

# ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE AGRIBUSINESS

## **AgForce Landuse Protection Principles**

As the body for agriculture, AgForce requires that alternative and potentially impacting land uses ensure:

- 1. There is recognition that natural capital has an inherent value;
- 2. Human health and well-being must not be sacrificed;
- 3. A precautionary approach that avoids negative legacy effects on natural resources including air, soil, water and biodiversity;
- 4. There are no negative impacts on existing or future sustainable agricultural opportunities;

### Before

- Recognize that resources are finite
- All projects are assessed on environmental, social and economic criteria;
- There is a formal mechanism for agriculture to be involved in assessment;
- Projects should not be assessed in isolation and cumulative impacts assessed;
- Potential impacts need to be objectively, and accurately quantified rigorously and independently reviewed;
- Agricultural landholders to have equal representation, available resources and bargaining power;

### During

- All projects must have comprehensive monitoring and transparent reporting;
- Non-compliance will trigger cease work;
- Enforcement is primarily the responsibility of government, but landholders must have a right to compel action;
- Industry and Government must proactively identify and manage cumulative impacts, both individual project cumulative impacts and multiple projects cumulative impacts;

### After

- Land needs to be rehabilitated to be the pre-existing natural conditions
- Financial assurance needs to be adequate for rehabilitation.