

ANNUAL REPORT 2010 and 2011
on
GREENHOUSE GAS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)
between the
ALBERTA ROADBUILDERS AND HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION
and
GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

INTRODUCTION

In September 2009 the Alberta Roadbuilders and Heavy Construction Association (ARHCA) and the Government of Alberta (represented by Ministers of Transportation and of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development) signed a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), available at <http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/4058.htm>.

The parties to the MOU agreed to work together to enable the road building and heavy construction industry to; improve energy efficiency, improve industry and the province's competitiveness, and help reduce GHG emissions. This effort helps to achieve Alberta's objectives on energy efficiency set out in both the 2008 Climate Change Strategy and the Provincial Energy Strategy.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This report presents an overview of the activities, initiatives and accomplishments under the MOU to the end of calendar year 2011.

1. Formed a Coordinating Committee representing the parties to the MOU, comprised of the following members:
 - BJ Vickery, Environment Committee Chair – General Manager, Alberta Operations, Ghostpine Environmental Services Ltd., Calgary, AB
 - Brian Waddell, Senior Policy Advisor, Clean Energy Branch, Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, Edmonton, AB
 - Peter Dzikowski, Senior Policy Advisor, Environmental Issues, Alberta Transportation, Edmonton, AB
 - Roger Walls, Operations Manager, Border Paving Ltd., Red Deer, AB
 - Ron Collins, Policy Analyst, ARHCA, Edmonton, AB
 - Mohammad Raheem, Colas Canada, Edmonton, AB (reassigned and left the group in June, 2011).

The Coordinating Committee held 6 meetings in 2010, and 3 meetings in 2011, and works closely with the ARHCA Environment Committee.

2. Developed a work plan (available at <http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/4058.htm>) that presented the priority activities proposed to improve the energy efficiency of the construction and road building sectors and to reduce the GHG emissions from carbon-based fuels.

3. Promoted awareness of the MOU and initiatives underway through an article in the March 2011 ARHCA newsletter, the Road Runner. Provided regular updates to ARHCA Environment Committee.
4. Developed and conducted a survey of member firms to identify baseline of energy efficiency best practices and information needs. The survey responses were analyzed and used to develop priority initiatives in the work plan. The key need identified was information on best practices.
5. Reviewed strategies of other jurisdictions and industry trade associations on energy efficiency and GHG emissions reductions for construction and road-building industry sectors. The jurisdictional scan included; other Provinces, Transportation Association of Canada, selected states in the USA, Transportation Research Board, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials and others.
6. Compiled a list of energy efficiency practices for a best practices guide. Developed a Terms of Reference for a project to compile and develop a best practices guide for the industry. Obtained approval from MOU partners for funding and initiated the project to develop an energy efficiency best practices guide for the industry.
7. Planned, organized and presented a session on the proposed Energy Efficiency Best Practices guide at the ARHCA/AT/CEA Tri-Party conference in Red Deer in April 2011.

NEXT STEPS

Publish an energy efficiency best practices guide for the industry.