

May 16, 2024

www.aer.ca

By Email Only

Shirley and Mike Chevallier

**Statements of Concern No. 32471
Canadian Natural Resources Limited (CNRL)
Applications No. 32879032**

Dear Shirley and Mike Chevallier,

You are receiving this letter because you filed a statement of concern (SOC) about Application No. 32879032. 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:

- The concern regarding property value is general in nature and there is insufficient information to show how you may be directly and adversely affected by the application.
- The AER acknowledges your concerns regarding impacts to non saline aquifers. To ensure that non saline groundwater is protected, CNRL is required to comply with AER *Directive 008: Surface Casing Depth Requirement* and AER *Directive 009: Casing Cementing Directive Minimum Requirements*, which require surface casings be set and cemented to specific depths intended to protect the deepest aquifer.
- With respect to concerns regarding excessive flaring, CNRL must comply with AER *Directive 060: Upstream Petroleum Industry Flaring, Incinerating, and Venting* and the *Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives and Guidelines* which is intended to provide protection of the environment and human health.
- The AER acknowledges your concerns regarding noise. Noise associated with drilling will be temporary in nature. During operation, the requirements of *Directive 038: Noise Control (D038)* must be met. It can be noted that D038 requires that the cumulative noise levels do not exceed the

permissible sound level and the operator is required to consider existing infrastructure in their planning.

- Concerns related to flaring or noise, which are operational in nature, may be reported by contacting the AER Northwest Field Center or the Energy and Environmental Emergency 24-Hour Response Line 1-800-222-6514.

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 licences and this is your notice of that decision. Copies of the licences are 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 licences 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* >

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

Attachments (8): Licences

cc: Ryan Hourd, Canadian Natural Resources Limited
SOC Inbox, AER
Chantelle Warriner, AER
Field Operations Northwest, AER