



Farmington Community Working Group Summary Notes

Date: July 31, 2018

In Attendance: Director Hiebert Area D, Peace River Regional District
Crystal Brown, Electoral Area Manager, Peace River Regional District
Maria Reschke, Manager, Stakeholder Relations, BC Oil and Gas Commission
Alex Ferguson, Consultant
Jim and Pat Strasky, Community Member
Rod and Kim Strasky, Community Member
Barry Critcher, Community Member
Hugh Craig, Community Member
Toby and Clarisse Hanfield, Community Member

Governance

The working group will be composed of the:

- Director Hiebert, Electoral Area D Peace River Regional District (Chair)
- Community members
- Support/input provided from the Ministry, OGC, PRRD and industry as required

The oversight committee will be composed of:

- Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resource
- Paul Jeakins, Commissioner of Oil and Gas Commission (OGC)
- Two Directors from the Peace River Regional District

The working group will be run a little more informal at the beginning so that we adjust and change as we go to best fit the needs of the working group members. This is “YOUR” working group and will be used as the model at which other community working groups will be formed at a later time.

Purpose

The purpose of the working group is to identify issues faced by residents in the community with respect to petroleum resource development operations and develop solutions that will help mitigate the concerns/impacts.

Recommendations from the working group for identified issues will be documented and forwarded to an Oversight Committee. The Oversight Committee will review the recommendations and report back to the working group addressing whether or not a recommendation is actionable.

Commitment

It is recognized that everyone’s time is valuable. As such, all information will be distributed in advance prior to coming to a meeting so that committee members will have time to think about the information in advance and can come prepared with

meaningful ideas. In addition, every effort will be made to maximize efficiency of the process to best accommodate schedules and priorities.

Summary of Discussion

Director Hiebert asked each of the community members to share their expectations of the working group. Some thoughts regarding expectations are:

- Something needs to change so that we can keep living in Farmington.
- We need to know that we are not forgotten.
- Changes need to be made so that legislation and policy are not behind industry.
- To know and understand what is enforceable for the Commission and what is not.
- Expectation of a closed loop. Want written responses back regarding their issues.

The following statements were raised oil and gas activity and what community members are living with as a result of increased oil and gas activity in their area:

- Oil and Gas companies have legislation behind them and they use it to their advantage.
- Their right to oil and gas is greater than our right to quiet enjoyment.
- Farmers and land owners do not understand all of the legislation. The average person does not even understand their own rights or what to do.
- OGC has no respect for the land owners and they do not want to deal with us.
- OGC needs to get away from promoting oil and gas and get back to enforcement.
- OGC should not be in the business of road permits. MOTI will do everything they can to get away from maintaining roads issued through permits by OGC.
- The time it takes to receive information as the result of calling in a complaint.
- Having the same agency issue permits and be responsible for compliance and enforcement.
- The Consultation and Notification process is too onerous for land owners and is not being followed by all oil and gas companies.
- When you do respond back to the consultation and notification process, all you get back is a stock letter saying that the concerns have been addressed.
- A longer period of time is needed for consultation and notification.
- Land owners feel very pressured by the land men and feel the oil and gas activity is forced on them.
- Lack of respect by industry towards land owners and work they are trying to do on their own land.
- The amount of traffic and disregard by industry for the land owners on the roads.
- People are not being heard. Everyone in the community has called OGC and gotten a dead end.

- Oil and Gas producers won't tell you when they are coming to your property. We don't know how many people are coming and going.
- What is the long-term plan for the area? Oil and gas should have to tell you up front.
- We are being forced to provide input with no compensation. The hours we put in is ridiculous. Our time is worth something.
- We have nine companies on our land so in the event of an emergency, we need to figure out which of the nine companies it is and then find their emergency manual.
- If oil and gas have rights to your land, then you can not subdivide without their permission.
- Oil and gas went to my mother while she was in the hospital under distress and forced her to sign papers.
- Someone from the OGC should have to go with the landsman.
- The Surface Rights Board needs to go. If you had a real judge you would get a different outcome. There are only a couple of lawyers that will go up against the Surface Rights Board because there is no time or reason for their decisions.
- The people that phone you have no idea of what the people in the field are doing.
- Noise levels are measured at your front door, but we are out in our fields working.
- The landsman shows up with the big cheque but doesn't tell you what you are in store for over the next 25 years.
- We have no choice. This is forced on us. Subsurface rights are more important than surface rights.
- Oil and gas companies are targeting old people.
- Oil and gas companies are buying up agricultural land flat out so they don't need to deal with the land owner.
- Self-policing industry does not work.
- There is high sulfur in the canola fields.
- There are bottles filled with pee along the road from truck drivers throwing them out the window.
- OGC should limit how much activity is happening in the area at a time.

Next Steps

The following four issues will be used as topics for the starting point at the next meeting:

1. Noise levels
2. Light pollution
3. Emissions and odours
4. Timing of projects and future planning by industry (i.e.: better planning can help mitigate negative impacts)

Next Meeting

August 14, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the Farmington Community Hall.