

September 16, 2013

Dr. Laurie J. Danielson
Executive Director
Northeast Capital Industrial Association
#204, 9902 – 102 Street
Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta T8L 2C3

Dear Dr. Danielson:

Re: Northeast Capital Industrial Association Regional Noise Management Plan

The members of the Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) have asked me to inform you of their decision concerning approval of the Northeast Capital Industrial Association Regional Noise Management Plan (noise management plan).

In an email dated June 17, 2013, you had requested that the Commission issue a letter approving the noise management plan for projects requiring Commission approval in the Industrial Heartland. You advised that the Alberta Energy Regulator, formerly the Energy Resources Conservation Board, had earlier approved the noise management plan.

Our Commission members considered your request at a meeting held on August 19, 2013. They agreed that the current detailed noise management plan meets the criteria set out in section 2.5 of the Commission's Rule 012 Noise Control. In brief, an applicant is expected to prepare a standard application assessing noise before and after a facility is constructed and operating although your regional noise baseline would be used rather than having to measure or otherwise establish the existing noise levels. The expectation is that the noise levels at nearby receptors would have no net increase as a result of the new facility because of the existing ambient sound levels. If there is any net increase, the applicant would need to address how the noise level would be planned to be restored to the initial level in the next short term 3-5 year period.

If you have any questions about the Commission's decision, please give me call.

Yours truly,



Douglas A. Larder, QC
General Counsel
Alberta Utilities Commission