



Pauline de Jong  
Regulator  
Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations  
PO Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9

August 30, 2023

Dear Pauline de Jong:

**Re: Abandonment Extension Request, South Pointed Mountain L-68 Well (ACW-2021-PPR-L-68-WID1207) – Prairie Provident Resources**

Prairie Provident Resources (PPR) is unable to complete the full abandonment of the L-68 well during the current 2023 timeframe. As mentioned in previous communications the unexpected reservoir pressure encountered during abandonment operations in August of 2023 required the use of Coiled Tubing to perform controlled well operations. This change in scope along with the extensive Non-Productive Time (NPT) has resulted in PPR spending to the limit of the 2023 AFE (Authority for Expenditure) with significant work still to be performed. Combined with the additional factors of workers fatigue, executional risk and weather-related risk, attributed to late season work, PPR will not be able to finish the planned Abandonment safely and effectively this year.

The well abandonment operations, completed to date, were successful in remediating the dangerously high wellbore pressure and abandoning the open perforations, leaving the wellbore in a benign state. Ceasing operations at this point does not pose a risk to people, equipment, or the environment.

PPR is committed to safely completing this abandonment, from Step 8 to the completion of the previously approved abandonment program, during the Summer of 2024 (see previously approved abandonment program). PPR is seeking an abandonment extension request until September 30, 2024.

PPR would also like to confirm no extension of OA OA-2021-001-PPR will be required to continue to abandonment work in the summer season of 2024. From our records OA OA-2021-001-PPR expires on November 30, 2024.

Additional technical documentation is attached in the Appendix to support this extension request.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Rawlyk", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

**Ryan Rawlyk, P.Eng.**  
Chief Operating Officer  
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Pauline de Jong  
Regulator  
Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations  
PO Box 1320, Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9

August 28, 2023

Dear Pauline de Jong:

**Re: Information Update, South Pointed Mountain L-68 Well Abandonment (ACW-2021-PPR-L-68-WID1207) – Prairie Provident Resources**

Prairie Provident Resources (PPR) is writing to update you on the current status of our abandonment at our North West Territories location L-68-60-20-123-45.

**Well Recap:**

	Days	Cost
Original Plan	24	\$3.3 MM
Current Days	32	\$2.9 MM
NPT	14	\$325 M
Scope Change	21	\$1.3 MM

**NPT (Non Productive Time)**

- 6 days lost to weather and access conditions that were not passable.
- 8 days lost waiting on trucking permit from Government of NWT.

**Required Scope Changes**

- Required a coiled tubing cleanout of wellbore at the start of operations due to an unexpected hydrate
- Coiled tubing operations were needed to safely remove the WR Plug and cement off the 114.3 mm frac string and formations to isolate pressure in the wellbore.
  - Performed five coiled tubing runs under pressure of 21,000 kPa totaling ~40,000 m
  - Successfully set and cemented a retainer under pressure.
  - Performed a cement retainer squeeze as per approved program and successfully abandoned all three open sets of perforations.
    - Brought cement top to 3250 mKB inside the 114.3 mm frac string, which is 65 m higher than required by regulations.
    - Cement squeeze performed under high pressure high temperature (HPHT) conditions through coiled tubing which is exceptionally challenging operationally.

## Challenges

PPR has experienced numerous challenges since the start of its operations in July. The geographic location of the wellbore is extremely remote and requires a barge to access, making the operation similar to an offshore environment.

Additional challenges include:

- Contracting competent service providers to perform work in this remote area
- Weather significantly influences the access road to L-68 which is highly affected to rain making it inaccessible
- Permitting challenges and delays for large heavy loads have significantly affected the timelines for a budgeted and successfully executed abandonment
- Executional complexity of the wellbore in a HPHT environment

PPR has endured all of these challenges during the recent abandonment operations. The wellbore had been static for almost 12 years and had a hydrate near surface which created a critically dangerous situation. PPR safely and successfully remediated this only to find out that the bridge plug above the perforations was leaking and exposed the entire well bore to a reservoir pressure of ~52 MPa. Taking safe control and successfully cementing off the lower portion of the wellbore was extremely challenging.

## Risks

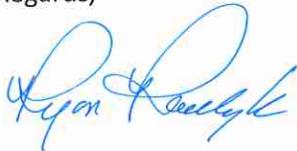
There were multiple risks involved with this operation, but chiefly the challenge was isolating the upper portion of the wellbore from the reservoir pressure below. Not many wellbores in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin are exposed to a reservoir pressure of this magnitude, so gaining control and ultimately safely abandoning this was a huge success.

## Path Forward

PPR is planning to suspend operations and demobilize equipment immediately until the Summer of 2024. With the wellbore now having zero pressure, there is no risk to the surrounding people, environment and equipment. After a brief pause to assess the next steps, the plan in 2024 will be to carry on with the remaining abandonment operations and remediate the SCVF (Step 8 in the approved program). Attached is the current wellbore schematic.

PPR is open to having a meeting to discuss the contents of this letter further at your convenience.

Regards,



Ryan Rawlyk, P. Eng.  
COO

