

Northern Region

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February 3, 2009

Ms. Carolina Molina
Regulatory and Environmental Affairs Coordinator
Integrated Oil Division
EnCana FCCL Oil Sands Ltd.
P.O. Box 2850
421 – 7th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 2S5

Dear Ms. Molina:

Further to your letter of January 29, 2009, I wish to advise you that the proposed Christina Lake Thermal Project Phase 1E/1F/1G is a mandatory activity pursuant to Schedule 1(j) of the *Environmental Assessment (Mandatory and Exempted Activities) Regulation*. EnCana is required, pursuant to Section 44(1)(a) of the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA)*, to prepare and submit an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report for this project. The EIA report is to be prepared in accordance with the provisions of Division 1 of Part 2 of the *EPEA*.

In addition, please note that Alberta Environment's section (Part III) of *Alberta's First Nation Consultation Guidelines on Land Management and Resource Development* will apply to this project and, accordingly, you will be required to submit a First Nations Consultation Plan to the department. The full Guidelines can be found on the Alberta Aboriginal Relations' website at http://www.aboriginal.alberta.ca/571.cfm.

If you have any questions about the First Nations consultation process, please contact Donna Hovsepian at (780) 422-7028 or donna.hovsepian@gov.ab.ca.

If you have any questions or require further directions about the Environmental Assessment process please contact Corinne Kristensen at (780) 427-9116 or corinne.kristensen@gov.ab.ca.

At this time I would recommend you contact Shauna Sigurdson (780-495-2236) with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency to identify any potential federal triggers (including those under the *Fisheries Act* and *Navigable Waters Protection Act*) and thus any federal environmental assessment requirements under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

Sincerely,

Chris Powter

Environmental Assessment Team Leader

Northern Region

(Designated Director Under the Act)

Clim Four

cc: T. Abel (ERCB)

S. Sigurdson (CEAA)

K. Singh (AENV)

D. Hovsepian (AENV)

C. Kristensen (AENV)