

Calgary Head Office Suite 1000, 250 – 5 Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 0R4 Canada

Infrastructure Applications No. 1778559, 1778560, 1779118, 1779141, 1779276, 1779348, 1779349 and 1779419 Oil Sands Exploration Applications No. 130004 and 130073 Teck Resources Limited

VIA EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

July 18, 2014

Jenny Biem Woodward & Co. Lawyers LLP 844 Courtney Street, 2nd Floor Victoria, BC V8W 1C4

E-mail: jenny@woodwardandcompany.com

Dear Ms. Biem:

Further to the attached Notice of Decision, the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has reviewed the Applications by Teck Resources Limited (Teck), applicable requirements, statement of concern from Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN), and other submissions or information related to the Applications in its decision to issue the applied-for licences/approvals without holding a hearing.

In making its decision, the AER had regard for the following:

- The Applications are within the traditional lands identified by the ACFN where its members conduct traditional activities. The distance from the project to ACFN's reserve lands is about 62 km;
- The Applications relate to a winter drilling program which is temporary, short term, and has low impacts. The construction of the program involves minimal surface disturbance techniques on frozen ground;
- Teck states that it has a robust Wildlife and Watercourse Mitigation Plan. Teck understands that its work may affect wildlife, including the Ronald Lake Bison Herd, and has mitigation measures proposed to ensure effects at the populationscale for all species are negligible;
- Teck states that it has flexibility in terms of timing for field activities, and requests that ACFN provide information about timing and location of ACFN harvesting activities so that additional mitigation measures can be created;
- It appears that the issues raised in the statements of concern have been largely addressed; and

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• MCFN concerns have been adequately dealt with or addressed through the hearing that resulted in Decision 2013 ABAER 017 which MCFN participated in and involved similar applications in and around the same geographical region.

If you have any questions regarding the Applications please contact Janet Stewardson at 403-355-4562 or email janet.stewardson@aer.ca.

Yours truly,

Cathy Webb Director Infrastructure Authorizations (Oil & Gas)

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Shelley Youens Director Mining Authorizations

Encl.

cc: Sheila Risbud, Teck Resources Limited, <u>sheila.risbud@teck.com</u> AER Bonnyville Field Centre, <u>Bonnyville.FieldCentre@aer.ca</u> Coreen Lawrence, AER ADR, <u>coreen.lawrence@aer.ca</u> Rachel Ruddell, Infrastructure Authorizations, <u>rachel.ruddell@aer.ca</u> Ashley Blackwood, Mining Authorizations, <u>ashley.blackwood@aer.ca</u> Dean Campbell, Authorizations Branch, <u>dean.campbell@aer.ca</u> inquiries 1-855-297-8311 24-hour emergency 1-800-222-6514