

**APEGGA** The Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## May 17, 2007

## Engineering Regulatory Agency Monitoring Horizon Storage Tank Collapse Investigation

**Edmonton** – Like all Albertans, the 49,000 members of The Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta (APEGGA) are saddened by the deaths of two people and the injuries sustained by four others as a result of the recent failure of a structure on the Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. Horizon project site north of Fort McMurray. The paramount concern of APEGGA, and of all professional engineers, is public safety and well-being. While APEGGA has not received any complaints regarding the design and construction methods of the oil storage tanks, the association is monitoring the situation to determine if there is any evidence of unskilled practice or unprofessional conduct on the part of any professional member or permit holding organization.

"There is no evidence to suggest that unskilled practice or unprofessional conduct played a part in the tragic failure of the structure on the CNRL Horizon site in April. Should such evidence come to light, as a result of ongoing investigations by the province, then APEGGA's disciplinary process would come into play," says APEGGA President, John McLeod, P.Eng.

APEGGA's well-established, thorough and balanced disciplinary process is legislated under *The Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Professions Act.* 

Established in 1920, APEGGA is responsible for regulating the practices of engineering, geology and geophysics in the province of Alberta to protect public safety and well-being. The association's 49,000 members play a significant role in every segment of the economy, and their technical and management expertise ensure Alberta remains at the forefront of technological innovation.

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For more information, contact: Philip Mulder, APR Manager Communications APEGGA Telephone: 780-426-3990 or Toll Free 1-800-661-7020 Cell: 780-499-3873 Fax: 780-425-1722 E-mail: pmulder@apegga.org