

By Email Only

January 25, 2016

Donna Dahm and Bob Plowman

Application No. 1846748
Penn West Petroleum Limited
Statement of Concern No. 30110

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 application to drill six vertical sweet observation wells.
- These wells will not produce and once drilling operations have reached the targeted depth, geological data will be obtained and each well abandoned.
- Observation wells are not a source of emissions and there will be no venting associated with the wells.
- Ms. Dahm's lands and residence are located about 11 km northwest from the nearest well.
- Mr. Plowman's lands and residence is located about 12 km northwest from the nearest well.
- Regarding your concern about wetlands, the wells will be located on Crown land, and the potential impacts on water bodies would have been assessed at the time of the original Public Land Use application process.

- You have not provided information that demonstrates that you may use lands or other natural resources in the area of the wells 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 of Directive 056 that apply to you in relation to the application.

inquiries 1-855-297-8311
24-hour
emergency 1-800-222-6514

Based on the above, you have not demonstrated that you may be directly and adversely affected by the application for the well licences. The AER has issued the applied-for licences and this is your notice of that decision. Copies of the licences are 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 Judith Zatzek at _____ or e-mail _____

Sincerely,

<original signed by >

Shelley Youens
Director, Infrastructure Authorizations (Oil and Gas)

Enclosures (6): Licences

cc: Kim Fraser, Penn West Petroleum Ltd.
AER Grande Prairie Field Centre
AER Slave Lake Field Centre