

Energy Diversification Advisory Committee –Mandate

Mandate

The mandate of the Energy Diversification Advisory Committee (EDAC or “the Committee”) is to provide advice to the government on additional steps Alberta can take to build a more diversified and resilient energy economy. This includes building on the value-add related recommendations in the Royalty Review Advisory Panel Report: to diversify Alberta’s energy downstream sector to create stable, long term economic opportunities and employment.

EDAC will provide advice to government that answers the following key question:

What additional steps can Alberta take to build a more diversified and resilient energy economy that works with industry and communities to create jobs, moves the energy industry up the value chain, and diversifies the energy industry into new end products?

EDAC will review current analytical work, engage with targeted audiences, solicit feedback from the public, and provide advice to the Minister of Energy based on this work. Members of the Committee are accountable to the Minister of Energy.

Key Responsibilities

EDAC will provide advice to the Government identifying key opportunities for Alberta to expand our downstream sector, including looking at opportunities in hydrocarbon processing and the petrochemicals sector. This advice will reflect, primarily:

- The current knowledge and expertise of the EDAC members;
- Analyses that have been developed for and by the Government of Alberta;
- Literature search of other analytical work and assessments; and
- What EDAC hears from its engagement.

Key Principles for EDAC Engagement

- EDAC will ensure that the public is part of the conversation and will have ample opportunity to submit their input on what Albertans believe the future of energy industry diversification in Alberta should look like.
- EDAC will ensure that it engages with industry and non-industry experts to ensure that EDAC is well informed on the state of the energy industry, the outlook for the energy industry, the key opportunities in the energy industry, and the policy tools that can be used to facilitate energy industry diversification in Alberta.

- EDAC will provide a transparent engagement process on its website, laying out timelines for engagement and providing updates on the engagement process as it progresses.

Additional Detail on the Committee's Mandate

It is expected that EDAC will conduct a thorough review of the opportunities, and potential policy and financial tools the Government of Alberta has available to expand the downstream sector, including hydrocarbon processing and petrochemical opportunities. This would include upgrading, partial upgrading, refining, and petrochemical plants, and possibly other opportunities that may come up through the process. This review will consider the opportunities in the downstream sector in the context of the scale of the resource in Alberta that is available as a feedstock for those opportunities.

There has been a significant amount of work done by the Government of Alberta in recent years, and commentary from other organizations, including that received during the Royalty Review Advisory Panel engagement phase. It is expected that the Committee can build primarily on that work and its own expertise to do forward-looking analysis of opportunities in these areas.

This is an ongoing advisory committee on technical and policy matters. The Committee is expected to engage with the public primarily through the EDAC website, as well as to work with stakeholders with interest and expertise in relevant areas to provide the best information for the Committee to make its recommendations and give advice.

There are a number of other policies of the government that have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented, and although they have relevance to the Committee's work, and potential options within the government's stated policy are welcome, the overall policies and positions of the Government of Alberta in those areas are not in scope of the Committee's work.