



# TMP AER Update on Imperial Kearsy: January 4 – 11, 2024

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone is staying warm in this frigid weather.

Please find the latest information regarding our continued management of Imperial Kearsy under the terms of the environmental protection order.

I also wanted to provide you with some details on a notification that we sent out earlier this week.

On January 5, Imperial notified the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) about an incident outside the EPO area at Kearsy. During a re-assessment of the site, it was noticed that a previously identified bear den had been unintentionally bulldozed over. The bear was unharmed, and no other wildlife were affected. A notice of noncompliance was issued to IOL for encroaching on the 100-meter buffer.

AER inspectors visited the site on January 6 to validate the incident details. Subsequently, Imperial confirmed the bear had established a new den and required setbacks around the new den were in place. We continue to monitor to ensure compliance.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Fiona

## AER Highlights

- NODA, WETA, DP4, and WB3 areas were inspected by the AER on January 10, 2024
  - Next planned site inspection is January 17
- AER SMEs are currently reviewing the following documents:
  - Groundwater Delineation – plan and data for work completed to date under review
  - Update to the Source Control and Containment Plan
  - Conceptual Site Model Interim Report

### North Overburden Disposal Area (NODA)

- No additional information this week

### West External Tailings Area (WETA)

- Design work is in progress to add a small secondary containment berm to the lowest point of the feature as an additional safeguard for spring freshet
- Improvements to the water level sensors are in progress

### Drainage Pond 4 (DP4)

- One Gabion basket repair to be completed; contractor engaged for availability and waiting on weather window to complete the work
  - Gabion baskets are wire meshed baskets filled with rocks to control erosion

### Water Body 3 (WB3)

- Maintenance schedule and operating guide for the wellpoint system drafts completed
- Weekly system maintenance cycle is now completed

### 2023 Winter Drilling Programs

- There are 244 locations planned as part of the EPO winter drilling scope
- 55 of the planned 213 EPO monitoring wells have been completed, and 1 of 31 planned External Tailings Area SIS Seepage Interception System pumping wells have been completed
  - 38 of the 55 monitoring wells have been developed and sampled
- Current and forecasted upcoming cold weather should help with construction and allow additional access to areas requiring freeze-in in the coming weeks
- Nine rigs are on site and work is progressing
- Wildlife sweeps have been re-initiated for new drilling locations
- EPO-related drilling and water sampling started again on December 28, 2023

### Fish and Wildlife

- Weekly inspections of fenced wildlife areas are ongoing
- Fish and Wildlife Management Information System (FWMIS) forms have been generated and submitted to AEPA at the end of the year (Dec. 31) as per the wildlife research and collection license
- An active American Pine Marten (*Martes americana*) den was identified on December 26, 2023, while performing a weekly inspection for wildlife at water sampling site WETA-SEEP-02
  - To-date, there are no indications of adverse affects to the marten or the den
  - A flagging tape barrier was placed across the trail 75 metres south of the den with a tag
  - Imperial will continue to monitor the area while sampling continues
- The sampling location WETA-SEEP-02 has flowing water with a frozen surface layer. An ice auger has been proposed to be used to sample water at this location.