

June 28, 2021

By Email Only

Linda Ripley

Statement of Concern No. 31923
Montem Resources Alberta Operations Ltd. (Montem)
Application No. 009-00047679

Dear Linda Ripley:

You are receiving this letter because you filed a statement of concern (SOC) about Application No. 009-00047679. The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has reviewed your SOC, along with the application, and all applicable requirements and other submissions or information about the application. The AER has decided that a hearing is not required to consider the concerns outlined in your SOC.

In our review of your concerns, we considered the following:

- Montem has applied under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* (EPEA) to extend Approval No. 00047679-02-00, as amended, for a one-year term. This extension would not authorize Montem to resume operations at the Tent Mountain Mine.
- To resume operations at the Tent Mountain Mine, Montem will first need to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and submit an integrated application that will include the EIA and applications for operating approvals under the *Coal Conservation Act* (CCA), the EPEA, and the *Water Act* (the integrated application). Montem anticipates filing the integrated application later in the 2021 calendar year.
- Your concerns around damage to the watershed, increased demand on scarce water sources and selenium contamination are related to operation of the Tent Mountain Mine, and outside the scope of the current EPEA extension application. These concerns may be addressed at the time of the integrated application.

Based on the above, the AER has concluded that it is not necessary to hold a hearing before making a decision on the application. The AER has issued the applied-for approval and this is your notice of that decision. A copy of the approval is attached.

All AER-regulated parties must comply not only with the conditions of their authorizations, but with all of the AER's regulatory requirements. To ensure industry compliance the AER has developed its *Integrated Compliance Assurance Framework*, which embodies the three main components of all effective compliance assurance programs, those being education, prevention, and enforcement. You can find out more about how the AER verifies industry compliance and responds to noncompliance here: <https://aer.ca/regulating-development/compliance/compliance-assurance-program>.

You may file a regulatory appeal on the AER's decision to issue the approval if you meet the criteria within section 36 of the *Responsible Energy Development Act*. Filing instructions and forms are located here: <https://www.aer.ca/regulating-development/project-application/regulatory-appeal-process>.

If you have any questions, please contact SOC@aer.ca.

Sincerely,

<Original Signed By>

Steven Van Lingen
Director, Oil Sands Mining & Coal
Regulatory Applications
/ml

Attachment (1): Approval

cc: Shireen Ouellet, Montem Resources Alberta Operation Ltd.

Doug Koroluk, AER
SOC Inbox, AER
Field Operations - South, AER
Environmental Protection & Enhancement and Water, AER