

Calgary Head Office Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4 Canada

By Email Only

November 6, 2015

Donna Dahm and Bob Plowman

Application No. 1837571 Penn West Petroleum Ltd. Statement of Concern No. 29972

Dear Ms. Dahm and Mr. Plowman:

You are receiving this letter because you filed a statement of concern about the subject application. The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has reviewed your statement of concern, along with the application, the applicable requirements, and other submissions or information about the application and has decided that a hearing is not required under an enactment or otherwise necessary to consider the concerns outlined in your statement of concern.

In its review of your concerns, the AER considered the following:

- This is an amendment to an existing facility located at 2-34-82-18W5M, licence F45645. Approval of the amendment will eliminate venting at this facility, and will not result in any additional wells or facilities at the site.
- Ms. Dahm's lands are located about 22 km northwest from this facility.
- Mr. Plowman's lands are located about 23 km northwest from this facility.
- Pursuant to *Directive 060 Upstream Petroleum Industry Flaring, Incinerating, and Venting* there is no venting permitted at the facility site, and all gas is captured via vapour recovery units. The facility is fully compliant with the requirements of *Directive 060*, including the requirements specific to the Peace River area in which the facility is located.
- Regarding the concern about wetlands this is an existing facility and no new lands outside of the lease will be used or impacted as a result of the amendment application. The facility is located on Crown land, and the potential impact on water bodies would have been assessed at the time of the original Land Use application process, prior to the approval and construction of the existing facility.



As well, Penn West has committed to appropriate mitigation measures to protect the muskeg and the dry draw bordering the southwest edge of the lease.

- You have not provided information that demonstrates that you may use lands or other natural resources in the project area or other locations that may be affected by the project, or that the kinds of impacts you are concerned with may result from the application.
- The AER is satisfied that Penn West has met all consultation and notification requirements that apply to you in relation to the application.

Based on the above, you have not demonstrated that you may be directly and adversely affected by the application for the amendment to the facility licence. The AER has issued the applied-for licence amendment and this is your notice of that decision. A copy of the licence amendment is attached. Under the *Responsible Energy Development Act* an eligible person may file a request for a regulatory appeal on an appealable decision. Eligible persons and appealable decisions are defined in section 36 of the *Responsible Energy Development Act* and section 3.1 of the *Responsible Development Act General Regulation*. If you wish to file a request for regulatory appeal, you must submit your request in the form and manner and within the timeframe required by the AER. You can find filing requirements and forms on the AER website www.aer.ca under Applications & Notices: Appeals.

If you have any questions, contact Chris Carter at 403-297-8798 or e-mail Chris.Carter@aer.ca.

## Sincerely,

*<original signed by>* 

Shelley Youens Director, Infrastructure Authorizations (Oil and Gas)

Enclosures (1): Licence amendment

cc: Jay Farrell, Penn West AER Grande Prairie Field Centre inquiries 1-855-297-8311 24-hour emergency 1-800-222-6514