

## **News release**

*August 1, 2007*

### **Alberta Ombudsman Discontinues Investigation of Alberta Energy and Utilities Board**

*Edmonton...* The Alberta Ombudsman, G. B. (Gord) Button, announced today that he will discontinue his own motion investigation into the administrative fairness of the actions of the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB) in hiring and using private investigators to monitor and report on the activities of interested parties to the Rimbey hearings about the proposed 500 kilovolt electric transmission lines between Edmonton and Calgary. The Alberta Ombudsman decided to discontinue his investigation after interested parties filed an Originating Notice asking the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta to look at the same matters which were to be included in the Alberta Ombudsman's investigation.

As an independent officer of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, Mr. Button had begun an investigation of the EUB on his own motion pursuant to s. 12 of the *Ombudsman Act*. His decision to discontinue his investigation because the Court is now looking at the same matter is based on s. 13 of the *Ombudsman Act*.

After the Court has made its decision, Mr. Button will determine whether any further review or investigation of the EUB's actions by the Alberta Ombudsman is warranted. The Alberta Ombudsman will monitor the EUB's ongoing process and any related court decisions.

For more information about the Alberta Ombudsman visit [www.ombudsman.ab.ca](http://www.ombudsman.ab.ca).

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