

File No. WA: 40-4020-00151636-04
September 09, 2022

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

SENT BY EMAIL ONLY

www.aer.ca

Blair Penner
Director, Mining, Extraction, and Upgrading Approvals
Suncor Energy Inc.
Fort Hills Energy Corporation (FHEC)
150 – 6 Avenue SE
Calgary, AB T2P 3E3

E-mail: bjpenner@suncor.com

McClelland Lake Wetland Complex Operational Plan
Fort Hills Oil Sands Project
Water Act Approval No. 00151636-01-00 (as amended)

Dear Mr. Penner,

The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has reviewed Fort Hills Energy Corporation's (FHEC's) submission of the "McClelland Lake Wetland Complex Operational Plan" (the Operational Plan), submitted December 15, 2021, in accordance with Conditions 3.11, 3.12, 3.13, and 3.14 of *Water Act* (WA) Approval No. 00151636-01-00 (as amended), and Condition 8 of *Oil Sands Conservation Act* Approval 9241I (as amended), requesting authorization for the Operational Plan.

The AER issued a Supplemental Information Request 1 (SIR1) letter on March 21, 2022, and FHEC responded with a memo dated May 31, 2022, entitled "McClelland Lake Wetland Complex 2021 Operational Plan *Water Act* Approval No. 151636-01 Supplemental Request 1 (SIR1)" (the SIR1 Response Letter). The AER has reviewed this response and has no further Supplemental Information Requests.

Based on the information provided by FHEC in the Operational Plan and the SIR1 Response Letter, and the AER's review of the submissions, the AER authorizes the implementation of the Operational Plan as specified in Condition 3.14 of WA Approval 00151636-01-00 (as amended). The AER's authorization is subject to the following conditions:

- As outlined in both the Operational Plan and the SIR1 Response Letter, FHEC has committed to various engagement, operational, monitoring and reporting activities. Authorization of the Operational Plan by the AER signifies that FHEC is required to comply with these commitments;

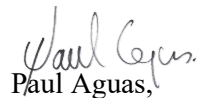
any changes or amendments to the Operational Plan must be submitted in writing to the AER for review and authorization prior to their implementation.

- The SIR1 Response Letter, SIR #18 Response, stated that certain parameters were missing from Table 3.4-2. FHEC is required to provide an updated version of Table 3.4-2, including all the missing parameters in all appropriate rows, to the AER for review; this updated Table is to be referenced in the 2022 Annual Progress Report.
- With regards to Surface Water Hydrology triggers: as discussed in the SIR1 Response Letter, SIR #8 Response, the AER expects the Operational Plan to include triggers that are designed to detect significant departures from the expected performance as quickly as practical. For example, in the case of a major performance failure, some of the Surface Water Hydrology triggers should be capable of detecting deviations within the first one to two years of operations. FHEC is required to assess the performance of the Surface Water Hydrology triggers in Annual Progress Reports and evaluate whether more sensitive triggers should also be included.

FHEC must comply with all WA requirements, the terms and conditions of its approvals, and this authorization. Any contravention of the above conditions authorized by this letter is a contravention of Conditions 3.1 and 3.2 of WA Approval No. 00151636-01-00, as amended, and may result in enforcement action.

If you have any questions, contact Ken Bullis at 780-642-9226 or by e-mail at Ken.Bullis@aer.ca.

Regards,



Paul Aguas,
Manager, Oil Sands Mining East
Regulatory Applications

PA/kb

cc: Jennifer Holm, Suncor
Michael Robinson, Suncor
Ken Bullis, AER