GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR HYDRAULIC FRACTURING

Canada’s shale gas, tight gas and tight oil industry supports a responsible approach to hydraulic fracturing and water management, and is committed to continuous performance improvement. Protecting water resources during sourcing, use and handling is a key priority for our industry. We support and abide by all regulations governing hydraulic fracturing operations, water use and water protection. In addition, we commit to following these guiding principles:

1. We will measure and disclose our water use with the goal of continuing to reduce our effect on the environment.

2. We will safeguard the quality and quantity of regional surface and groundwater resources, through sound wellbore construction practices, sourcing fresh water alternatives where appropriate, and recycling water for reuse as much as practical.

3. We will support the development of fracturing fluid additives with the least environmental risks.

4. We will support the disclosure of fracturing fluid additives.

5. We will continue to advance, collaborate on and communicate technologies and best practices that reduce the potential environmental risks of hydraulic fracturing.

Shale gas, tight gas and tight oil for the purpose of these principles, refers to unconventional resources from low permeability reservoirs being developed using horizontal wells with multi-stage hydraulic fracturing.
Canada’s upstream petroleum industry has a strong track record as a safe and reliable producer of oil and natural gas. Recognizing the increasing importance for the energy industry to be more transparent and clearly demonstrate a commitment to responsible energy development, CAPP created Guiding Principles and Operating Practices for hydraulic fracturing. These principles and practices guide water management and drive improvements in shale gas, tight gas and tight oil operations across Canada. Many CAPP member companies contributed to this effort.

To focus on priority areas for environmental performance and to maintain industry’s social licence to operate, it is important for industry to work collaboratively to advance and share new technologies and best practices. Members of CAPP continue to work together on hydraulic fracturing issues to foster and implement innovative ways to improve industry performance in operations across Canada.

Industry’s goal is to continue augmenting these voluntary principles and practices, while advocating that they inform and compliment existing and future regulatory requirements.