



The Battle River Watershed Planning Process

**Stakeholder Forum, #1
Killam, March 19, 2005**



Why a Watershed Plan?

- ◆ **Battle River experiencing increased water demands**
- ◆ **2002-2003 – Severe drought – concern for ongoing operation of the Battle River Generating Plant, agricultural and municipal water supplies**
- ◆ **Short-term supply options very limited – need to take longer term view**



Steps in the Water Management Planning Process

- ◆ Issue Identification
- ◆ Background Study and data collection
- ◆ Evaluation of management alternatives
- ◆ Develop draft plan and water conservation objectives
- ◆ Public Review and comment
- ◆ Submit final plan for approval



Water Management Planning in the Battle Watershed

- ◆ **Terms of Reference developed in collaboration with stakeholders & approved by Central Region Water Director**
- ◆ **Steering Committee provides overall direction – includes federal and provincial government staff**
- ◆ **Stakeholder Advisory Group provides stakeholder input/collaborates on recommendations**
- ◆ **Public Review/Meetings**
- ◆ **Minister of Environment approves**



Information Forums

- ◆ **Provide background information and planning process objectives to the Stakeholder Group and public**
- ◆ **Improve public awareness of water management issues in the watershed**
- ◆ **Begin consideration/review of water management options**



Decision Process

- ◆ **Stakeholder Group work in collaboration with Steering Committee to develop water management recommendations and WCO's**
- ◆ **Public review of draft plan**
- ◆ **Management plan submitted to Minister of Environment**
- ◆ **Minister consults with cabinet colleagues and approves**



Task	2003	2004			2005			2006	
Data Gathering/Assembly	█	█	█	█	█	█	█		
Steering Committee Formation	█								
Terms of Reference	█	█							
Stakeholder Group Assembly			█						
Data Review & Recommendations			█	█	█	█	█		
Information Forums					█	█	█		
Draft Plan Development								█	
Public Review & Plan Completion									█
WPAC Capacity Building				█	█	█	█	█	█

Phase 2

- ◆ **Establishment of ongoing Battle River Watershed Planning and Advisory Committee (WPAC) as outlined in WFL**
- ◆ **Implement and Monitor Phase 1 Plan**
- ◆ **Implement WFL Strategy objectives – state of the watershed, education and awareness, BMP's, watershed management plan?**