

December 10, 2024

By Email Only

Dean Hiltz  
Hiltz Land and Livestock Ltd.  
P.O. Box 364  
Kitscoty, AB, T0B 2P0

**Statement of Concern No. 32276  
Canadian Natural Resources Limited (CNRL)  
Applications No. 32485763**

Dear Mr. Hiltz,

You are receiving this letter because you filed a statement of concern (SOC) about Application No. 32485763. 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) was conducted on August 17, 2023, for the vegetation, landscape and soil. The DSA showed that the vegetation, landscape and soil conditions were comparable on and offsite. The DSA indicated that all parameters of the *2010 Reclamation criteria for Wellsites and Associated Facilities for Cultivated Lands* (Reclamation Criteria) were met.
- A site visit was conducted on July 24, 2024, with AER staff, yourself and a CNRL representative. On August 15, 2024, the AER representative returned and completed an assessment of the vegetation, and no areas of concern were identified. In addition, AER staff confirmed that all parameters were comparable to the controls submitted in the DSA data.
- 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 equivalent land capability and that the filer's concerns have been addressed.

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 approval 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>

Lane Peterson  
Director, Oil & Gas Surface  
Regulatory Applications  
/lm

Attachment (1): Reclamation Certificate

cc: Jessica Gysler, CNRL  
SOC Inbox, AER  
Jeff Foss, AER Reclamation Assessor  
Field Operations East, AER