

The BC Oil and Gas Commission

What is the BC Oil and Gas Commission?

The Commission is the provincial single-window regulatory agency responsible for regulating oil, gas and renewable geothermal activities in British Columbia, including exploration, development, pipeline transportation and reclamation.

What Do We Do?

The Commission provides regulatory excellence in responsible energy resource development by protecting public safety, safeguarding the environment and respecting those individuals and communities who are affected.

Core responsibilities include reviewing and assessing applications for proposed industry activities, consulting with First Nations, co-operating with partner agencies, and ensuring industry complies with provincial legislation and all regulatory requirements.

How Do We Proactively Regulate Oil and Gas Activity?

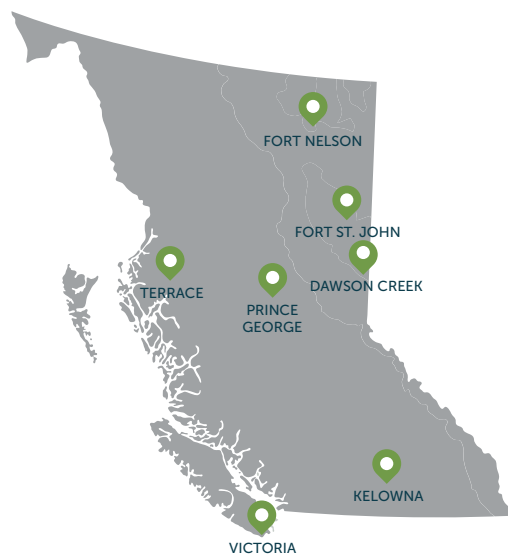
The Commission has the legislative authority to make decisions on proposed oil and gas activities. While the Commission does not set policy, the diverse expertise and experience of Commission staff provides critical insight at every level of oil and gas development. This knowledge base provides perspective through scientific evidence, guidance, best practices, reports, tools and analysis.

Companies looking to explore, develop, produce, and market oil and gas resources in B.C. must apply to the Commission. The Commission reviews, assesses and makes decisions on these applications. This consolidated single-window authority provides not only a one-stop place for all oil and gas and associated activity requirements, but a consistent application, decision, regulatory and compliance authority. Stakeholders work with one agency; therefore, the Commission serves the public interest by having an all-encompassing review process for oil, gas and renewable geothermal activities.



Over 250 highly skilled professionals are charged with protecting public and environmental safety while balancing a broad range of environmental, economic and social considerations. They include:

- Engineers
- Hydrologists
- Natural Resource Officers
- Agrologists
- Geologists
- Inspectors
- Environmental Specialists
- First Nations Liaison Officers
- Stakeholder Relations Specialists
- Heritage Conservation Officers
- Emergency Management Specialists



For Further Information

Email ogc.communications@bcogc.ca or call 250-794-5200

24 Hour Incident Reporting for Industry 1-800-663-3456

This information is published by the BC Oil and Gas Commission and is available online at www.bcogc.ca

What is New at the Commission?

- ✓ The Commission introduced a new regulation, making B.C. the first province in western Canada to impose in law timelines for the restoration of oil and gas wells. The **Dormancy Regulation** is included in the Commission's new **Comprehensive Liability Management Plan (CLMP)** which ensures 100 per cent of the cost of reclaiming oil and gas sites continues to be paid for by industry.
- ✓ The Commission has added an electric test vehicle (EV) to its Fort St. John fleet to support the CleanBC plan and initiate a pilot program of how an EV operates in a northern climate.
- ✓ The Commission is working with three Treaty 8 First Nations communities to establish hydrometric stations for the collection of streamflow data in small northeast B.C. watersheds during a two year period.
- ✓ In an effort to increase transparency for both statutory decision makers, public and industry and to manage the cumulative effects of water use, the Commission developed map-based tools: NorthEast Water Tool which led to the NorthWest Water Tool and the Omineca Water Tool.
- ✓ The Commission and provincial government agencies established the Natural Resource Sector Aboriginal Liaison Program to support greater Aboriginal community awareness of oil and gas planning, development, safety, environmental and emergency management, restoration activities, and compliance management.

Quick Facts in 2019

25,434 wells
47,631 km of pipelines
107 gas processing plants
6 liquefied natural gas facilities
1,217 oil and gas related applications
16 approved major project applications

Commission Milestones

The Commission has an array of publications, statistics, information, manuals, guides and maps on its website at www.bcogc.ca for industry and the public on natural gas and oil activities in the province. Here is a snapshot of a few regulatory milestones.

- 1998
 - Commission formed as Crown corporation and a single-window regulatory body
- 2010
 - Oil and Gas Activities Act modernized regulatory framework to accommodate the shift to unconventional gas
- 2012
 - Launched FracFocus.ca
 - NEWT, a water management tool launched
- 2014
 - Launched eSubmission
 - Partnering with Doig River First Nations - began Aboriginal Liaison program
- 2015
 - Ernst and Young audit on hydraulic fracturing
 - Area-based Analysis required in application process
- 2016
 - Water Sustainability Act in effect
 - Safety Standards Amendment Act came into force
 - Launched the Application Management System
- 2017
 - Began regulating oil refineries, manufacturing plants and geothermal
 - Environmental Information Management System for oil and gas activity
- 2018
 - Commission celebrates 20th anniversary
 - Launched ground water monitoring research project
- 2019
 - Introduced Dormancy Regulation and Comprehensive Liability Management Plan
 - Partnership with First Nations on restoration projects