

Government of British Columbia Professional Reliance Review
Submission by AltaGas Ltd.
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AltaGas supports, generally, the current professional reliance model that is being used in British Columbia, while recognizing that various ministries apply the model in differing standards and methods. A key consideration for AltaGas in this regard is whether or not the professional reliance model is trusted by the public and First Nations of the province. AltaGas suggests that public confidence in the model could be enhanced by:

- Addressing perceptions around the possible conflict of interest of the QPs experienced in addressing natural resource management objectives or results to be achieved that are also hired by proponents.
- Incorporating better checks and balances on the work of QPs and their associations in the process. This can be achieved by monitoring the performance of QPs against government's stated objectives and the trend in the direction of management outcomes.
- Increasing government oversight of the qualifications and ethical code of practice of QPs.

It is AltaGas' view that QPs should not be tasked with making government resource management decisions. Their role should be to provide technical input, support and analysis related to the way projects meet government regulations and policies, consistent with the public interest. AltaGas also believes government agencies should be (in line with legislation) the principal decision makers and be responsible and accountable for these decisions through all stages of the regulatory processes.

We thank the government in advance for considering the above points.

Yours truly,



Charles Lyons
Vice President, Environment, Health, Safety, Security and Sustainability