



Kearl EPO Update #20 – June 28, 2023

Imperial is committed to complying with an environmental protection order that was issued by the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) related to industrial wastewater at our Kearl oil sands operating site. We regret these incidents and are making every effort to learn from it and apply preventative measures.

Imperial will provide regular updates to communities and potentially affected stakeholders. Updates will be posted to Imperial's website weekly and notifications will be sent via e-mail.

There are two separate incidents included in the order issued on Feb. 6. We are working with the regulator on next steps for both.

Imperial completes construction on seep mitigation at Kearl site

- Construction completed at off-lease locations, monitoring and assessment phase underway
- Water sampling data stable, no indication of adverse impacts to the Firebag River or Waterbody 3
- No indication of adverse impacts to local wildlife or fish populations, expanded monitoring continues
- Enhanced notification protocols with communities, supporting independent testing

Imperial today provided an update on work underway at its Kearl oil sands facility to address four areas of shallow seepage of industrial wastewater from its operating lease area.

Construction work is now finished on key mitigation efforts, which includes expanding the existing seepage interception system with additional drainage structures, pumping wells and vacuum systems. Additional monitoring and assessment work will occur in the coming months. This will include additional delineation work in the area to determine if any further mitigations are required. Enhanced water and wildlife monitoring also continues in the area and fencing around infrastructure has been installed to prevent access. To date, there is no indication of adverse impacts to wildlife or fish populations in nearby river systems, or risks to drinking water for local communities.

“Now that construction is complete and systems are fully operating, our focus is on continuous monitoring and gathering additional data to ensure these mitigation measures are working as intended,” said Simon Younger, senior vice-president of upstream at Imperial.

“As the expanded system has more run time and we assess the information, we’ll make adjustments as needed.”

Imperial is also supporting independent testing and site tours for local Indigenous communities and working to provide opportunities for participation in environmental monitoring activities that take place over the summer. Indigenous communities are also conducting independent technical reviews of the company’s mitigation and monitoring plans. Community notification protocols have also been updated to ensure communities are informed early and through multiple channels.

“We recognize we still have work to do to rebuild trust with communities and will continue to provide regular updates to share information and hear feedback,” said Younger.

The company also continues to provide information to regulatory officials from the Alberta Energy Regulator and government departments and has been hosting regular site tours by officials.

Additional information

We have shared a factsheet about Imperial's response at Kearl on our website: [Getting the facts - Imperial response at Kearl \(imperialoil.ca\)](#)

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