

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT SECTION 52.1

MINISTERIAL ORDER 219/2020

WHEREAS the Lieutenant Governor in Council made Order in Council 080/2020 under section 52.1(1) of the *Public Health Act* (PHA) on March 17, 2020 declaring a state of public health emergency in Alberta due to pandemic COVID-19 and the significant likelihood of pandemic influenza.

WHEREAS Order in Council 080/2020 has effect for 90 days following March 17, 2020 under section 52.8(1)(a) of the PHA.

WHEREAS section 52.1(3) of the PHA authorizes the Minister of Health/the Minister responsible for an enactment (Minister), to make an order without consultation, to suspend or modify the application or operation of all or part of an enactment, subject to the terms and conditions the Minister prescribes, if the Minister is satisfied that the application or operation of all or part of the enactment is not in the public interest.

WHEREAS I am satisfied that the application or operation of parts of the *Coal Conservation Act*, *Oil and Gas Conservation Act*, and *Oil Sands Conservation Act* are not in the public interest in specific circumstances.

WHEREAS there is hardship in having to comply with certain routine inspection, reporting and suspension requirements pursuant to these enactments, Directives, and terms and conditions of approvals, during this public health emergency.

THEREFORE, I, Sonya Savage, Minister of Energy, pursuant to section 52.1(2) of the *Public Health Act*, do hereby order:

The operation of the *Coal Conservation Act*, *Oil and Gas Conservation Act*, and *Oil Sands Conservation Act* (the Acts) is modified to the extent necessary to give effect to the following:

1. *Coal Conservation Act*

All of the following requirements to report information pursuant to provisions in the Coal Conservation Rules and approvals are suspended:

- (a) Annual reporting required under section 65 (2) (a) and (b) of the Coal Conservation Rules;
- (b) Exploration Reporting requirements under section 40 of the Coal Conservation Rules;
- (c) All plans specified within approval conditions under the Coal Conservation Act except conditions related to geotechnical reporting requirements.

2. *Oil and Gas Conservation Act*

2.1 All of the following requirements to report information pursuant to provisions in the Oil and Gas Conservation Rules, Directives, Approvals, Licences are suspended:

- (a) all deliverability, annual and initial reservoir pressure surveys for resource conservation including enhanced oil recovery, disposal, oil and gas production depletion strategy, including pool delineation required under Directive 040: Pressure and Deliverability Testing Oil and Gas Wells, and Section 11.102 of the Oil and Gas Conservation Rules;
- (b) all annual progress reports and performance presentations for Directive 065 scheme approvals required under Directive 065: Resources Applications for Oil and Gas Reservoirs, Section 2.1.4.1 Reporting Requirements, and section 39 of the Oil and Gas Conservation Act;
- (c) Submission of well logs and summary reports to the AER required under Section 7.2 of Directive 080: Well Logging, and Sections 11.005 and 11.140 of the Oil and Gas Conservation Rules;

2.2 The following requirements under Directive 013 Suspension Requirements for Wells, and under section 3.020 of the Oil and Gas Conservation Rules are suspended:

- (a) For inactive wells that are not part of the Inactive Well Compliance Program
 - 1. initial suspension requirements outlined in *D 013* for all wells considered as low-risk and medium-risk type 6;

2. on-going inspection requirements outlined in *D 013* for all wells considered as low and medium risk;

(b) For inactive wells that are part of the Inactive Well Compliance Program

1. compliance deadline for the final year of the program.

3. *Oil Sands Conservation Act*

All of the following requirements to report information pursuant to provisions in the Oil Sands Conservation Rules and approvals are suspended:

- (a) Annual Mine Plans under Section 30 of the Oil Sands Conservation Rules;
 - (b) Report of Mining operations under Section 31 of the Oil Sands Conservation Rules;
 - (c) Report of operations under Section 58 of the Oil Sands Conservation Rules;
 - (d) Annual Geotechnical Report under Section 32 Oil Sands Conservation Rules;
 - (e) All plans specified within approval conditions under Oil Sands Conservation Act except conditions related to geotechnical reporting requirements.
4. Approval, registration, license and disposition holders shall continue to record and retain complete information relating to any reporting or submission requirements. The records shall be made available to the Alberta Energy Regulator, upon request.
 5. For greater certainty, except as set out in this Order, all required monitoring and reporting shall continue.
 6. For greater certainty, the operation of the Acts is modified to the extent necessary, having due regard for applicable PHA orders, including guidelines issued by the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

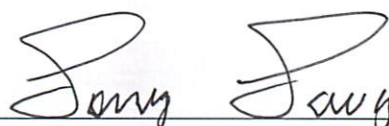
This Order lapses, unless it is sooner continued by an order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council under section 52.811(3) of the PHA, at the earliest of the following:

- (a) August 14, 2020;
- (b) 60 days after Order in Council 080/2020 is terminated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, if Order in Council 080/2020 is terminated before June 15, 2020;

- (c) when this Order is terminated by the Minister under section 52.811(2) of the PHA because the Minister is satisfied that this Order is no longer in the public interest; or

when this Order is terminated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council under section 52.811(1)(c) of the PHA.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta this 6th day of April, 2020.



Sonya Savage
Minister of Energy