

By Email Only

August 10, 2020

Ross L. Wade

**TAQA NORTH LTD.
APPLICATION NO. 1172952
STATEMENT OF CONCERN NO. 31515
LOCATION: 100/09-31-027-26W4/0**

Dear Ross L. Wade:

You are receiving this letter because you filed a statement of concern about reclamation certificate application No. 1172952. The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has reviewed your statement of concern, along with the company's application, and all applicable requirements and other submissions or information about the reclamation application. The AER has decided that a hearing is not required to consider the concerns outlined in your statement of concern.

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

- A Detailed Site Assessment (DSA) was conducted on April 29, 2014, and October 3, 2016, showed that all soil, landscape and vegetation parameters of the *2010 Reclamation criteria for Wellsites and Associated Facilities for Cultivated Lands* (Reclamation Criteria) are met. The DSA indicated that all of the parameters are comparable both onsite and offsite.
- The site visits by AER staff conducted on August 13, 2019, November 1, 2019, and May 26, 2020, confirmed that the soil quality and quantity, and the vegetation (wheat) met the requirements for cultivated lands.
- The historical data confirms that the low area on the west side of the lease existed prior to the development of the wellsite, which low area can be farmed during dry springs.
- The Reclamation Criteria are applied to evaluate whether “a site has met equivalent land capability.” Given the findings made in the DSA and during the AER site visit, the AER is satisfied that the site has met equivalent land capability and that your concerns have been addressed.

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 is satisfied that the site has met equivalent land capability and has issued the applied-for reclamation certificate, and this is your notice of that decision. A copy of the reclamation certificate 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 Reclamation Certificate if you meet the criteria within section 36 of the *Responsible Energy Development Act*. Filing instructions and forms are on the AER website under Regulatory Appeal Process.

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

Sincerely,

<Original Signed By>

Jon Keeler
Acting Director, Regulatory Applications
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Enclosure (1): **Reclamation Certificate**

cc: Nigel Wiebe, TAQA North Ltd.
Drew Lockwood, AER
SOC Assessor, AER
Midnapore Field Centre, AER