

LEVEL OF DESCRIPTION:

Series

No.:

AU023.021S

FORMS PART OF:

AU023 Martha Kostuch fonds

TITLE:

Oil Sands series

CREATOR:

Kostuch, Martha

DATE RANGE:

1975-2008

EXTENT:

1.47 meters of textual records and other material

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY/ BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:

In December 2005, the Government of Alberta released an announcement regarding the formation of an Oil Sands Consultation Committee. The purpose of the committee was to develop plans for consulting on policy principles in relation to oil sand development and environmental management in Alberta. As well, they were to work with the Cumulative Effects Management Association and other stakeholders to review and recommend how consultation on the management principles for the oil sands area should proceed. During the Alberta Oil Sands Review (AOR), held during 2006-2007, Martha Kostuch was appointed as the committee member from an environmental non-government organization to sit on the AOR Multistakeholder Advisory Committee, the AOR Hearings Panel and the AOR Process Design Committee.

Several meetings were held, before the terms of reference and regulations for conducting the review and the format for the public consultations could be agreed upon. They decided on two phases for the public review; phase one was a series of public hearings, in which the panel travelled around Alberta and the public personally presented their oral briefs and submissions; phase two was composed of receiving public submissions as written material in the form of reports, studies and other similar presentations. Members of the committee also reviewed studies, reports and previously issued government briefs and regulations concerning the oilsands. All of the information was considered and a consensus reached before the recommendations were compiled into a final report and submitted to the Ministers of Energy, Environment and Sustainable Resource Development.

After submission of the final report, the Premier's office and government departments did not immediately follow through on the recommendations and stakeholders could not get answers to their inquiries regarding start up dates for the implementation of the recommendations. Eventually, Kostuch was able to obtain material under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, that showed the government was still studying the oil sands issue and had not put any of the recommendations into effect.

CUSTODIAL HISTORY:

In April 2008, Martha Kostuch signed an agreement with Athabasca University to have her records digitized but she passed away before this work could be started. After her death on April 23, 2008, her records went into the custody of her son Edward and in July 2008, he donated the records to Athabasca University, Athabasca, Alberta.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of material pertaining to the work of the Oil Sands Consultation Committee to develop plans for consulting on the Alberta Government's policy principles, in regard to oil sands development and the environment.

Textual records in this series consist of reports, submissions and presentations to the panel, transcripts of the hearings, correspondence, reports and accompanying maps of development sites, newsletters, brochures, newspaper clippings, the final report from the committee, copies of *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* requested material, notes, agendas and meeting minutes. As well, much of the material has been annotated by Martha Kostuch.

The photographs are aerial views of oilsands development, views of the ongoing public hearings held in Ft. McMurray and a group photograph of the Consultation Committee Members.

Electronic records include copies of reports submitted to the Public Hearings, including a copy of the Oil Sands Consultation Committee's Final Report, and an application by Northern Lights Mining Ltd. to develop a mining and extraction project near Ft. McMurray.

SOURCE OF TITLE:

Title taken from the contents of the fonds.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Series also contains 14 maps. – 21 photographs. - 6 CDs.

CONSERVATION:

Conservation copies have been made of some of the newspaper clippings, thermal fax paper and mimeograph paper.

ARRANGEMENT NOTE:

Series have been based on the major topics identified from the creator's arrangement, though some records may pertain to a number of series.

LANGUAGE NOTE:

The material is in English.

ACCESS CONDITIONS:

None.

USE CONDITIONS:

Permission for use required. Subject to *The Copyright Act*.

FINDING AIDS:

Box list and file list are available. Some of the material is available in electronic form.

INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING ACCESSIONS:

2008.015

Further accruals are not expected.

GENERAL NOTE:

Information for the administrative history was obtained from the records and from *The Edmonton Journal*, *Calgary Herald* and *Red Deer Advocate* newspapers.

SUBJECT HEADINGS:

Oil and gas leases
Oil exploration
Petroleum industry and trade
Oil sands industry
Oil spills
Environmental policy
Environmental law
Mining leases