

**DISTRICT OF HUDSON'S HOPE  
POLICY**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES
<b>ADOPTED BY COUNCIL:</b>	November 13, 2007
<b>AMENDED BY COUNCIL:</b>	February 11, 2008 February 9, 2009

In an effort to protect the values of its citizens, the District of Hudson's Hope Council has developed a set of guidelines under which developers of natural resources are expected to operate when working within municipal boundaries.

**1. Definitions:**

"District" means the District of Hudson's Hope.

"Hudson's Hope" means within the municipal boundaries of the District of Hudson's Hope.

"Natural Resource" means resources occurring in nature and materials found in the environment that can be used to create wealth. Examples include, but are not limited to oil, gas, coal, forests, minerals, water, wind and land.

**2. Objectives:**

- 1) To ensure that all land users are treated equally and fairly as land users.
- 2) To foster effective communication and positive relationships between the District, residents and all stakeholders.
- 3) To provide a framework and clarification for industry as to expectations of the community when they seek to commence industrial activity.
- 4) To provide guidelines for all industries operating within the District of Hudson's Hope, including, but not restricted to forestry, electricity generation, petroleum extraction, agriculture, mining, and tourism.

**3. Guiding Principles:**

- 1) **Flexibility** - Any "rules of operation" should be flexible to recognize that blanket "one size fits all" rules don't always lead to the best option. The Resource Policy should be recognized as a living document.
- 2) **Coordination** - Hudson's Hope encourages collaboration and coordination within and between industries in order to minimize surface and underground disturbance.

**4. Guidelines:**

General:

- 1) The District encourages companies operating within Hudson's Hope to use practices which would achieve the highest possible level of performance standard in that industry.
- 2) The District encourages companies to develop and enforce a code of conduct for their employees and contractors.
- 3) The District wishes to be assured that any commitments made to the community by a company are binding on any company taking over from it.
- 4) Tenures existing prior to adoption of this policy will be honoured.

Notification:

- 5) The District expects industries planning to operate within municipal boundaries to identify themselves and notify the District as to their operational plans and schedules.

Transportation Corridors:

- 6) To help minimize surface disturbance, the District encourages the creation and use of utility corridors.
- 7) The District supports the option of requiring pipelines, roads, or power lines to follow routes that minimize the impact to surface land use and that do not impede future access to the lands.
- 8) Where feasible, the District supports the use of underground power lines where overhead lines would interfere with surface activity.
- 9) The District strongly supports shared use of roads by industries.

Water:

- 10) The District of Hudson's Hope supports the BC Energy Plan commitment to disallow surface disposal of produced CBM water<sup>1</sup>.

Air:

- 11) The District expects that all industrial activities will be conducted in a manner that has the least possible impact on air quality.

Land Impacts:

- 12) The District encourages companies to co-operate and share infrastructure. (e.g. share compressors, pipelines, easements, roads.)
- 13) Erosion – the District expects companies to use practices which would prevent or minimize erosion.

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1 - BC Energy Plan – February 27, 2007

- 14) The District of Hudson's Hope supports coalbed methane well spacing being not more than one well per quarter section of land for production wells on privately owned agricultural and leased agricultural land<sup>2</sup> unless the surface owner willingly agrees to more.
- 15) If new underground industrial activity encroaches on private land, the company is expected to minimize the impact on the surface, to interfere as little as possible with other tenure holders rights.
- 16) Where experimental scheme areas are created, well sites shall not be located within 100 metres of the scheme area boundary.
- 17) Developers are encouraged to minimize development that will negatively impact view corridors.
- 18) Where feasible, industries are encouraged to coordinate the use and disposal of resources (ie. oil and gas operators can work with forestry companies to utilize timber from cleared wellsites)<sup>3</sup>.
- 19) Above all, to respect the right of landowners to quiet use and enjoyment of their property.

#### Safety and Quality of Life Issues:

- 20) Developers are encouraged to position and establish infrastructure in such a manner as to limit and minimize noise, odour, possible health issues and impact on surface owners and surrounding land users. For example, locating infrastructure downwind of residences, installing or planting noise buffers, limiting or eliminating flaring.
- 21) The District encourages companies operating within the District to suppress dust on company roads near residences or in areas where adjacent lands are used for grazing or crop production when they are the primary user.
- 22) Companies should make an effort to minimize heavy traffic on school bus routes during the time buses are expected to be on the road.

#### Municipal Infrastructure & Services:

- 23) Emergency Services - Companies are expected to provide a plan of their activities prior to work beginning, and speak with first line responders (police, fire department, ambulance services) to acquaint them with their plans and to discuss any specific training or equipment which might be needed.

Note: The current Resource Development Policy and proposed amendments will be available on the District website at [www.hudsonshope.ca](http://www.hudsonshope.ca). In addition, proposed amendments will also be posted on Council Meeting Notices in accordance with legislated requirements. All industries are encouraged to check regularly to ensure they are working with the most current policy and so that they are provided an opportunity to provide input on proposed amendments.

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2 - Alaska Highway News – May 25, 2003 – Minister Neufeld (Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources) addresses coalbed methane

3 - Oil and Gas Commission Information Letter #OGC 08-21