



NWT OFFICE OF THE REGULATOR OF OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS

Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations

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Jonathon Michel
Director, Aurora Campus
Aurora College
PO BOX 1008
INUVIK NT X0E 0T0

May 17, 2023

Dear Jonathon Michel:

**Information Request No. 3:
Aurora Training Well Abandonment (ACW-2023-AC-G-04-WID1915)**

On February 14, 2023, the Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations (OROGO) received a complete well approval application from Aurora College for the abandonment of the Aurora Training Well G-04 (WID1915) in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. OROGO also received Aurora College's response to Information Request No. 1 on March 6, 2023, and Information Request No. 2 on May 1, 2023.

OROGO has reviewed the information provided by Aurora College and requires additional information to complete its review of Aurora College's OA application, as set out in the attached Information Request No. 3.

Please send your written responses and any associated correspondence to OROGO at orogo@gov.nt.ca or through OROGO's secure file transfer site, on or before 4:00 pm on May 24, 2023. If you are unable to respond within this timeframe or have any questions, please contact OROGO at 867-767-9097 or by email at orogo@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,

Pauline de Jong
Regulator

Encl. Information Request No. 3

c Lorne Hammer, Canadian Petroleum Engineering Inc.
Ron McCosh, Canada Petroleum Engineering Inc.
Glenda Vardy Dell, President, Aurora College

Information Request No. 3
Auroral Training Well G-04 Abandonment
ACW-2023-AC-G-04-WID1915

3.1 Type, Class, and Rating of Equipment

Preamble:

Information Request 2.2 requested an updated Abandonment Program containing contingency steps for casing repair and remedial cementing, including the use of appropriate well control equipment. A description of the well servicing and well control equipment to be used is also required under section 6.1 of the *Application Guidelines and Interpretation Notes – Well Suspensions and Abandonments*.

The updated Abandonment Program submitted by Aurora College on May 1, 2023, includes contingency steps but does not provide confirmation of the type, class, and rating of well servicing and well control equipment to be used during the operation.

Request:

Please submit an updated Abandonment Program that describes the type, class, and rating of well servicing and well control equipment to be used during the operation.

3.2 Cementing During Abandonment

Preamble:

Section 6A of the *Well Suspension and Abandonment Guidelines and Interpretation Notes* states that:

- Level II wells require 15 meters of cement above each retainer or bridge plug.
- Cement plugs must be circulated in place.

The contingency steps included in the updated Abandonment Program submitted by Aurora College on May 1, 2023, do not meet these requirements. Step 8 proposes to dump-bail cement, rather than circulating it in place. Steps 8 and 9 refer to capping retainers with at least 8 meters of cement. Step 15 refers to capping a bridge plug with at least 10 meters of cement.

Request:

Please submit an updated Abandonment Program that meets the requirements of section 6A of the *Well Suspension and Abandonment Guidelines and Interpretation Notes* for cementing during abandonment.