Transforming Alberta's Regulatory System Digital Regulatory Assurance System Replacing EAS OneStop

The first stage of the new Digital Regulatory Assurance System (DRAS) will be available for public use on June 21, 2021. DRAS will become the only system for submitting and tracking Water Act approval applications, amendment applications and Code of Practice notices. DRAS will replace EAS OneStop for managing *Water Act* applications and notices.

DRAS will be rolled-out in stages throughout 2021 to 2023. By mid-2023, all applications will be moved online to the DRAS system, supporting all authorization types managed by Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) under the *Water Act, Public Lands Act, and Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act.*

The Digital Regulatory Assurance System (DRAS)

DRAS will support Alberta Environment and Parks in modernizing its regulatory system, and will make reviewing applications more transparent and efficient — all while maintaining high environmental standards.

Designed to provide clear, upfront expectations to applicants, the digital system will be used to manage the entire lifecycle of a project from application to authorization, monitoring and compliance reporting, to remediation and closure.

For applicants, DRAS will provide:

- The ability to track the status of their applications in real time
- The ability to apply for one project with multiple activities via an integrated application
- A clear decision-making process

DRAS Information and Training

Visit the <u>Digital Regulatory Assurance System</u> (DRAS) page on Alberta.ca for more information about DRAS. There you will find details about the system and links to register for upcoming virtual information and training sessions.

Information and training sessions are open to the public and registration is limited.

Designing and Testing DRAS

Many industry and regulatory representatives were brought together to provide input into the design of DRAS. This involvement informed the necessary features and functionality to allow more focus on the quality of information provided at the time of submission so the regulatory review process can be more transparent and efficient.

Multiple levels of testing have been completed throughout the build of the system. Both industry and regulatory representatives were involved in technical testing of system functionality as well as user testing on the system's ease of use. This input and feedback allowed the build team to adjust the design to improve the effectiveness of the system.

Decommissioning of EAS OneStop

EAS OneStop is the current system for submitting applications and notices under the *Water Act*.

On June 14, 2021, EAS OneStop access will be terminated for both applicants and regulators. There will be a 7-day pause to transfer submitted and approved applications and data from EAS OneStop to DRAS. At that time, any draft applications that have not been submitted for regulatory review will be permanently deleted.

Effective June 21, 2021, DRAS will be the only system applicants will use to submit Water Act approval applications, amendments and Codes of Practice notices.

Contact Information

For more information about DRAS, visit the <u>Digital Regulatory</u> <u>Assurance System</u> (DRAS).page on Alberta.ca. If you have questions prior to the launch of DRAS, please contact <u>AEP</u>. <u>OST@gov.ab.ca</u>.

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