

**Alberta Property Rights Initiative
(APRI)**

Box 834 Nanton Alberta, T0L 1R0

Ph. 403-646-3088, Fax 646-5938

e-mail newilson@platinum.ca

September 24, 2007

**to: The Members of the Cabinet Policy Committee for
Resources and Environment**

Dear Lady, Gentlemen:

Last April 17th APRI had a discussion with your committee dealing with the diminishment of proprietary interest of real property by partial takings. Subsequent to that discussion it was resolved within that meeting that APRI review the Surface Rights Act and make consequent recommendations to your Committee.

Through this process we realized that many other acts are involved and it would be necessary to review the Expropriation Act as it is the “driver”, for lack of better words, that actually allows the other acts to function. Therefore we undertook a similar process with the Expropriation Act.

It has come to our realization that there is reluctance to opening the Surface Rights Act (and we fully understand the reasons why), as we are aware of the many groups that would desire to manipulate it to their advantage at others detriment. It is not our intention to facilitate such venture either. Therefore we might be able to accomplish the same end by defining the function of different boards by revising the means by which they conduct their business. Revision of the Expropriation Act would be a less precarious route in our opinion.

If the Expropriation Act were to be revised first, then the other acts could be brought up to its criteria by an action specifically focussed on rendering compliance to the Expropriation Act. We therefore submit to your request of reviewing the Surface Rights Act and subsequent recommendations, along with our suggestions regarding the Expropriation Act.

Thank you, for giving us your time. We hope to be of assistance at any beckon in this regard.

Neil E. Wilson



Chair of the Alberta Property Rights Initiative