

Weekly NEWS

esaa Environmental
Services
Association of
Alberta

An Information Service for Alberta's Environment Industry

The Week Ending July 17th, 2020



Inside this Issue:

- *RemTech 2020 is Going Virtual*
- *Alberta Site Rehabilitation Program Update*
- *AER: Invitation for Feedback on Draft Directive on Well Integrity Management*
- *New ESAA Member Service – UFA Fuel Program*
- *ESAA Member News*
- *Upcoming Events*
- *Industry Position Openings*

The ESAA Weekly News is published weekly by:

**Environmental Services
Association of Alberta
102, 2528 Ellwood
Drive SW
Edmonton, AB T6X 0A9
(P) 780.429.6363
(F) 780.429.4249
info@esaa.org
www.esaa.org**

**Comments & submissions
are welcome!**

Please submit your
announcement
via e-mail to:
weeklynews@esaa.org

REMTECH 2020 IS GOING VIRTUAL!

Due to the on-going COVID situation, ESAA has decided to take *RemTech 2020* online. The virtual version of *RemTech* will take place on October 14th and 15th and will feature a couple of keynotes, group sessions and breakouts, and a few other surprises. Check out the [draft agenda](#).

ESAA has intentionally kept the registration fees low and are asking everyone to register, and to spread the word about the event and presentations. Approximately 90% of ESAA's revenues come from events, and now more than ever your Association needs your support!

Important Information for Sponsors and Exhibitors

- Sponsors: If you are a current sponsor of *RemTech*, watch your email for additional information and next steps.
- Exhibitors: If you are a current exhibitor of *RemTech*, watch your email for additional information and next steps.

Did You Previously Register for RemTech?

If you are already registered for *RemTech 2020*, you will need to register to attend the virtual version using the link below. ESAA will transfer your existing registration and payment to *RemTech 2021*. If you require a refund, please contact Joe Chowaniec at the ESAA Office.

Virtual RemTech Registration Fees

	Early Bird Rate (until August 28th)	Regular Rate (after August 28th)	
Member	\$69 + GST	\$99 + GST	Register Now
Non-Member	\$89 + GST	\$119 + GST	Register Now
Presenter	n/a	\$39 + GST	

Call for Abstracts

The deadline for the call for abstracts has been extended to July 31st - [Details](#).

We look forward to your support of *RemTech* and ESAA.



The time for positive impact is now.

The Alberta Site Rehabilitation Program has launched.

With this, comes many opportunities for Alberta's economy and the environment. Tree Time provides support to our clients through all stages of their reclamation projects, maintaining the highest level of health and safety standards, and respect for Alberta's land. Due to the popularity of this program and limited access to funding, we need to move quickly. If you have a reclaimed or restored site that is ready for planting, we have seedlings available and can help you get your reclamation certificate faster.

Find out how we can help at [TreeTimeServices.ca/ASRP](https://www.treetimeservices.ca/ASRP)



ALBERTA'S SITE REHABILITATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Find below a quick update on the status of the Alberta Site Rehabilitation Program (SRP). The update was prepared by the CAODC who has give ESAA permission to share this with our membership. In addition, to the information below, ESAA can add the following information:

- Phase / Period 3: Opens Friday, July 17th. Full details about this next round of funding available in the information below.
- Phase / Period 4: Will open at the end of July. Funding details below.
- Phase / Period 5: Will open later this fall and will be the largest of the phases
- Two more potential Phases / Periods in early 2021
- ESAA continues to work with Alberta Energy to express the importance of ESAA Member involvement and is working to get a presentation from Alberta Energy at *RemTech 2020*.

CAODC Update

Period 1 Update

- 35,376 applications reviewed, 4,355 verified (approved), 4,021 notifications and grant agreements sent out.
- \$64.6 million in grant funding approved & allocated to 140 companies in Alberta.
- Payments will be processed once the grant agreements are signed and returned. Grant installments will be paid based on invoice submission.

Period 2 Update

- Currently undergoing quality checks.
- All 382 applications have been reviewed.
- Guidelines will be updated online in V.2.0 for clarification.
- Member reporting portal will come to fruition as a result of member request.
- Still very little clarification surrounding reasons for rejected applications.
- A helpline for guidance, feedback, and questions would be helpful.

Period 1B Update

- Period 1B is redeploying unused funds from Periods 1 & 2.
- There are no new applications being accepted. Period 1B involves reassessment of rejected Period 1 downhole work. Rejected applications from Period 1 will automatically be reassessed.
- Supplemental guidelines for Period 1B will be released shortly.
- Intention of \$30,000 grant limit in Period 1 was to capture smaller programs; Government of Alberta did not expect some service companies to break down their applications into smaller chunks.
- Project start date must be prior to December 31, 2022.
- Third party companies cannot apply on behalf of a company.
- There are now 80 people reviewing Part 1B applications.
- If applicants have not yet received a response, their application may be in "holding" for consideration for Part 1B.

Reasons for Application Rejection in Previous Periods

- A termination clause was included in the contract.
- All work must be completed by December 31, 2022.
- Missing Master Service Agreement (MSA) attachment or MSA number. (Re-evaluation will include CAODC MSA number being approved).
- Government of Alberta cannot be listed as a party in the contract.
- Reviewers may have misunderstood a contractor applying on behalf of a licensee, and mistaken the situation as the contractor being a "middleman".
- Scope and or pricing details were broken down in a way that confused reviewers. These cases will be reviewed again going forward.

Period 3

- Part 3 funding allocation breakdown has not yet been released.
- \$130,000 - \$150,000 per licensee can be used to leverage further spending. (\$100,000,000 divided by 720 oil companies/licensees).
- Part 3 will be released at the same time as period 1B.

Period 4

- Focus will be on area-based closures.
- Up to 50% coverage.
- Incentives for companies that use local indigenous companies (up to 100% funding).
- Indigenous companies are defined as:
 - at least 50% owned and at least 50% of their employees or contractors being Indigenous, or;
 - at least 50% executives being Indigenous and at least 50% of employees or contractors being Indigenous.

Additional Information

- Guidelines will be clarified and released within the next two weeks.
- Companies are encouraged to apply ASAP for future Parts, i.e. no need to wait until Part 4 to apply for Part 4.
- Some applications have been withheld and will be reviewed by UWI. Going forward applications will be grouped by UWI.
- Programs don't need to be limited to \$150,000, co-paying is permitted, i.e. a portion funded by the licensee, and a portion funded by the Government of Alberta.
- Several companies have cancelled spending based on anticipated funds from the AB SRP.
- Part 3 & Part 4 application periods will be open until March 31, 2021.
- Prime contractors are permitted to submit applications on behalf of subcontractors.

AER: INVITATION FOR FEEDBACK ON DRAFT DIRECTIVE ON WELL INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT

We are seeking feedback on a new draft directive, *Directive XXX: Well Integrity Management*. It contains testing, reporting, and repair requirements for isolation packers, surface casing vent flows (SCVFs), gas migration, and casing failures.

It will rescind and replace [Interim Directive ID 2003-01](#): 1) *Isolation Packer Testing, Reporting, and Repair Requirements*; 2) *Surface Casing Venting Flow/Gas Migration Testing, Reporting, and Repair Requirements*; 3) *Casing Failure Reporting and Repair Requirements* and incorporates guidance previously given in [Bulletin 2009-07](#) and *Bulletin 2011-35*.

Some changes to the requirements are also being proposed:

- Isolation packers in Class II injection and disposal wells would be tested triennially instead of annually.
- Nonserious surface casing vent flows would be tested in years one, two, and six instead of every year for five years.
- Routine repairs would only need AER approval after three failed attempts instead of one.

To provide feedback on the draft directive, [complete the comment](#) form on the AER website and email it to WellIntegrity@aer.ca or mail it to the Alberta Energy Regulator, Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta T2P OR4. Feedback will be accepted through Monday, August 17. All feedback received will be reviewed and may be used in finalizing the directive.

Personal information provided with comments will be collected, used, and disclosed in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The AER may use your personal contact information for follow-up communication related to your feedback.

The draft directive and the documents it will rescind are available on the AER website, www.aer.ca.

AER: DIRECTIVE 044: REQUIREMENTS FOR SURVEILLANCE, SAMPLING, AND ANALYSIS OF WATER PRODUCTION IN HYDROCARBON WELLS COMPLETED ABOVE THE BASE OF GROUNDWATER PROTECTION

[View PDF](#) (221 KB)

Release date: July 14, 2020

Effective date: July 14, 2020

Replaces previous edition issued March 15, 2016.

Released with [Bulletin 2020-07](#).

PURPOSE OF THIS DIRECTIVE

This directive details surveillance, sampling, and analysis of water production requirements and processes related to all hydrocarbon wells with completions above the base of groundwater protection.

In this directive, hydrocarbon wells refer to conventional and unconventional wells (including oil sands wells) that are not part of water recycle program.

ALBERTA GOVERNMENT BOOSTS INDIGENOUS PARTICIPATION IN ORPHAN WELL RECLAMATION WORK

The Alberta government announced plans Wednesday for boosting Indigenous participation in the province's \$1-billion program to reclaim inactive oil and gas wells.

The province says it has set up a working group of Indigenous communities and companies and that it will appoint an Indigenous liaison who will help facilitate Indigenous participation in the Site Rehabilitation Program.

The working group so far has about 50 participants, including Backwoods Energy Services, an oilfield service company owned by the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation northwest of Edmonton.

"Meaningful participation in energy projects is a game changer for Indigenous businesses and communities," said Minister of Indigenous Relations Rick Wilson.

"The response we are hearing from Indigenous communities to this program is overwhelmingly positive and we are looking forward to helping them become the economic powerhouses we all know they can be."

During the first round of the program, Backwoods Energy was approved to do the closure work on 55 sites on the Enoch Cree Nation. Western Petroleum Management, also an Indigenous-owned company, was approved to conduct work on 257 sites across the province, the government said.

Since the federally-funded program was launched at the start of May, \$69 million has been granted to 140 companies, the province says.

It's anticipated the program will create approximately 5,300 jobs.

"This unprecedented collaboration between government, First Nations and industry, that benefits all peoples, is what our common ancestors had in mind when Treaty 6 was signed," said Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations Grand Chief Billy Morin.

ESAA MEMBER NEWS

NEW ESAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

UFA Fuel Program

ESAA is pleased to announce a new partnership with the **United Farmers of Alberta (UFA)** that will provide new and existing ESAA members with favourable pricing.

What does this mean for you, each member will receive special pricing for Fuel (Gas/Diesel), DEF, Lubricants and Greases at all of our 110+ UFA locations across BC, AB and Sask.



All ESAA Members need to do in join the UFA (no charge) or let them know that you are an ESAA Member and they will update your profile For complete information, the application form and the UFA Contact, visit: <https://www.esaa.org/membership/>

Watch for additional membership benefits to be announced in the coming weeks.

COVID-19 Surface Sampling & Detection

Avoid work stoppage and protect your employees – partner with ALS to identify SARS-CoV-2 contaminated surfaces in your facility.



Call 780-413-5227 in Edmonton and 403-407-1800 in Calgary for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ESAA VIRTUAL REGULATORY FORUM

Call for Presenters

September 16th, 2020

ESAA will be hosting a one-day virtual forum in mid-September focusing on Regulatory and Legal Updates

ESAA invites you to submit abstracts focusing on regulatory / legal environmental updates and issues both of a federal and provincial nature. Suggest topics include, but are not limited to:

- Federal Updates: Transportation, Fisheries, GHGs
- Provincial Updates: Not limited to Alberta
- Remediation / Reclamation Updates
- Brownfields
- SRP Program
- Indigenous Relations
- COVID Matters

Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words (not including bio), should include a presenter biography and be submitted as a Word Document by no later than July 31st, 2020.

Send abstract submissions to Joe Chowanec via email to: info@esaa.org

Notification of acceptance will be given by August 10th, 2020.

Details and registration information - <https://www.esaa.org/events/#id=209&wid=401&cid=153>

ESAA VIRTUAL EMERGING CONTAMINANTS FORUM

Call for Presenters

September 23rd, 2020

ESAA will be hosting a one-day virtual forum in mid-September focusing on Emerging Contaminants

ESAA invites you to submit abstracts focusing on emerging contaminants in the environment. Suggest topics include, but are not limited to:

- Site Investigation and Management
- Regulatory matters - Federal and Provincial
- Contaminants of Concern (not just PFAs and PFOAs)
- Laboratory Testing and Analysis
- Innovative Technologies for Detection and Measurement
- Remediation and Treatment
- Safety Procedures

- The Next Wave of Contaminants

Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words (not including bio), should include a presenter biography and be submitted as a [Word Document](#) by no later than July 31st, 2020.

Send abstract submissions to Joe Chowaniec via email to: info@esaa.org

Notification of acceptance will be given by August 10th, 2020.

Details and registration information - <https://www.esaa.org/events/#id=210&wid=401&cid=153>

Industry Positions Openings



As a benefit of ESAA Membership, ESAA Members can now post position openings on our website at no charge. Position opening ads also will appear in the newsletter at no charge. For full details visit: <https://www.esaa.org/news/job-board/>

Note: You must still complete the advertising form. After completing the order form, you will receive an email with a link to post your position.

Non-Members are welcome to advertise as well for a nominal charge. Visit [advertising form](#) to place your order.

Job Title	Organization	Application Deadline	Term	Details
Junior to Intermediate Environmental Project Managers	TerraLogix Solutions Inc.	2020-08-31	Full-Time	more
Junior to Intermediate Environmental Project Managers	TerraLogix Solutions Inc.	2020-08-31	Full-Time	more
Intermediate Environmental Professional	H3M Enviromental	2020-07-31		more
Intermediate Environmental Professional	H3M Enviromental	2020-07-31	Full-Time	more
Project Manager	H3M Enviromental	2020-07-31	Contract	more
Casual Field Assistant	H3M Enviromental	2020-08-04	Part-Time	more
Department Manager I	Element Materials Technology	2020-03-16	Full-Time	more

