

Booster seats now law till child is 9 years old

VICTORIA - B.C. children will be better protected in the event of a motor vehicle crash as a result of changes to child passenger safety regulations that make booster seats mandatory. The regulations came into effect July 1, 2008.

All children over nine kg (40 lbs) need to be in booster seats until they are 1.45 metres (4'9") tall or age nine. A booster seat will properly position a seat belt over a child's shoulders and across the chest so that the risk of serious injury and death is greatly reduced in the event of a crash.

Booster seats reduce the risk of fatality by 71 per cent and the risk of serious

injury by 67 per cent. In B.C., an average of 860 children aged five through nine are seriously injured every year in motor vehicle collisions.

The booster seat law expands on existing regulations that already protect infants and children. Children over one year old and between nine and 18 kg (20-40 lbs) are required to be seated in a child car seat, and infants must be seated in rear-facing infant seats that are not placed in front of an active frontal air bag until the baby is at least one year of age and nine kg (20 lbs).

Additional changes to MVA regulations also remove a number of exemptions. All drivers, not just the child's parents or guardians, will now have to use child restraints for their young occupants, as will drivers of rental vehicles, out-of-province vehicles and passenger vans. Failure to comply with these new regulations will result in a \$109 fine.

B.C. joins Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and numerous U.S. states which have similar booster seat laws.


Carbon Tax take effect

Starting July 1, British Columbians will pay less income tax thanks to tax cuts made possible by the revenue-neutral carbon tax, announced Finance Minister Colin Hansen.

"We are the first jurisdiction in North America to implement a revenue-neutral carbon tax, and by 2009 the planned income tax reductions will give the majority of British Columbians the lowest personal income taxes in Canada," said Hansen. "The introduction of the carbon tax has a number of benefits for B.C. residents that include both more money in their pockets and a greener future."

The revenue-neutral carbon tax allows British Columbia to reduce taxes for individuals, families and businesses. Added to the government's tax reductions since 2001, the changes in Balanced Budget 2008 will give British Columbians, by 2009, the lowest personal taxes in Canada on incomes up to \$111,000.

Effective July 1, 2008, personal and corporate income tax changes include: Personal income taxes are reduced by 2 per cent for 2008. However, most people will notice a four per cent reduction in provincial tax on their paycheques as the rate cut is applicable to the entire year, but being condensed into six months; General corporate income tax rates fall to 11 per cent from 12 per cent; and, Small business tax rates drop to 3.5 per cent from 4.5 per cent.



INVITATION FOR PUBLIC INPUT

Visual Landscape Inventory, Quality Wind Project

In support of the environmental assessment of EPCOR's proposed Quality Wind Project an update of the visual landscape inventory of the project area is being conducted. The public is invited to provide input on viewpoints along Highway 52, specifically between Quality Creek and Teepee Creek.

Maps of previously identified sites and the project area are available at:



- Chetwynd Public Library
- Dawson Creek Public Library
- Tumbler Ridge Public Library

Please provide comments to:

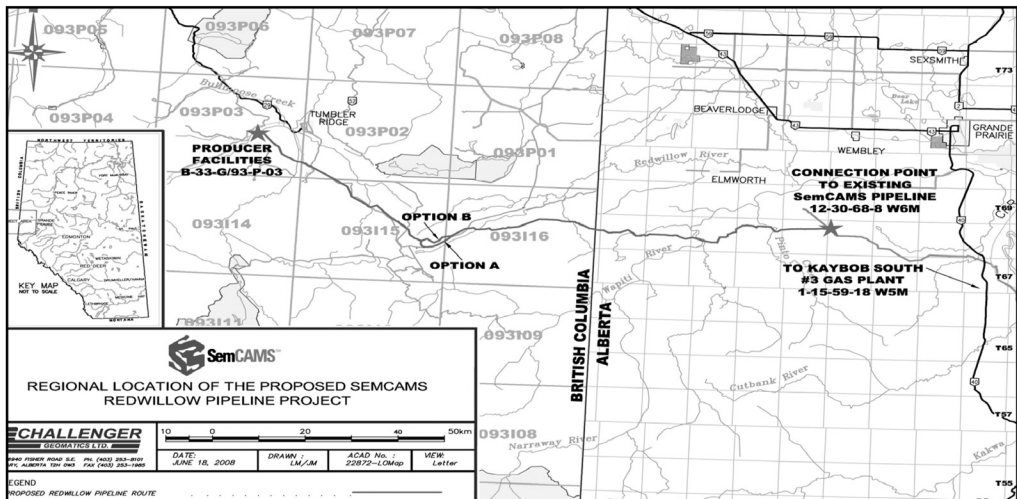
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Input is requested by July 31.

Information on EPCOR and the Quality Wind Project is available at www.epcor.ca

National Energy Board Office national de l'énergie



National Energy Board Notice of Public Hearing for the SemCAMS Redwillow Pipeline

The National Energy Board (NEB) has rescheduled the oral public hearing on an application from SemCAMS Redwillow ULC (SemCAMS) under the *National Energy Board Act* (the Act) for the Redwillow Pipeline Project. Copies of the application are available for viewing at the Board's library (1st floor, 444 Seventh Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alberta), the Tumbler Ridge Public Library (340 Front Street, Tumbler Ridge, BC) and the Grande Prairie Public Library (9910 - 99 Avenue, Grande Prairie, AB). The application is also available electronically on the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "View a Regulatory Document" then "Quick Links" and scroll down to the SemCAMS application).

Public hearing

The public hearing will start at **9:00 a.m., local time, on Tuesday, 28 October 2008** at the Best Western Inn Dawson Creek (#500 Highway 2, Dawson Creek, British Columbia). Through the proceeding, the NEB will obtain the evidence and views of interested persons on the application. Any person interested in participating in the hearing may do so by providing a letter of comment or oral statement and should consult the Board's Hearing Order GH-2-2008 for further background and instructions.

Letters of comment and oral statements

Any person wishing to comment on the application should file a letter of comment or request to make an oral statement to the Secretary of the Board and send a copy to SemCAMS and its counsel by **noon, Calgary time, on 15 September 2008**. There are online letter of comment and oral statement request forms available on the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "Submit a Regulatory Document", then on "Submit documents electronically", then on "Letter of Comment" or "Request to Make an Oral Statement"). These may be used to file your letter of comment or oral statement request.

Environmental Assessment Process

As part of its consideration of the environmental effects of the proposed project, the Board will undertake an environmental assessment pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and release a draft Environmental Screening Report for comment. Any person who wants to receive a copy of this report should inform the Secretary of the Board in writing by **17 September 2008**. Interested persons may then file comments on the report with the Board and serve a copy on SemCAMS and its counsel **no later than 21 days from the release date** of the draft Environmental Screening Report.

Information on Hearing Procedures

You may access the Hearing Order through the Board's Internet site at www.neb-one.gc.ca (click on "View a Regulatory Document" then "Quick Links", scroll down to the SemCAMS application, then click on "Hearing Order" at the top of the screen). You may obtain information on the procedures for this hearing or on the *National Energy Board Rules of Practice and Procedure, 1995*, as amended, governing all hearings (available in English and French) by writing to the Secretary of the Board, contacting Louise Niro, Regulatory Officer, at 403-299-3987 or by calling the NEB Toll-Free at 1-800-899-1265. You may also go to the Board's Internet site and click on "Acts and Regulations" to access the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure and other legislation.

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