

Proceeding 442

January 30, 2024

Calgary Head Office
Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4
Canadawww.aer.ca

By email only

Ovintiv Canada
C/O Bennett Jones LLP
Attention: Daron Naffin**Attention: Ed and Harriet Pollon****Re: Ovintiv Canada ULC (Ovintiv) Application 32140532
Participation decision and procedural matters**

I am writing to you on behalf of Parand Meysami (Presiding), Harold Robinson, and Brian Zaitlin, the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) panel of hearing commissioners (the panel) presiding over proceeding 442.

Participation

On January 15, 2024, a request to participate was received from Ed and Harriet Pollon. In their request, the Pollons' stated they are very concerned about the current proposed projects, and also about the many future projects affecting their property and way of life. They have lived there for 30 years and feel their quality of life is in jeopardy. They would like to have all of their health, safety and financial impact concerns addressed at this hearing.

On January 22, 2024, Ovintiv stated it is of the view that the Pollons' concerns are general, and they would not be adversely affected by approval of the Application. However, Ovintiv takes no position regarding the Pollons' participation in a hearing process for Proceeding 442.

Panel's Decision on Participation

The Pollons' residence is approximately 0.5 km from the proposed sour gas pipeline and falls within the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ), and they may be directly and adversely affected by the proposed project. Therefore, the panel permits the Pollons to fully participate in the proceeding.

Fully participating in the proceeding includes filing written submissions according to the schedule to be set by the panel, speaking to those submissions at the hearing, being questioned by the panel and Ovintiv, cross-examining Ovintiv's witnesses, and submitting final argument.

Hearing Issues

Before specifying the issues for the proceeding, the panel would like to hear from the parties regarding the issues of this proceeding. The panel invites the parties to provide their comments about the issues that they would like the panel to consider for the proceeding.

Hearing Format and Location

AER hearings can be conducted in person, electronically, or in writing. The panel is considering holding the hearing in person, and possibly in Grande Prairie, or another convenient location to be determined. Parties are invited to provide their comments about the location and format of the hearing for the panel's consideration.

Formal Information Request Process

The panel is not considering establishing a formal information request process. The parties can exchange information as appropriate. If the parties would like to include a formal information request process, they may provide their reasons for the panel's consideration.

Hearing Dates

The panel expects three days should be sufficient for this hearing but is prepared to hear from the parties if they feel more time is needed.

The panel is proposing the following 3 options for hearing dates:

1. June 24 through June 26, 2024, or
2. September 10 through 12, 2024,
3. October 1 through October 3, 2024

Please provide comments with respect to your preferred hearing dates, noting if you or your witnesses are unavailable during any of the proposed dates.

Conclusion

In summary, the panel requests comments from the parties on each of the following hearing matters:

- issues,
- format and location,
- formal information request process
- date and duration.

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

Please provide your submissions on the above to hearing.services@aer.ca, copying all other parties, by 4:00 pm on **February 9, 2024**. The parties may file a reply to others' submissions before 4:00 pm **February 14, 2024**.

Sincerely,

Tara Wheaton
Hearing Coordinator, Hearing Services

cc: S. Carter and M. Flette, Ovintiv
W. McClary, AER counsel for the panel