

Gas-Over-Bitumen: Where Have We Been?

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Summary

The Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (predecessor to the ERCB) held an inquiry in 1998 to consider whether continued production of associated natural gas (i.e. natural gas in direct contact with in-situ bitumen reservoirs) was in the public interest. The primary issue was whether production of associated natural gas would negatively impact the efficient and economic production of bitumen. Ultimately, the EUB concluded such negative impacts could occur and developed a number of measures and initiatives to ensure conservation and protection of bitumen resources. This presentation will review the EUB's decisions regarding GOB issues and set the stage for a follow-up presentation titled: "Gas-Over-Bitumen: Where Are We Going?"

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