



Farmington Community Working Group Summary Notes

Date: Jan. 15, 2019

In Attendance: Director Len Hiebert Area D, Peace River Regional District
James Gladysz, Technical Leader, Facilities, BC Oil and Gas Commission
Patrick Smook, Director, Compliance & Enforcement, BC Oil and Gas Commission
Maria Reschke, Manager, Stakeholder Relations, Public Working Groups, BCOGC
Laura-Lea Gibson, Community Relations Assistant, Public Working Groups, BCOGC
Toby Handfield, Community Member
Barry Critcher, Community Member
Pat and Jim Strasky, Community Members
Kim and Rod Strasky, Community Members
Corey Quinton, Community Member

**Summary of
Discussion:**

Peace River Regional District (PRRD) Director Hiebert opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and gave a brief agenda review. Maria Reschke introduced James Gladysz Technical Leader, Facilities from Kelowna, and explained to the Farmington Community Working Group (FCWG) he was invited to provide insight on recommendations regarding the issue of lighting and work the BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) is currently doing to put a Lighting Guideline in place.

Maria Reschke provided follow up information on previous questions brought forward by the FCWG regarding flaring limits and the Landowner Liaison Inspector program the Commission has had in the past. She outlined a few resources the Commission has made available to land owners to provide support when discussing concerns with industry: Land Owner Liaisons are available to work through issues, not restricted to but primarily during the consultation and notification stage; Operations Officers are trained in technical aspects to address complaints post permit; a mediation process has recently been added as an option for land owners to resolve issues with industry after a permit has been issued.

Community members reiterated their concerns regarding the Consultation and Notification process and how they would like to see results on concerns and

recommendations they have brought forward. They were assured the Commission's Internal Working Group (IWG) has a meeting scheduled to work on these and an update on action items will be provided to the group.

James Gladysz gave the FCWG a brief summary of how the Commission is currently putting concerns brought forward by the FCWG into the Light Control Guideline presently being drafted by the Commission. It was also explained to the FCWG very few other jurisdictions have guidelines in place regarding lighting.

Concerns and

Recommendations: At the last meeting the FCWG was unable to complete recommendations under lighting. With guidance from James Gladysz and Patrick Smook, they were able to finalize the recommendations below:

Concerns	Recommendations
Lighting not mentioned adequately in C&N.	Provide information on how lighting will be addressed and managed.
How/where lights shine - next door land owners not considered.	- Control of lights on site, set distance. - Keep lights on site, no light trespass.
Lighting affects the breeding and movement of wildlife and livestock.	- Keep lights on site, no trespass. - Shut lights off when no one is on site, include motion lighting. - Adapt lighting for site.
Flashing lights on farm site, bounces off granaries.	- Light dispersion modelling. - Restrict flashing light to where it needs to be seen.
Cumulative effect of lighting.	- Regulation of lights - measurable for lumens and distance off location. - Include all oil and gas activity in the guideline, not just wells and facilities.
Irregular lighting and the effects on crop growth.	May possibly be able to include in study.
Safety Hazard for local traffic when lights impede vision.	Keep lights on site.

Community members expressed concern lighting plans might be grandfathered. James noted this is not a possibility since Section 40 in the Drilling and Production Regulation (DPR) applies to all well and facility operations with no grandfathering clause, nor is there an option for exemption from this particular section (40) in the DPR. This will allow the Commission to ensure compliance when there is excessive light at any time on

a well or facility site. The Light Control Guideline being drafted will be applicable in these situations.

Although visual impact from both flaring and the lights from oil and gas sites is experienced by land owners, the Commission manages and regulates these issues through separate guidance. The following concerns raised regarding flaring will be carried forward to later discussions on flaring/air quality and emissions.

Concerns	Recommendations (to be discussed with air quality and emissions)
• Irregular lighting from flares. • Visual effect of reflection of flares. • Flares can be startling to land owners - fire on land.	• Reduce flaring. • Consider flare stack design. • Modify flare tip design to address glare. • Maintenance of flare stack and equipment.

Next Steps:

The final portion of the meeting was spent discussing and preparing for next month's meeting with industry. Although community members remain hesitant, they agreed to proceed with the meeting. It is important to the group that industry be prepared to talk about changes and improvements already made or still to be made based on the concerns and recommendations they have brought forward.