



**Orphan Well
Association**

Vermilion Well Re-Entry & Repair Project Community Update #4

October 7, 2014

Work on the Orphan Well Association's (OWA) Re-entry and Repair project is drawing to a close. Here's an update on progress to date and activities for the next few days.

Big Day on Wednesday – On Wednesday, October 8th, the operations team plans to set a final piece of casing into the well bore. As mentioned previously, casing is a type of pipe that prevents the wall of the well from collapsing and protects against uncontrolled releases of gas. When the casing is set in place, cement is circulated around the casing to hold it in place.

Setting (also called running) and cementing the casing will be a big operation, with more equipment and more noise than usual for the work site. Because of the time needed for these activities, operations will need to be extended past 7:00 pm.

Moving Out – OWA hopes to be able to move the drilling rig out at the end of the week. Other additional work may be done on the well and the remaining equipment will be removed next week. OWA hopes to complete work site clean-up next week, as well.

Next Steps – The wellbore has been challenging. There was a lot of debris in the well. This is probably from when the well was originally abandoned in 1942.

If the running and cementing of the casing go well this week, OWA is reasonably hopeful that the leak will be repaired. After the work site has been cleaned up, there will be some equipment remaining on the well head and the area around the well will be fenced.

OWA will be monitoring the well monthly for the presence of methane. This monitoring will continue until spring thaw. OWA will then work with the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) to determine if any further action is required. When the OWA and the AER have determined work on the well is complete the Town will be notified and work on replacing the playground can proceed. The OWA is contributing to the replacement of the playground.

Questions? - If you have questions or concerns about this project, please contact Dave Vert, On-Site Supervisor with Tristar Resource Management (403.352.6061) or Lori Brown, Abandonment Coordinator with the Orphan Well Association (403.297.6416).