

Enserva Member Statement Minister's Comment on Remote Workforce Lodgings

October 7, 2024

"Enserva represents the services, supply, and manufacturing companies in Canada's energy sector, including the companies that run Canada's Remote Workforce Lodgings (RWL) for the resource sector. We were severely disappointed to read the comments from Alberta's Minister of Energy and Minerals calling into question the value that RWL companies bring to Alberta and communities in which they operate. Canadian RWL companies are integral to Alberta's and Canada's resource economy and are constantly working to minimize the negative impacts on the local communities in which they operate.

Our members' camps provide safe, inclusive, and convenient accommodations in areas that may lack the necessary infrastructure or housing supply to support major projects. Importantly, not all workers may be able or willing to relocate permanently, making these camps essential. This current model was developed to prevent major projects from placing undue stress on community resources, such as social services, education, and healthcare, and to avoid driving up housing prices for local residents. As well, Alberta's energy sector is projected to need to attract upwards of 85,000 workers over the next ten years, many of whom may be recruited from other parts of the country as history has shown. Disparaging where these workers might come from and making it harder for them to work in Alberta's energy sector is counter-productive to the goal of growing Alberta's energy resource sector.

We request the Government of Alberta commit to no action related to Remote Workforce Lodgings until a consultation with all affected groups, including all Alberta-based camp operators, is undertaken."