

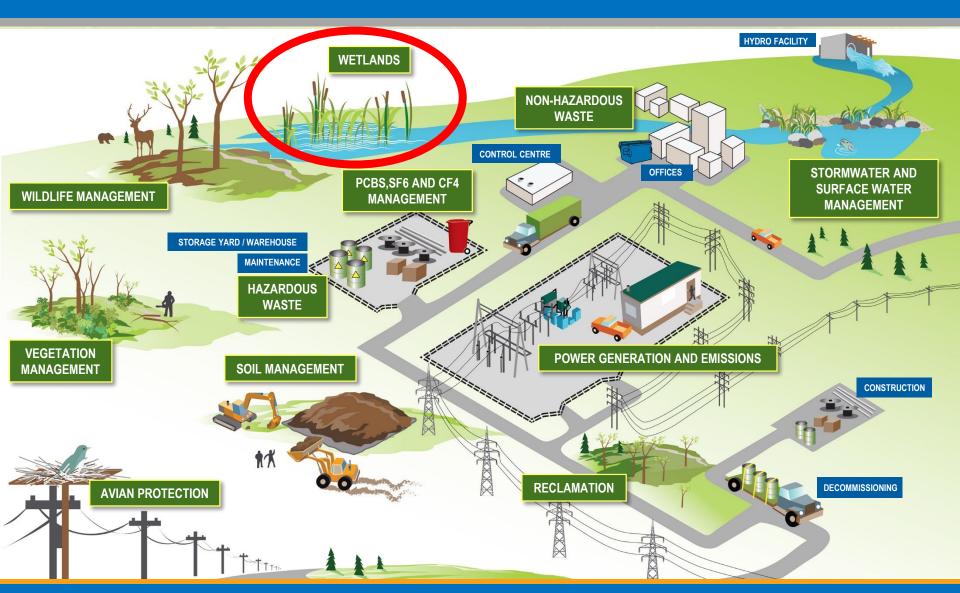
BALANCING WETLAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN A REGULATED UTILITY

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OUTLINE

- Recognizing the Need for Internal Standards
- Objective of an Environmental Management System
- Challenges for a Regulated Utility
- Developing Procedures
- Implementing Procedures
- Employee Engagement
- Continuous Improvement

ATCO ELECTRIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS



RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR A CHANGE

- In 2014, several legally reportable incidents were related to wetlands
- Recognized the need to raise awareness about the importance of wetlands
- Opportunity to create new procedures and standards for employees to follow



OBJECTIVES OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- Meet environmental regulatory requirements
- Enhance ATCO Electric's environmental performance, compliance and competitiveness
- Increase environmental awareness
- An effective EMS is 'alive' and constantly measuring performance, making adjustments and looking for opportunities for continual improvement.

Avoid → Minimize → Reduce

CHALLENGES FOR A REGULATED UTILITY

Multiple stakeholders with different perspectives

- Rate payers = reduce cost
- Provincial and federal regulators = follow regulations
- Landowners = individual interests
- NGOs = conservation





DEVELOPING PROCEDURES

REQUIREMENTS

Legal Registry

ISO 14001

Aspect List

EMS

Environment Policy

Objectives, Targets and Programs

Core Procedures – Procedures for managing the EMS

Management Procedures – Procedures targeted at Managers and Supervisors.

Mainly used in planning or in unexpected circumstances.

Work Procedures – Procedures targeted at Supervisors and Employees.

More prescriptive and detailed.

Forms/Templates and Standards

Department-specific Procedures and Practices (EPPs, Engineering standards, etc.)

OUR VISION STATEMENT

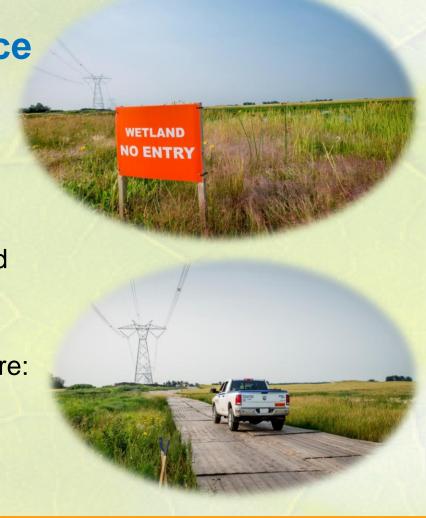


DEVELOPING PROCEDURES

 What preventative or mitigative measures reduce impacts on wetlands?

Considerations

- Are there regulatory approvals, notifications, licenses?
- Scheduling, seasonality (wet/thawed conditions)
- Prevent disturbance to shores
- Ditches are common path to water (re: spills)
- Preserve water quality and quantity



DEVELOPING PROCEDURES

Avoid

Structure/access placement, alternate routes, timing windows, demarcate avoidance areas

Minimize

- Duration of in-water work, erosion control
- Retain riparian vegetation
- Fueling and dewatering 60 m away from riparian areas
- Wash equipment 100 m away from riparian areas
- Stockpiles at least 30 m away from waterbodies

Reduce

- Monitor mitigation measures
- Finance research projects to improve mitigation

Compensate

Replace or provide substitute resources as per with regulatory directions

MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE CONTENT

Introduction

- Purpose
- Scope/application
- Background

Procedures

- Legal Requirements
- Evaluation of Risk
- Controls and Mitigation Measures
- Training and Communications
- Monitoring and Maintenance
- Incident Reporting

Responsibilities

Each Org Group

Related Documents

EMS and Other

Records

EMS and Other



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EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

Mechanisms used to raise awareness

- Branded wetlands as a symbol of the EMS
- Donated \$1 per ATCO Electric Transmission Employee to Ducks Unlimited to celebrate launch of environmental vision
- Environment Group designed a wetland as part of the internal 2015 CANstruction Competition for the Food Bank

TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Training sessions for different audiences

- EMS Awareness
- Field staff and supervisors
- Management
- Contractors





CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

PLAN

- Environmental policy
- Environmental aspects
- · Legal requirements
- · Objectives, targets, programs

ACT

Management review

Continuous Improvement Cycle

- DO Operational controls
- Roles & responsibilities
- Communication
- **Documentation**
- Emergency response

CHECK

- Monitoring & measurement
- Internal audit
- Corrective & preventive action
- Incidents & nonconformance
- Recordkeeping

QUESTIONS?

