



REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: FN-BRD-236

From: Jody Schmidt, Financial Investment Officer

Date: October 26, 2023

Subject: Request for Engagement on Green House Gas Capture

RECOMMENDATION #1: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board authorize all Directors to attend the initial engagement session hosted by the BC Energy Regulator, regarding regulations for manufacturing, storage and pipeline transportation of hydrogen, ammonia, and methanol on November 15, 2023, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm PST.

RECOMMENDATION #2: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board provide comments and feedback related to the proposed Carbon Capture and Sequestration Protocol via email to prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca by November 9, 2023, to meet the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy deadline of November 14, 2023.

RECOMMENDATION #3: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board invite representatives of the BC Energy Regulator and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to a future Regional Board meeting to present regarding the proposed Carbon Capture and Sequestration Protocol.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Regional Board has an opportunity to gain an understanding and participate in upcoming legislative and provincial protocol changes potentially impacting residents of the Regional District through the BC Energy Regulator (BCER) and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, respectively. Although some discussion topics appear to be similar in nature, each regulatory body is conducting separate consultations.

The engagement session on November 15, 2023, hosted by the BCER (formerly the BC Oil and Gas Commission), is seeking input and participation to review, update and develop regulations for manufacturing, storage and pipeline transportation of hydrogen, ammonia, and methanol. Regulations must ensure the life cycle of energy resource activities in BC, from site planning to restoration, are undertaken in a manner that supports meaningful reconciliation, advances the public interest and contributes to BC's economy, protects public safety, and safeguards the environment.

The Ministry, who is responsible for carbon capture and storage (CCS), also referred to as sequestration, is exploring methods to prevent additional greenhouse gas emissions within the petroleum and natural gas industry. CCS is a permanent storage solution for carbon dioxide (CO₂), as an alternative to release of the CO₂ into the atmosphere. Sequestration involves taking CO₂ emissions from industrial sources and pumping them deep into a geological formation underground. Canadian Discovery Ltd. has conducted research in Northeast BC and estimates that 66 years of British Columbia's GHG emissions

can potentially be stored in Northeastern BC. The Ministry is planning to bring the proposed regulation forward in fall/winter 2023.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- Not Applicable to Strategic Plan

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

If approved, Regional Board members will be registered in the engagement session with BCER and sent a calendar invite. The Regional Board comments will be sent to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

Attachments:

1. BCER Email – Engagement Opportunity – BCER Discussion Paper on Hydrogen Regulations

External Links: Information on CCS can be found at the following websites:

1. [BC Energy Regulator](#)
2. [Carbon Capture and Storage in BC](#)
3. [CCS Quick Facts](#)
4. [British Columbia Greenhouse Gas Offset Protocol - Carbon Capture and Sequestration](#)