



## **PRESS RELEASE - WADE CANADA CALLS FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ON BILL 50**

**September 30, 2009**

CALGARY, AB – WADE Canada voiced its concerns today regarding Bill 50, the *Electric Statutes Amendment Act, 2009*. If adopted, Bill 50 will allow the Stelmach government to fast track approximately \$20 billion of upgrades to our transmission infrastructure including the construction of new transmission lines. It would give the province authority to do this without a public hearing process held by the regulator. Albertans would be silenced even if it means they will foot the bill.

The role of our regulator is “to protect social, economic and environmental interests of Alberta where competitive market forces do not,” says Geraldine Byrne, Vice-President of WADE Canada. “We are asking the government to change its course and hold transparent public hearings to hear what Albertans have to say” says Byrne.

WADE Canada President, Anouk Kendall, hopes that the government will allow Alberta stakeholders to explore alternatives to the expenditures outlined in Bill 50 to ensure that we are investing wisely. “The alternative is found in a balanced and long term transmission plan which factors in improved generation efficiencies, reduced peak demand and advancements in grid management” says Kendall. “We need to sit down with stakeholders and understand our options and their respective price tags.”

WADE Canada is a registered, national, non-profit industry association which supports growth and development of the Decentralized Energy industry.

**If you want join WADE Canada in this effort contact us.**

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