



AER Update on Imperial Kears: January 17 – 25, 2024

Hello everyone,

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

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

AER Highlights

- NODA, WETA, DP4 and WB3 areas were inspected by the AER on January 24
- The next inspection is for January 30 and Feb 2
- AER SMEs are currently reviewing the following documents:
 - Update to the Source Control and Containment Plan
 - Conceptual Site Model Interim Report

North Overburden Disposal Area (NODA)

- Pumping is down for maintenance and vacuum trucks are currently being used to empty sumps during maintenance period
- Design work is in progress to add two secondary containment berms to the lowest point of the feature as an additional safeguard

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; the contractor has been engaged and is waiting on a window in the weather 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
- Over the past week, parts of the pumping system were down at various times due to extreme cold weather
 - All systems are now fully operational as temperatures have warmed
 - No environmental impacts as at least one system was operational during the extreme cold weather

2023 Winter Drilling Programs

- There are currently 244 locations planned as part of the EPO winter drilling scope

- To date, 64 of the planned 213 EPO monitoring wells have been completed, and 3 of 31 planned External Tailings Area (ETA-SIS Seepage Interception System pumping wells) have been completed
- 42 monitoring wells have been developed and sampled
- Wildlife sweeps have been re-initiated at the new drilling locations
- Hydraulic conductivity tests have been completed on 34 wells

Fish and Wildlife

- Weekly inspections of fenced wildlife areas are ongoing

Monitoring & Sampling

- Seep locations checks are ongoing
- For safety reasons, Imperial limited the collection of weekly samples at all sampling locations over the past two weeks due to the extreme cold.
- With temperatures since moderated, full weekly sampling has since resumed, and sampling results will be reported to the AER