



Orphan Well
Association

Vermilion Well Re-Entry & Repair Project Community Update #6

June 29, 2015

The Orphan Well Association (OWA) is continuing to monitor the results of the re-entry and repair project in Vermilion conducted last fall. Here's the current status of this project.

As promised in our last update in Fall 2014, the OWA monitored the well monthly throughout the winter and spring thaw. Over the past month, more extensive monitoring and inspections have taken place.

While last fall's re-entry and repair program resulted in some success, the well is still leaking in the area immediately around the wellbore. The methane release is currently of a higher concentration than hoped.

Public safety is a priority for the OWA. While methane is not a toxic substance, it is flammable and combustible at higher concentrations. The concentration of methane currently leaking from the well does not present a risk to public safety. The OWA is continuing to monitor the well to ensure public safety.

The OWA has been in discussions with the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) with regard to next steps. The decided course of action is to continue monitoring the methane concentrations for an additional three months. At the end of this time period, the OWA and the AER will have more data to determine if further re-entry of the well will be required.

Minimizing disruption to the community and public safety were key factors in determining the next steps. If re-entry of the well is required, the operations will be on a much smaller scale than those last fall. As a result, the power can be restored to the overhead power line and the temporary by-pass removed.

However, because there is still a chance that equipment might need to be moved in to do the re-entry, the playground cannot be restored at this time. When the playground is finally restored, the OWA will contribute to its replacement.

THANK YOU! – The OWA wants to thank residents of the Brennan community, and staff and officials of the Town of Vermilion for their patience during this project.

Questions? – The OWA is committed to on-going communication with the Town of Vermilion and members of the local community. If you have questions or concerns about this project, please contact Pat Payne, Manager of the Orphan Well Association (403.297.6416).