

# Statement

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## **Alberta's new environmental monitoring regime needs to avoid repeating mistakes of the past**

**5 April 2016 (Edmonton)** – In response to the Alberta government's announced changes to its oil sands monitoring system - the Alberta Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Agency (AEMERA) – Mike Hudema, a Greenpeace Climate and Energy campaigner, said:

“AEMERA didn't live up to its promises but if we are to avoid repeating past mistakes, the new monitoring regime needs to be science-led, independently validated, fully transparent, and adequately funded to ensure that it gives Alberta's communities the information they need and can rely on. Without those principles being built into the new structure, we risk a return to a body that is politically driven or corrupted by industry.

“It remains to be seen how effective the new body will be, but the retention of many of the scientists and the independent audit are good initial steps. Albertans deserve clear and reliable information on the ecological and social impacts of development and after two decades of industry-biased information it's about time they got them.”

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