

January 10, 2024

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By Email Only

Edward and Ruth Vogel

**Statement of Concern No. 32180**  
**Canadian Natural Resources Limited (CNRL)**  
**Application No. 31196790**  
**Location: 16-10-056-06 W4M**

Dear Edward and Ruth Vogel,

You are receiving this letter because you filed a statement of concern (SOC) about Application No. 31196790. 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 August 14, 2022, which showed that the conditions of the soil, landscape, and vegetation parameters 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 assessed soil and vegetation parameters, on and off-site. Furthermore, an aerial photograph review and on-site landscape assessment were completed to assess the ephemeral draw. The site was found to have met the criteria.
- The Reclamation Criteria requires an evaluation of whether “a site has met equivalent land capability.” Given the findings made in the DSA, the aerial photograph review, 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](mailto: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