



# Across the Fence

Separating Facts from Friction

"Where Conversations Happen"

Spring 2018

## Finding Synergies

Over the past few years we've seen a lot of changes... in our economy, in industry activity levels, in the availability of jobs, etc. We've seen drastic reductions in corporate staffing and companies seem to be in constant flux...changes of ownership, mergers, acquisitions, bankruptcies, restructuring, etc.

We've seen changes in governments, shifting focuses on alternative energy, and an evolving regulatory scheme unfolding as new technologies change the face of energy development.

Increased production in neighbouring countries, our own limitations in accessing additional markets, and uncertainty regarding the ability to access our resources have been impacting investment, and have resulted in perpetuating the cycle.

Through all this, industry, government agencies, and regulators are finding ways to work together and adapt as we adjust to a "new normal". Finding the synergies in our respective projects and objectives not only helps share the load, it also often provides additional opportunities and solutions not found when we work in isolation.

West Central Stakeholders continues to be active in the community, providing opportunities for community, landowners, industry, regulators, agencies and businesses to come together to share information and ideas, finding synergies as we navigate a new normal out there.

## West Central Stakeholders Contacts:

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## Energy and Environmental Emergency

24-Hour Response Line  
**1-800-222-6514**

For inquiries or regulatory questions,  
contact the customer contact centre  
at **1-855-297-8311**

### WCS MISSION:

To provide an open forum for the people of West Central Alberta to present and discuss information related to the oil and gas industry.

## ***Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd. acquires Husky Energy’s ownership in the Ram River Gas Plant, Stolberg Facility, Blackstone Facility and Deanne Gas Plant.***

*Forty-six years ago, the Ram River sour gas processing plant was built by the original owner Aquitaine Company of Canada Ltd. The Plant, named after the Ram River that flows through the Municipal District of Clearwater, is in the foothills region of Central Alberta, 32 miles (52 kilometers) southwest of the town of Rocky Mountain House. As soon as it opened in 1972, Ram River was one of the largest sour gas processing facilities in North America and remains so today. Plant production started from two gas fields and seven wells and has grown to fourteen fields, including Stolberg, Blackstone and Deanne, with approximately 150 wells. The plant was acquired in 1988 by Husky Energy through the purchase of Canterra Energy Ltd. After almost 30 years Husky has sold its interest in the Plant to Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd. With its extensive infrastructure of pipelines, compressor stations and rail lines, the Ram River Plant represents a processing base for long-term sustained development in a highly prospective region.*

### ***Who is Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd?***



*Picture supplied by Tidewater Midstream*

*Tidewater was incorporated on February 4, 2015, to pursue the purchase, sale and transportation of natural gas liquids throughout North America and export to overseas markets. We continue to investigate numerous opportunities with North American producers and mid-streamers for the acquisition and operation of such infrastructure projects.*

*At Tidewater, we adhere to the highest standards of ethics, safety, health and the environment. Through a commitment to nothing but the highest standards, we believe our communities where we live, work and play should be impacted in a positive way. Our reputation as a respected and valued corporate citizen is paramount to all of us and we take extra steps to ensure time and financial investments are available to support communities that we love.*

*The safety and well-being of our staff and communities is also a key variable in our success and we commit to use the highest practices available to ensure the best results. A robust safety policy, promotion and measurement of safety, and dedication to consistently improving systems are a top priority.*

*We look forward to maintaining and building upon the strong relationship with the community as we have retained the staff who manage and operate the facilities in the Clearwater County.*

## Why Did the Fish Cross the Road?

### How the AER is helping to protect fish species in Alberta's foothills

Taken from the AER's news site *Resource.ca* – subscribe to receive weekly story updates

Warm summer days bring smiles to the faces of fishermen eager to cast their flies and lures into Alberta's many waterways. However, some fish species are being threatened because their habitat is fragmented by poorly constructed roadway water crossings, like bridges and culverts.

The AER, in partnership with Alberta Environment and Parks (Alberta Government), is co-leading an initiative called the Roadways Watercourse Crossings Remediation Directive to help protect fish populations that are being affected by inadequate roadway water crossings. Examples of fish species include the Athabasca Rainbow Trout, Bull Trout, and Westslope Cutthroat Trout.

There are a number of factors at play. First, erosion and sedimentation at crossing locations can deposit fine materials in spawning areas and cover up fish eggs. Without being able to receive oxygen or get rid of waste, those eggs may die. In addition, many culverts are undersized, which ultimately leaves fish unable to move upstream at these locations. Thousands of fish could be lost each year at a single crossing.

There are tens of thousands of crossings throughout Alberta, many of which are owned by energy and forestry companies, private landowners, municipalities and counties, railway companies and farming operations. The goal of the initiative is to open up all impassable waterways and reconnect fragmented fish habitat.

Participating organizations work together to share best practices around training, monitoring, inspections, and remediation of crossings to ensure a consistent provincial standard. This standard is outlined in the Roadways Watercourse Crossing Manual and inspection form developed by various regulators, industry, and the Foothills Stream Crossing Partnership.

Looking forward, the AER is optimistic that they can get all owners involved in the remediation of roadway water crossings across the province and ultimately see fish numbers increase in areas where there's been steady decline in recent decades.

Here are the companies under the two third-party service providers that are currently members:

Woodlands North

Canadian Natural Resources Limited

Foothills Stream Crossing Partnership (Recent recipient of an Emerald Award)

Apache Corporation

Cenovus Energy

Devon Energy

Repsol Canada

Seven Generations Energy Ltd.

Shell Canada

TAQA North Ltd.



Photo by Jody Foster, AER

## Youth in Synergy

Youth participation continues to be an important component of West Central Stakeholders. Ryan Sands and Zack Hubl were both successful candidates for the Youth Bursary Program and attended the regular monthly meetings. In addition, Ryan had the opportunity to speak at the annual Synergy Conference in Leduc this past November.

Participation is key in synergy group meetings. The students don't just attend the meetings, they actively participate in discussions and in sharing information, and often provide unique perspectives and input to the conversations held around the table.

### ***Navigating a New Normal***

Synergy Alberta will be holding its annual Synergy Conference on November 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> this year. The theme for this year's conference will be "Navigating a New Normal".

New technologies, new approaches to regulating, new ways of doing business, new initiatives and programs all contribute to new challenges and opportunities.

Synergy Alberta is planning to bring together a broad sweep of topics that relate to these challenges and opportunities, while also providing delegates with the chance to connect with colleagues, network, meet new people, and catch up with old friends.

We are looking forward to two days of sharing stories, celebrating successes, and learning from each other. Mark the date on your calendars and watch for more info at [www.synergyalberta.ca](http://www.synergyalberta.ca) as details become finalized.

### ***Water Use in Industry***

Water use is an important subject in any sector. How it is allocated, used, managed, and regulated is always of interest. This is especially true in the oil & gas industry.

West Central Stakeholders has held numerous public information sessions over the years, many of which have featured a water related component, and some that have focused specifically on water use.

June 7<sup>th</sup> sees us holding another public information night, this time partnering with the Sindre Petroleum Operators Group (SPOG), our synergy group neighbours to the south.

Given the new technologies and practices being used in both areas, it seems a natural fit to have the two groups work synergistically to bring this information to the community.

This is one more example of finding synergies in our community.

For a list of WCS member companies, contact information, and more:  
Visit us on our website at [www.westcentralsh.com](http://www.westcentralsh.com)