



NWT OFFICE OF THE REGULATOR OF OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS

Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations

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Sherri Evers  
Vice President  
Imperial Oil Limited  
505 QUARRY PARK BLVD  
CALGARY AB T2C 5N1

January 25, 2023

Dear Sherri Evers:

**Decision: Variation 2 to ACW-2021-IMP-B-48-WID0448**

On January 23, 2023, the Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations (OROGO) received an application from Imperial Oil Limited (Imperial) to vary ACW-2021-IMP-B-48-WID0448 variation 1 for the abandonment of the Jean Marie B-48 well (WID0448). Imperial is requesting the removal of Step 29, open hole logging, from the approved wellbore abandonment program, as no gas or wellbore pressure has been observed after the removal of the first two plugs in the wellbore.

The Regulator, designated under section 121 of the *Oil and Gas Operations Act* (OGOA), may issue an Operations Authorization under section 10(1) of that act, subject to any Well Approvals that the Regulator may require under section 10(4) of OGOA. The Regulator may vary the terms of an Operations Authorization under section 10(6) of OGOA, including the terms of a Well Approval. On August 2, 2020, the Commissioner in Executive Council designated me as the Regulator under section 121 of OGOA.

I have reviewed Imperial's request for a variation and find that it is premature to remove Step 29 from the wellbore abandonment program, as the last plug in the wellbore has not been removed and gas may be present below that plug. Therefore, Imperial's application for a variation is denied.

Sincerely,

Pauline de Jong  
Regulator

- c. Esther Choi, Imperial  
Carsten Elsborg, Imperial