alberta Environment,  
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For a toll-free connection from anywhere in Alberta, dial 310-0000, then the number.

