



Office of the
Information and Privacy
Commissioner of Alberta

September 8, 2011

Inquiry into Access Request may affect Water Well Owners and Tenants in Alberta

Beginning October 18, 2011, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta (OIPC) will conduct a public inquiry into an access for information request. The inquiry may affect private landowners and tenants who have submitted well water samples to provincial authorities for testing purposes.

An applicant requested information from Alberta Health Services (AHS) in relation to well water testing and other information between 1986 and 2011. AHS denied access to some of the information and said that it did not have other information.

The matter has now been set for inquiry. Because the Adjudicator's delegated order-making power includes the power to require disclosure of all or part of the information, including landowners' water well test results, private landowners and tenants with water wells are invited to make written submissions or attend the inquiry. OIPC has also retained the services of an independent lawyer to represent the interests of affected landowners and tenants.

If you are interested in participating or would like more information about the inquiry, please refer to the *Public Notice of Inquiry under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* on our website at www.oipc.ab.ca.

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Editor's Note: if members of the media plan to cover this inquiry please contact Wayne Wood at 780 644 4015

