



NWT OFFICE OF THE REGULATOR OF OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS

Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations

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Aaron V. Smith
Senior Vice President, Development and Operations
Obsidian Energy Ltd.
Suite 200, Penn West Plaza
207 – 9 AVE SW
CALGARY AB T2P 1K3

November 24, 2020

Dear Aaron Smith:

**Information Request No. 1: Application to Abandon
the Fort Liard K-32 Well (ACW-2019-006-OBS-K-32-WID1860)**

On January 31, 2020, the Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations (OROGO) received an updated well abandonment program from Obsidian Energy Ltd. (Obsidian) for the Fort Liard K-32 well.

OROGO has reviewed the information provided by Obsidian and requires additional information in order to complete its review of Obsidian's application to abandon the Fort Liard K-32 well, as set out in the attached Information Request No. 1.

Please send your written responses and any associated correspondence to Peter Lennie-Misgeld at oro.go@gov.nt.ca or through OROGO's secure file transfer site on or before 4:00 p.m. on December 1, 2020. If you are unable to respond within this timeframe or have any questions, please contact OROGO at (867) 767-9097 or by email at oro.go@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,

Pauline de Jong
Regulator

Encl. Information Request No. 1

c. regulatory@obsidianenergy.com

Obsidian Energy Ltd.

Application for an Authorization to Alter the Condition of a Well - Fort Liard K-32

ACW-2019-007-OBS-K-32-WID1860

Information Request #1

1.1 Well Abandonment

PREAMBLE: On January 31, 2020, Obsidian Energy Ltd. (Obsidian) submitted an updated Well Abandonment Program for the Fort Liard K-32 (WID1860) well. Section 6 of the *Well Suspension and Abandonment Guidelines and Interpretation Notes* (Guidelines) requires that the wellbore must be filled with non-saline water at the time of abandonment. Wellbore fluids used in suspended wells typically include corrosion-inhibiting fluids to protect the casing and non-freezing liquid within the permafrost zone. While the Well Abandonment Program (step 7) proposes to sample and analyze the water in the wellbore, the water sampling and analysis procedures outlined do not meet the requirement for the entire wellbore to be circulated over to non-saline water.

REQUEST: To ensure compliance with section 6 of the Guidelines, Obsidian is required to submit an updated Well Abandonment Program with procedural steps that clearly demonstrate that the entire wellbore will be circulated over to non-saline water prior to abandonment.