



Kearl EPO Update #29 – August 30, 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 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.

As part of ongoing monitoring over the past week, Imperial observed an area of intermittently flowing water near a pumping area north of the Kearl lease. The source of the water has not been determined and additional testing is underway. Imperial has notified the regulator and communities.

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.

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. Imperial provides monitoring data/reports to the Alberta Energy Regulator every two weeks. Community updates are provided weekly.

Additional information

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

Questions: kearl.communities@esso.ca