



Government  
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du Canada

**Indian Oil and Gas Canada**

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**Pétrole et gaz des Indiens du Canada**

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July 22, 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: Progress on the Provincial Liability Reduction Programs**

It has been great to see the progress made by industry and First Nations to access the opportunities under the various Provincial programs to abandon and reclaim oil and gas wells and facilities, in reference to:

- Alberta Site Rehabilitation Program
- Saskatchewan Accelerated Site Closure Program
- British Columbia Dormant Sites Reclamation Program.

Our partner organizations (Indian Resource Council and the Saskatchewan First Nations Natural Resource Centre of Excellence) have been instrumental in establishing and administering the process to have Nation-developed plans submitted to the Provincial programs.

Given the published program dates for the Provincial programs, Indian Oil and Gas Canada (IOGC) is reaching out to the all current surface contract holders to ensure that IOGC can accommodate any planned programs. For reference: the Alberta Period Six is open until March 31, 2022 and project work must be completed by December 31, 2022; the Saskatchewan program is scheduled to run until February 28, 2023, and work under the British Columbia program is to be completed by December 31, 2022.

IOGC has created a focused internal group – the Liability Reduction Program - to help facilitate our support of the First Nations accessing the Provincial programs. The goal of this group is to maximize the number of sites through the Provincial programs by reducing the response times related to the regulatory requirements, researching the appropriate status of wells that may be candidates for the Provincial programs and delivering information as requested by Nations to support their activities.

- Shawn Williams ([shawn.williams@canada.ca](mailto:shawn.williams@canada.ca)), Program Manager, Liability Reduction Program
- Mariedke Gibson ([mariedke.gibson@canada.ca](mailto:mariedke.gibson@canada.ca)), Senior Land Advisor, Liability Reduction Program

Canada

If your company has yet to access any of the funding under Provincial programs, please reach out to us and we can:

- put you into contact with our partner organization to utilize the resources they have established;
- coordinate a meeting with the relevant First Nation community to establish a working relationship; and/or,
- jointly review the inventory of your sites within First Nation land, address any questions related to the surface lease surrender process and provide suggestions on suitable candidates for the programs.

As a part of IOGC's effort to refine the inventory of sites within our mandate and overall compliance strategy with reference to **section 78 of the *Indian Oil and Gas Regulations***, companies are encouraged to assess their inventory of sites for inclusion with the Provincial programs and/or to commence site closure activities of their inactive sites.

If your company has been successfully working with the host First Nation under the related provincial programs, please also reach out to us to discuss any of the regulatory administrative requirements that will be triggered throughout the process. For example, in light of the above noted program dates, surface contract holders should incorporate into project schedules IOGC's timing for some or all of the following:

- review, draft and execute surface lease amendments or temporary permits for offsite access (e.g. temporary work space)
- Remediation Action Plan review and approvals
- joint site inspections to support a Reclamation Application
- 30 day reporting requirements after completion of subsurface and surface abandonment activities

Submission for review can be sent to:

1. Environmental or surface land documentation: [aadnc.LRP-PRP.aandc@canada.ca](mailto:aadnc.LRP-PRP.aandc@canada.ca)
2. Subsurface abandonment reports: [aadnc.iogcwell-puitspgic.aandc@canada.ca](mailto:aadnc.iogcwell-puitspgic.aandc@canada.ca)
3. Chief and Council, as directed by the Regulations (s.21, 22)

Sincerely,

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