



NWT OFFICE OF THE REGULATOR OF OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS

Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations

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John Hawkins
Director, Asset Management
MGM Energy
SUITE 4700, 888 – 3 ST SW
CALGARY AB T2P 5C5

February 11, 2025

Dear John Hawkins:

**Information Request No. 12:
Request for Extension to Abandonment Deadline (OA-2019-002-MGM)**

On February 7, 2025, MGM Energy (MGM) applied to the Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations (OROGO) for a variation to Operations Authorization OA-2019-002-MGM to extend the abandonment deadline for the following wells:

- Nogha C-49 (WID1934)
- Nogha M-17 (WID1970)
- Nogha B-23 (WID1998)
- West Nogha K-14 (WID2006)

The abandonment deadline for these wells is March 31, 2025. MGM is requesting an extension to March 31, 2026.

OROGO requires additional information from MGM, as set out in the attached Information Request No. 12.

Please send your written responses and any associated correspondence to OROGO on or before 4:00 p.m. on February 25, 2025, by email at oroogo@gov.nt.ca or through OROGO's secure file transfer site.

If you are unable to respond within this timeframe or have any questions, please contact OROGO at 867-767-9097 or by email at oroogo@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,



Pauline de Jong
Regulator

MGM Energy
OA-2019-002-MGM
Information Request No. 12

12.1 Potential Impacts on Safety and Environment

Preamble:

In its letter of February 7, 2025, MGM states that an extension to the abandonment deadline is required "... to ensure the work can be conducted safely and with minimal environmental impact." MGM provides reasons for its request relating to issues with:

- The Joint Venture agreement to build road access from Colville Lake to the well sites.
- The load capacity of the Makenzie Valley winter road to Colville Lake, constructed and maintained by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

MGM does not describe the potential safety or environmental impacts of completing the abandonment operations as planned and in compliance with the deadline established by the Regulator.

Request:

Please provide a detailed description of:

- The potential safety impacts associated with completing the abandonment operations by March 31, 2025.
- The potential environmental impacts associated with completing the abandonment operations by March 31, 2025.

12.2 Status of Service Rigs

Preamble:

During a pre-season meeting on December 16, 2024, MGM indicated it would be using two service rigs to complete the well abandonments under OA-2019-002-MGM: one rig from Norman Wells and one rig from outside the Northwest Territories. MGM indicated two service rigs were required to complete the six well abandonments by March 31, 2025.

On February 4, 2025, during calls with the Chief Safety/Conservation Officer, MGM stated only one rig would be in use and only the Lac Maunoir C-34 (WID1995) and Lac Maunoir E-35 (WID2021) wells would be abandoned before the deadline of March 31, 2025.

Paramount was advised at that time to submit an extension request for the abandonment of the remaining wells for consideration by the Regulator. MGM submitted its extension request on February 7, 2025.

In its letter of February 7, 2025, MGM does not discuss the status or location of the service rigs required to complete the abandonment operations by March 31, 2025.

Request:

Please provide an explanation of MGM's decision to proceed with only one service rig, including:

- When this decision was made.
- How MGM intended to complete the well abandonment operations as planned and approved with only one service rig.

Please provide the status and location of the remaining service rig required to complete the abandonment operations by March 31, 2025, and describe any impact on MGM's ability to complete operations as planned.