



## COMPTON SOUR GAS UPDATE 4

THE CITY OF CALGARY  
December 5, 2003

### Public safety and land use

Calgarians have asked for information on public safety, land use, and The City's role in the Energy and Utilities Board (EUB) process. This fact sheet is fourth in a series and provides excerpts from the EUB's EnerFAQs No. 5 Explaining EUB Setbacks, available at [www.eub.gov.ab.ca](http://www.eub.gov.ab.ca).

#### EUB development setbacks

The EUB regulates sour gas development in Alberta, and has jurisdiction over the approval of gas wells and the establishment of development setbacks. The EUB sets mandatory setback areas which provide a buffer zone between the public and the facility.

An (EUB) setback is the absolute minimum distance that must be maintained between any energy facility and a dwelling, rural housing development, urban centre or public facility. Setbacks vary according to the type of development and whether the well, facility or pipeline contains sour gas. EUB setback distances are deliberately designed so that the actual risk to people from sour gas facilities will be reduced to the lowest levels possible. The predetermined EUB setback distance for an urban centre or public facility is 500 metres from a level 2 sour well.<sup>1</sup>

#### Municipal development planning

The provincial *Municipal Government Act* requires that the Municipal Development Plan contain policies to provide guidance on the type and location of land uses adjacent to sour gas facilities. Section 10 of the Subdivision and Development Regulation requires that both a Subdivision Authority and a Development Authority circulate applications for certain developments within 1.5 km of a sour gas facility to the EUB and further requires that the municipality respect the setbacks determined by the EUB.

The Calgary Plan (Municipal Development Plan)<sup>2</sup> has three policies that relate to sour gas matters:

2-1.5 A – Encourage the relocation of sour gas extraction facilities in and near the city in a timely fashion.

2-1.5 B – Address the potential impacts of sour gas extraction facilities on urban development in local planning processes.

2-1.5 C – Establish minimum development setbacks on lands impacted by sour gas extraction in order to address nuisance factors such as noise, odour and flaring. Where local conditions warrant, these setbacks may be greater than those required in accordance with the provisions of the Subdivision and Development Regulations.

#### For more information

Members of City Council have requested updates for citizens on The City's participation and role in the EUB process. Updates include:

- Fast Facts:
  - Update 1: Public safety is of paramount importance
  - Update 2: Calgary's role in the EUB process
  - Update 3: Reducing risk and protecting public safety
  - Update 4: Public safety and land use
- [www.calgary.ca/fire](http://www.calgary.ca/fire)
- 268-CITY (268-2489) info line

#### Hearing from Calgarians

Council members would also like to learn more about what information you would like to receive from The City. To send your questions and comments, please contact:

- Aldermanic Offices (268-2430)
- Email: [sourgas@calgary.ca](mailto:sourgas@calgary.ca)
- 268-CITY (268-2489) info line

#### For more information

Alberta Energy Utilities Board

- [www.eub.gov.ab.ca](http://www.eub.gov.ab.ca) (Compton Petroleum Applications)
- Tel.: 297-3706 • Fax: 297-3711
- Email: [compton.applications@eub.gov.ab.ca](mailto:compton.applications@eub.gov.ab.ca)

Compton Petroleum Corporation

- [www.comptonpetroleum.com](http://www.comptonpetroleum.com)
- Tel.: 237-9400 • Fax: 237-9410



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[www.calgary.ca](http://www.calgary.ca)  
268-CITY

<sup>1</sup> EUB EnerFAQs No. 5 Explaining EUB Setbacks

<sup>2</sup> Bylaw 6P2002 The Calgary Plan (pg. 29) available at: [http://www.calgary.ca/docgallery/BU/planning/pdf/calgary\\_plan.pdf](http://www.calgary.ca/docgallery/BU/planning/pdf/calgary_plan.pdf)