

March 21, 2005

Nexen Inc.  
801 - 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW  
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3P7

Attention: Kellie Johnston

Dear Ms. Johnston:

**RE: PROCEEDING NO. 1347905  
BITUMEN CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS  
ATHABASCA, WABISKAW-MCMURRAY  
PHASE 3 FINAL HEARING**

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Please find enclosed information requests made by the Board staff to Nexen Inc. with respect to its submission filed in the Phase 3 proceedings.

Yours truly,

*Original signed by*

Gary D. Perkins  
Board Counsel

Cc: List of Participating Parties  
List of Counsel

**Board Staff Information Requests for Nexen Inc. (Nexen)**

1. What criteria were used to pick the top and base of the Wabiskaw D shale in core?
2. What is the vertical resolution of each of the gamma ray log, the resistivity logs, the neutron log and the density log?
3. Provide a copy of the core analysis, the core gamma ray log and the equivalent open hole gamma ray log, neutron/density log and resistivity log for each of the intervals shown on the core photographs included in Nexen's February 14, 2005 submission, as well as for the 18 wells for which core photographs were presented at the Interim Hearing.

Supplemental: Indicate on the open hole logs the interpreted top and base of the Wabiskaw D shale interval.

4. Do the core gamma ray log thicknesses of the Wabiskaw D shale match the open hole gamma ray log thicknesses?

Supplemental: If no, provide your interpretation of why this occurs.

5. In cases where a core gamma log was not run, how was the core correlated to the open hole logs (i.e., what criteria or method was used)?
6. Has Nexen done any further investigation into the hypothesis that elevated levels of uranium are present within the Wabiskaw immediately above and below the D shale (i.e., thin section work, more complex radioactive log suites, etc.)?
7. State the processes, if any, that could occur during coring operations which would cause a poor recovery of the Wabiskaw D shale and result in a discrepancy between core thickness and log thickness.
8. Why is there a good core to log match in some wells and not in others?
9. On page 2 of Nexen's submission, the last bitumen evaluation well that is listed is 1AA/07-33-085-07W4/0. Should this reference in fact be to the 1AA/07-33-086-07W4/0 well as shown on page 9 of Nexen's submission?