



*September 4, 2009*

## **Government reaffirms commitment to Turner Valley Gas Plant**

*Turner Valley...* The Government of Alberta is moving forward with ongoing environmental remediation at the Turner Valley Gas Plant and is exploring options for the restoration of the facility as a viable historic site.

Government has accepted the recommendations contained in a report submitted by the Turner Valley Gas Plant Resolution Advisory Panel. The recommendations suggested the Turner Valley Gas Plant be considered as a viable historic site and that priority be given to its protection and preservation. Panel members indicated that all aspects of the work done to clean up and manage the environmental issues at the site have been satisfactory, and they recommended that appropriate monitoring and funding for the site continue.

“I commend the members of the panel for their work, and for their thorough review of what is a very complex and sensitive issue,” said Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit. “The plant is an important part of our province’s industrial history and heritage, and I appreciate the panel’s commitment to ensuring the structures on site are preserved and shared with future generations of Albertans.”

Other recommendations from the panel include considerations around safety and ongoing environmental protection, as well as future site development and operation. Although ongoing environmental management of the site will continue, the timing and extent of restoration work will depend on the budget available.

As the Turner Valley Gas Plant is a provincial historic resource, Alberta Culture and Community Spirit will be continuing ongoing environmental management. The health and safety of the people of this area, the protection of the environment and a sound development plan are all priorities that must work together for the future of this site.

Appointed in April 2006, the panel members reviewed and provided feedback about cleanup activities as well as short-term and long-term environmental management of the site, liaised with neighbouring communities, undertook stakeholder consultation and evaluated a site development plan in preparation for a final recommendation to the Minister.

A copy of the panel’s final report is available at [www.culture.alberta.ca/tvqp](http://www.culture.alberta.ca/tvqp).

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