



This fact sheet gives an overview of the Alberta Energy Regulator’s governance structure.

What is the Alberta Energy Regulator?

The Alberta Energy Regulator, or AER, provides for the safe, efficient, orderly, and environmentally responsible development of energy resources. This includes allocating and conserving water resources, managing public lands, and protecting the environment while providing economic benefits for all Albertans.

How is the AER structured?

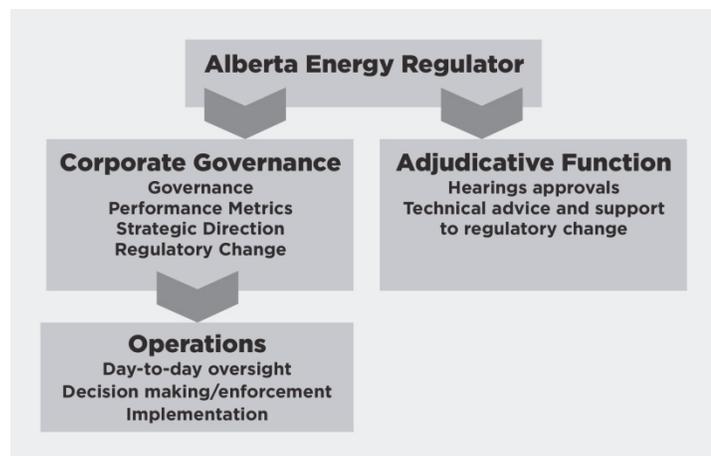
The AER’s governance structure is designed to benefit both from strong corporate oversight and from independent adjudication. The corporate, operational, and governance responsibilities have been separated from adjudicative functions (i.e., hearings on energy applications); this is a significant change from the previous model where these functions were combined.

What does this governance model look like?

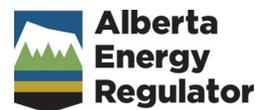
The governance model includes a chair and board of directors, a chief executive officer, and hearing commissioners led by the chief hearing commissioner.

Chair and Board of Directors

The AER is headed by a chair, who leads a board of directors, all appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council and all part-time directors of the AER. The organization has seven directors, in addition to the chair.



The Alberta Energy Regulator ensures the safe, efficient, orderly, and environmentally responsible development of hydrocarbon resources over their entire life cycle. This includes allocating and conserving water resources, managing public lands, and protecting the environment while providing economic benefits for all Albertans.



The chair and the board of directors are not involved in the AER's day-to-day operations and decisions. Instead, they set the general direction of the regulator's business affairs and are charged with approving regulatory change and setting performance expectations for the AER and its chief executive officer (CEO). In this way the AER's board operates as a truly "corporate-style" board.

Chief Executive Officer

While the current CEO was appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council upon the chair's recommendation, in the future, the board of directors will appoint the CEO, subject to ministerial approval. The CEO, who reports directly to the chair, oversees day-to-day operations, which include receiving and making decisions—and delegating decision making—on applications, monitoring and investigating energy resource activities for compliance, and closing energy developments through the processes of remediation and reclamation. Good governance models consistently separate the positions of chair and CEO.

Hearing Commissioners

Hearing commissioners represent another important part of the AER's structure. Reporting to a chief hearing commissioner, these commissioners are responsible for conducting all hearings into energy applications and regulatory appeals. The hearing commissioners are also involved in developing the organization's hearing procedures and rules and other day-to-day operations.

Hearing commissioners are independent adjudicators, and their decisions may only be reviewed by the Court of Appeal of Alberta.

Where can I find more information?

If you would like to learn more about the AER, please see *EnerFAQs What is the Alberta Energy Regulator?*, found at www.aer.ca.
