

December 13, 2023

By Email Only

Ivan and Beverly Peterson

Statement of Concern No. 32188
Canadian Natural Resources Limited (CNRL)
Application No. 31178602
Location: 05-30-047-04 W4M

Dear Ivan and Beverly Peterson,

You are receiving this letter because you filed a statement of concern (SOC) about Application No. 31178602. 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:

- A Detailed Site Assessment (DSA) of the wellsite was conducted on June 29, 2020 (landscape and soil) and June 30, 2022 (vegetation) which showed that the conditions of the soil, landscape, and vegetation parameters for the wellsite were comparable both on-site and off-site. An AER Reclamation Assessor reviewed the DSA and confirmed that all parameters of the *2010 Reclamation Criteria for Wellsites and Associated Facilities for Cultivated Lands (updated 2013)* were met.
- A site visit was conducted on August 16, 2023 wherein AER staff confirmed that the reclamation parameters appeared to be comparable both on and off-site and met the Reclamation Criteria.
- Concerning the subsurface assessment, based on the results of the site visit and a review of the application, it has been determined that the site has been sufficiently assessed for potential contaminants of concern.

- The Reclamation Criteria requires an evaluation of whether “a site has met equivalent land capability.” Given the findings made in the DSA and during the AER staff site visit, the AER is satisfied that the site has met this requirement.

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 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 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* >

Andrew MacPherson
Director, In Situ
Regulatory Applications
/jg

Attachment (1): Reclamation Certificate

cc: Felix Lin, CNRL
SOC Inbox, AER
Drew Lockwood, Reclamation Assessor, AER
Field Operations East, AER