

2002 BILL 203

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Second Session, 25th Legislature, 51 Elizabeth II

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THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

# **BILL 203**

## **GAS FLARING ELIMINATION ACT**

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MR. MASON

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First Reading .....

Second Reading .....

Committee of the Whole .....

Third Reading .....

Royal Assent .....

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## BILL 203

2002

### GAS FLARING ELIMINATION ACT

(Assented to \_\_\_\_\_, 2002)

- Preamble
- WHEREAS the flaring and venting of solution gas at gas processing plants and test wells poses considerable risk to the public, especially those persons employed at these locations; and
- WHEREAS the flaring and venting of solution gas adversely affects the environment and ecological systems;
- THEREFORE HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:
- Purpose
- 1** The purpose of this Act is to establish a time frame in legislation that will eliminate the flaring and venting of solution gas in Alberta within 10 years.
- Definition
- 2** In this Act, “Council” means the Advisory Council on Gas Flaring Elimination established under section 3.
- Advisory Council established
- 3(1)** The Advisory Council on Gas Flaring Elimination is established.
- (2)** The purpose of the Council is to make recommendations regarding
- (a) the impact of flaring and venting of solution gas on
    - (i) the general public,
    - (ii) persons employed at gas processing plants and test

wells, and

(iii) the environment;

- (b) a threshold volume for solution gas flaring;
- (c) a 10 year reduction plan for solution gas flaring that will provide for a minimum of 10% reductions in each consecutive year commencing January 1, 2003 based on the volume established under clause (b);
- (d) emergency circumstances where limited flaring or venting of solution gas may be permissible if there is substantial risk to the public or the safety of employees.

**(3)** In carrying out its purposes, the Council may

- (a) receive and hear petitions and submissions from individuals and groups,
- (b) access research and data on which to make recommendations,
- (c) appoint committees consisting of members of the Council and other persons, and
- (d) hold public hearings and consultations.

Council  
members

**4(1)** The Council must consist of not fewer than 7 members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

**(2)** At least one member of the Council must be appointed from each of the following:

- (a) the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board,
- (b) the Department of Environment,
- (c) the energy industry,
- (d) environmental or wilderness organizations,
- (e) labour organizations,
- (f) the biological or scientific community, and
- (g) the general public.

**(3)** The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall designate one of the

members as chair of the Council.

**(4)** Provided funds are allocated by the Legislative Assembly for the purpose, members of the Council may receive

- (a) remuneration prescribed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council,
- (b) reasonable travelling and living expenses incurred while away from their ordinary place of residence in the course of their duties as members.

Report

**5(1)** Within 6 months of appointment, the Council must submit to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly a report that outlines its recommendations on the matters outlined in section 3(2).

**(2)** On receipt of the report prepared pursuant to subsection (1), the Speaker shall make the report public and cause it to be published in The Alberta Gazette.

**(3)** Prior to January 1, 2003, the Government must introduce the legislation that is necessary to implement the Council's report.

Staff

**6** In accordance with the *Public Service Act*, there may be appointed the employees required to conduct the business of the Council.

Bylaws

**7(1)** The Council may make bylaws for the conduct of its business and affairs.

**(2)** The *Regulations Act* does not apply to the bylaws of the Council.