

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

November 24, 2021

Dear Sherri Evers:

**Decision: Application for an Operations
Authorization, Abandonment of the Jean Marie B-48 Well (OA-2021-004-IMP)**

On July 29, 2021, the Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations (OROGO) received a complete application for an Operations Authorization (OA) from Imperial Oil Limited (Imperial) for the abandonment of the Jean Marie B-48 well (WID 0448).

Imperial also filed additional information with OROGO in response to the following Information Requests:

Information Request No. 1 – received from Imperial on August 30, 2021; and
Information Request No. 2 – received from Imperial on October 4, 2021.

The Regulator, designated under section 121 of the *Oil and Gas Operations Act* (OGOA), may issue an Operations Authorization under section 10(1)(b) of that act. On August 2, 2020, the Commissioner in Executive Council designated me as the Regulator under section 121 of OGOA.

The Regulator, or its delegate, must fulfill its obligations as a regulatory authority under the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA). It must also determine the adequacy of Aboriginal consultation, where a decision has the potential to adversely impact an asserted or existing Aboriginal right.

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I make the following findings with respect to Imperial's application for an Operations Authorization:

1. Imperial's application and supplemental information submissions satisfy the application requirements of OGOA and the *Oil and Gas Drilling and Production Regulations* in relation to the proposed activities. I am persuaded that Imperial intends to conduct the proposed activities in a manner consistent with the purposes set out in OGOA.
2. Preliminary Screening – Imperial applied to the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB) for for Land Use Permit (LUP) MV2021X0019 and Water Licence (WL) MV2021L1-0009 to abandon the Jean Marie B-48 Well. The MVLWB conducted a preliminary screening of the applications and issued the LUP and WL on November 12, 2021. I have determined that the preliminary screening of LUP MV2021X0019 and WL MV2021L1-0009 conducted by the MVLWB meets my obligations as a regulatory authority under the MVRMA and I have adopted the preliminary screening. I have notified the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board of this determination.
3. Land Use Plan Conformity – The proposed activities take place near the community of Jean Marie River in the Dehcho region of the NWT. They do not fall within the boundaries of a Land Use Plan approved under the MVRMA. Therefore, there is no requirement to assess land use plan conformity under the MVRMA.
4. Indigenous and community consultation – Imperial has conducted consultation and engagement activities with the Jean Marie River First Nation and Dehcho First Nations. The proposed abandonment program is intended to reduce impact on existing or asserted Aboriginal rights by abandoning the B-48 well. Taking into account the nature and scale of the activity and the concerns raised, consultation undertaken by Imperial on the activities proposed under OA-2021-004-IMP is adequate.
5. Proof of Financial Responsibility – Imperial has provided satisfactory proof of financial responsibility in accordance with sections 13 and 64(1) of OGOA. This proof of financial responsibility must remain in force for the duration of the activity.

6. Safety – I have consulted with the Chief Safety Officer, in accordance with section 12 of OGOA, and am satisfied with the safety of the proposed activities.

Imperial's application is approved, subject to the terms contained in the attached Operations Authorization.

Imperial must post a copy of the attached Operations Authorization in a clearly visible location at the work site.

Sincerely,



Pauline de Jong
Regulator

Encl. Operations Authorization OA-2021-004-IMP

c. Esther Choi, Project Manager, Imperial

OPERATIONS AUTHORIZATION

Subject to the terms listed below, authorization is granted under Section 10 of the *Oil and Gas Operations Act* and Part 2 of the *Oil and Gas Drilling and Production Regulations* to

Company Name	Company Operating Licence #
Imperial Oil Limited	NWT-OL-2014-011
Responsible Officer and Title	
Sherri Evers, Vice President	


to proceed with the works and activities described in its July 29, 2021 application for

Scope of Work	Settlement Area or Region
Maintenance, monitoring, inspection and abandonment of the Jean Marie B-48 well.	Dehcho

This authorization may be varied by the Regulator or its delegate under Section 10 of the *Oil and Gas Operations Act*.

This authorization expires on November 30, 2024.

Dated at Yellowknife, Northwest Territories on November 24, 2021.

Name of Regulator / Delegate	Signature of Regulator / Delegate
Ms. Pauline de Jong	
Title	
Regulator	

ADDITIONAL TERMS

1. Imperial Oil Ltd. shall cause the approved work and activities to be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Oil and Gas Operations Act* and the *Oil and Gas Drilling and Production Regulations*, as well as any other acts or legislation as may apply.
2. Imperial Oil Ltd. shall cause the approved work and activities to be conducted in accordance with any guidelines and/or interpretation notes issued by the Regulator under section 18 of the *Oil and Gas Operations Act*.
3. Imperial Oil Ltd. shall cause the approved work and activities to be conducted in accordance with the specifications, standards and other information referred to in its application and subsequent submissions.
4. Imperial Oil Ltd. shall request approval from the Regulator prior to undertaking any change to or deviation from the authorized work or activities, including but not limited to key personnel, the safety plan, the environmental protection plan and contingency plans.
5. Imperial Oil Ltd. shall submit to OROGO an updated operator contact list for this program prior to any work or activity.
6. Imperial Oil Ltd. shall provide all staff and contractors for this program with its Emergency Response Plan and the OROGO 24-hour Incident Reporting phone number (867-445-8551) prior to commencing any work or activity.
7. Imperial Oil Ltd. shall submit to OROGO an updated Safety and Emergency Response Plan at least sixty (60) days prior to the start of any 24 hour operations schedule that describes potential hazards, risk evaluations and safety measures to avoid, prevent, reduce and manage safety risks associated with a 24 hour operations work schedule.
8. Imperial Oil Ltd. shall submit consolidated Safety, Environmental Protection and Contingency Plans 30 days prior to commencement of operations. These plans should include the respective concordance tables, updated information and finalized organizational chart with key personnel names and contact information.
9. Pursuant to section 67 of the *Oil and Gas Drilling and Production Regulations*, Imperial Oil Ltd. is approved to conduct controlled venting and flaring as part of well kill operations. Venting is approved utilizing separator packages and/or flare stacks to a maximum daily flow rate of 2.1 E³m³/day for a maximum daily duration of 4.0 hours per day and flaring is approved utilizing separator packages and/or flare stacks to a maximum daily flow rate of 2.1 E³m³/day and maximum daily duration of 4.0 hours per day. Imperial Oil Ltd. shall include the volume and composition of any amount of flared and/or vented gas in its daily report to OROGO. Flaring and/or venting of any volume, daily volume rate and/or duration greater than the approved maximum daily flow shall be reported to OROGO as an incident under section 75 of the *Oil and Gas Drilling and Production Regulations*.