



## **Kearl EPO Update #24 – July 26, 2023**

*Imperial is committed to complying with an environmental protection order that was issued by the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) related to industrial wastewater at our Kearl oil sands operating site. We regret these incidents and are making every effort to learn from it and apply preventative measures.*

*Imperial will provide regular updates to communities and potentially affected stakeholders. Updates will be posted to Imperial's website weekly and notifications will be sent via e-mail.*

*There are two separate incidents included in the order issued on Feb. 6. We are working with the regulator on next steps for both.*

### **Imperial continues monitoring and assessment at Kearl site**

Imperial today provided an update on work underway at its Kearl oil sands facility to address four areas of shallow seepage of industrial wastewater from its operating lease area.

Current status:

- Construction completed at off-lease locations, monitoring and assessment phase underway
- Water sampling data stable, no indication of adverse impacts to the Firebag River or Waterbody 3
- No indication of adverse impacts to local wildlife or fish populations, expanded monitoring continues
- Enhanced notification protocols with communities, supporting independent testing

As of June 28, construction work was completed on key mitigation efforts, which included expanding the existing seepage interception system with additional drainage structures, pumping wells and vacuum systems. Additional monitoring and assessment work will occur in the coming months. This will include additional delineation work in the area to determine if any further mitigations are required.

Enhanced water and wildlife monitoring continues in the area and fencing around infrastructure has been installed to prevent access. To date, there is no indication of adverse impacts to wildlife or fish populations in nearby river systems, or risks to drinking water for local communities.

Over the past week, ongoing monitoring detected two potential issues, which have been reported to regulators. Communities have also been notified.

- One deceased wood frog was found at the seep location near Waterbody 3. Initial assessment determined there was a gap in fencing to keep out amphibians, further investigation is underway. Fencing has been fixed and inspected. The frog was collected for additional testing.
- During regular water sampling, two deceased minnows were found in Waterbody 3. The fish have been collected for additional testing.

Imperial is also supporting independent testing and site tours for local Indigenous communities and working to provide opportunities for participation in environmental monitoring activities that take place over the summer. Indigenous communities are also conducting independent technical reviews of the company's mitigation and monitoring plans. Community notification protocols have also been updated to ensure communities are informed early and through multiple channels.

The company also continues to provide information to regulatory officials from the Alberta Energy Regulator and government departments and has been hosting regular site tours by officials.

Information on Imperial's response is posted at [Environmental protection order: Updates on Imperial's actions | Imperial Kearl \(imperialoil.ca\)](#)

**Additional information**

We have shared a factsheet about Imperial's response at Kearl on our website: [Getting the facts - Imperial response at Kearl \(imperialoil.ca\)](#)

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