

BY E-MAIL ONLY

January 31, 2018

Rodrigo Arrobo  
**Fort McKay First Nation**

**IMPERIAL OIL RESOURCES LIMITED**  
**APPLICATIONS NO. 1905477 AND OIL SANDS EVALUATION (OSE) 180001**  
**STATEMENT OF CONCERN NO. 30975**

Dear Rodrigo Arrobo:

You are receiving this letter because you filed a statement of concern on behalf of Fort McKay First Nation (Fort McKay) about Applications No. 1905477 and OSE 180001. The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has reviewed your statement of concern, along with the applications, the applicable requirements, and other submissions or information about the application. The AER has decided that a hearing is not required under an enactment, or necessary, to consider the concerns outlined in your statement of concern.

In its review of Fort McKay's concerns, the AER considered the following:

- The OSE wells will be drilled during the winter under frozen conditions to minimize the impact of the construction and drilling operations.
- Accesses into the planned locations will use existing access roads, trails and cut lines where available.
- Once well drilling is complete, the OSE wells will be abandoned and the site reclaimed in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined in the Letter of Authority for the OSE.
- The AER has previously determined that OSE program impacts are localized and temporary in nature (*Decision 2013 ABAER 017*).

- The project area is within the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan (LARP), which addresses management of cumulative impacts on the environment on a regional basis. The activities proposed in the area of the applications are permitted under LARP.
- The information provided by Fort McKay First Nation is general in nature and does not identify direct and adverse impacts that may result from the proposed project.

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

Based on the above, you have not demonstrated that Fort McKay may be directly and adversely affected by approval of the applications or that the AER should hold a hearing before making its decision on the applications. The AER has issued the applied-for approval and well licences; this is your notice of that decision. A copy of the approval and well 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 Energy 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, <http://www.aer.ca/applications-and-notice/appeals>.

Please note that Imperial Oil Resources Limited has not withdrawn, nor has the intention to withdraw, Applications MLL 170117, LOC 170990, MLL 170119, and LOC 171000, as previously indicated in the AER letter dated January 25, 2018. As a result, SOC No. 30975 will remain linked to these applications. The AER has not made a decision on these associated applications to-date. You will be provided notice when that decision is made.

If you have any questions, contact Valeria Silva by e-mail at [valeria.silva@aer.ca](mailto:valeria.silva@aer.ca).

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Hélène de Beer  
Director, InSitu Authorizations

Enclosure (7): **Approval OSE 180001; Well Licences**

cc: Kayce McDonald, Imperial Oil Resources Limited  
Ryan Abel, Fort McKay First Nation  
Broc Butler, AER  
Laura Van Der Veen, AER  
AER SOC Coordinator  
AER Bonnyville Field Centre  
AER Indigenous Relations  
Aboriginal Consultation Office