

# Land Use and Surface Rights

## **PROPERTY RIGHTS ADVOCATE**

APAS supports the establishment of an independent Property Rights Advocate Office in Saskatchewan where producers can go to access information and obtain legal support when dealing with development on their farmland.

## **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT & REGULATION**

APAS supports a strong environmental regulatory framework that ensures resource development on farmland poses minimal disruptions for the environment, farm operations and rural residents. APAS believes that environmental approval of resource development projects should be contingent on an assessment process that fully addresses the concerns that farmers and ranchers may have with resource development occurring on their lands and in close proximity to their private dwellings. Government regulators must be provided with the staff, resources, and legal authority to promptly respond to the environmental, health and safety concerns of producers and other rural residents.

## **RECLAMATION OF OIL AND GAS SITES**

APAS believes the Provincial Government should monitor abandoned oil and gas wells in Saskatchewan to ensure prompt reclamation of abandoned and orphaned well sites. APAS believes a fund should be created to compensate producers when oil and gas operators become insolvent or are unable to fulfill their lease obligations.

## **ENERGY PIPELINES**

APAS supports the expansion of energy pipelines as a means of increasing rail capacity for agricultural commodities that cannot be transported by pipeline.