



Farmington Community Working Group Summary Notes

Date: April 16, 2019

In Attendance:

Director Len Hiebert Area D, Peace River Regional District
Kevin Parsonage, Supervisor, Field Engineering and Technical Investigations, BC Oil and Gas Commission
Devin Scheck, Executive Director, Resource Development & Environment, BC Oil and Gas Commission
Maria Reschke, Manager Stakeholder Relations, Public Working Groups, BC Oil and Gas Commission
Laura-Lea Gibson, Community Relations Assistant, Public Working Groups, BC Oil and Gas Commission
Corey Quinton, Community Member
Kim and Rod Strasky, Community Members
Pat and Jim Strasky, Community Members
Barry Critcher, Community Member
Toby Handfield, Community Member
Hugh Craig, Community Member

Summary of Discussion:

Peace River Regional District (PRRD) Director Hiebert opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Director Hiebert informed the Farmington Community Working Group (FCWG) of an upcoming meeting he and Chair Sperling will have with the BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) to discuss the FCWG and future meetings. Kevin Parsonage and Devin Scheck were also introduced to the FCWG as subject matter experts for the evening's discussion.

Maria Reschke reviewed topics discussed over the past months and provided updates on the Commission's work for each of the topics. She talked about what has been taking place to make extra tools available for land owners and nearby land owners regarding Consultation and Notification (C&N). This includes work currently being done on an FAQ to provide information and resources for land owners during the C&N process. Clarification was given on work Landowner Liaisons are doing to ensure adequate opportunity is provided to land owners and nearby land owners to discuss their concerns. Processes have also been revisited to ensure follow up takes place with industry regarding concerns raised during the C&N timeframe. The Permit Adjudication division has committed, as a courtesy, to email permits to land owners who may be out of country at the time a permit is issued. Land owners carry the responsibility to communicate their concerns to the Commission and indicate they will be away. The Commission does not commit to carrying the responsibility of knowing when all land owners are out of country. Additional discussions will be led by James O'Hanley at the next meeting regarding the Written Submission process and suggestions from the community members on improving the written submission form.

Maria also provided a recap of progress that has been made through the Internal Working Group (IWG) over the past several months, including the updates to the Noise Guidelines and the upcoming Lighting Guideline, which is expected to be rolled out next month. The FCWG was reminded about the Orphan Site Information Session to be held April 24 in Fort St. John. More information will be provided regarding a webinar the Commission will hold in May on emergency management.

Concerns and Recommendations:

The FCWG explored concerns regarding air quality and emissions and with input from Kevin Parsonage, arrived at the following recommendations:

Concerns	Recommendations
Amount of flare stacks in the valley: • Effects on health • Monitoring	• Monitor volume of what is coming out of each location. • Do not allow to exceed standards. • Air monitors in place from third party on active sites. • Consider impacts from cube development. • Develop method for tracking effects if multiple projects in a populated area.
Cumulative effects of residue from multiple sources (flares, smoke, equipment exhaust, calcium on roads) on agricultural industry.	• Create a system to monitor residue on: soil, dugouts, crops.
Black smoke flares: heat, residue left on ground	• Require industry to consider other forms of technology to address temperature effects and smoke from flares.
Health effects: short term and long term	• Commission or provincial government to provide a summary of key findings and relevance from various studies that have been completed or are underway regarding the effect of oil and gas activity on health issues. • Monitor effect of multiple projects in an area both by the Commission and Industry.
Cumulative effects of air pollution • exhaust from equipment • weather inversions • effects of calcium	• Consider air pollution of all industry in an area. • Review how guidelines are set (Ministry of Environment).
Land owners feel uninformed about H ₂ S Emergency Management.	• Provide information on H₂S in the area. • Commission to provide information sessions on H₂S and training on what to do in an emergency. • Enforcement on H₂S coming off trucks.
Land owners do not always know when it is appropriate to call in complaints, e.g. black smoke. Land owners also experience reporting fatigue.	• Commission to provide information to land owners regarding appropriate times to call in complaints: ○ black smoke ○ flaring

Discussion for the last portion of the meeting was regarding Schedule B Site Reclamation Assessments and changes being considered for the delegation agreement between the Commission and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) to improve industry's response time and completion of Schedule Bs. Devin explained site reclamation requirements and what is listed in the Agreement in order to complete a Schedule B. The Commission is working on internal tools to address the list of non-compliant sites by issuing Orders and administrative penalties to companies who have not submitted a Schedule B as required in their permit. Some discussion took place on methods to ensure land owners are satisfied with the reclamation work. It was suggested to have the land owners sign off on the work done, and if there was no sign off this would indicate the land owner is not satisfied with the work, requiring an inspection to be completed.

There was discussion about needing more formal structure around the management of soil and the effects of multiple soil handling. Community members would like to have discussions with the ALC on the size of leases and how the soil is handled before work takes place. They noted someone with an agricultural background should be involved before and after construction to review the Schedule B. The FCWG would like to have a specialist review and inspect soils and would rather the Commission hire an agrologist to complete inspections. The group stated there should be no sign off on a Schedule B until a crop can be grown.

Next Steps: It was decided it would be best to plan for an early date in June to invite Chris Pasztor from the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources since not all community members would be available to attend a meeting in May.

Next Meeting: June 11th