



Vern Janvier-Owner
General Delivery, Chard, Alberta T0P 1G0
Phone: (780)559-2770 Fax: (780)559-2703 Cell: (780)715-8847
E-mail:deekoth@telusplanet.net

Friday, June 20, 2003

Terry Abel, P.Eng
Applications Branch
Alberta Energy and Utilities Board
640-5 Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3G4

Dear Mr. Abel:

**RE: General Bulletin GB 2003-16-Gas Production in Oil Sands Areas
Submission of C.P. Services Ltd.**

I have reviewed the above noted bulletin issued by the Alberta Energy Utilities Board and wish to provide a submission in response to the notice.

Please find enclosed two copies of the submission as well as an electronic copy.

Yours truly,

Vern Janvier
C.P. Services Ltd.

VJ/mn
Enc.

ALBERTA ENERGY AND UTILITIES BOARD
GENERAL BULLETIN
GB 2003-16

In response to GB2003-16 and the request for submissions from interested parties that will be impacted by GB2003-16, find attached our impact report including issues and concerns from the viewpoint and perspective of C.P. Services Ltd.

C.P. Services Ltd. is acknowledging your statement of “Following these **additional** consultation steps, the Board will consider **all** input it receives respecting this conservation policy, together with all evidence and argument already on the public record from previous proceedings as described in GB2003-12, and issue its policy.”

HISTORY OF C.P. SERVICES LTD.

C.P. Services Ltd. was incorporated in May of 1998. It is now starting its 6th year of operations. C.P. Services Ltd. is 100% aboriginal owned and operated. Management and employees are aboriginal, experienced, dedicated and multi-skilled individuals. At present, C.P. Services Ltd. has seven employees with a combined experience of 50 years in the oil and gas industry. C.P. Services Ltd. currently holds contracts with companies in the Wabiskaw-McMurray formation in the Athabasca Oil Sands Area.

C.P. Services Ltd. was implemented to take advantage of the economic growth that was happening in the Athabasca Oil Sands Area and C.P. Services Ltd. mission statement, goals and objectives explains itself.

C.P. Services Ltd. mission statement is as follows:

“In providing specialized personnel to the resource industries, we strive to attain a level of quality that satisfies the customer. Our proven track record shows we are progressive and committed. In our sixth year of operations, we are confident in our abilities to handle longer term projects.”

As a result of the recent decision and pending decisions of the Alberta Energy and Utilities Energy Board in the Athabasca Oil Sands Area, the operations and existence of C.P. Services Ltd. will be severely impacted. C.P. Services Ltd. was implemented with certain objectives in mind with both short and long term goals as follows:

- To provide employment for the aboriginal workforce.
- To provide training and experience for employees.
- To promote relations between the industries and communities.
- To provide a permanent operator training base.
- To provide permanent employment for the aboriginal workforce.
- To provide a qualified aboriginal workforce for the industries in our traditional land area.
- To have a qualified and experienced aboriginal work team able to operate and maintain industry plants and resources globally.

Many studies and assessments have been put forth to prove that the aboriginal workforce is expanding and this workforce has not been fully utilized. With the increasing shortage of skilled workers in this region and country, the aboriginal workforce must be tapped into.

In your General Bulletin it states: “Effective August 1, 2003, all Wabiskaw-McMurray gas production from wells within the new reduced application area and within overlapping Pool Orders must be shut in.” This decision means a major change will happen to C.P. Services Ltd. and the community as a whole. In general terms, layoffs will happen and the loss of revenue to the community will have a severe impact and the results will not be favorable or in the best interests of the public.

We would think that one of Alberta Energy and Utilities Board’s mandates would be to identify and consider the social impact of the decisions that are made and if it is in the best interests of the public. The “public” is in this sense a small but growing community in Northern Alberta who are just starting to develop socially and economically and becoming positive contributors to the Athabasca Oil Sands Area. The decisions now being made are definitely not in our best interests and until such time that appropriate solutions can be found and agreements are honored, we strongly disagree with the proposed shut-in of wells in our traditional land area.

Your quote again “the majority of the depletion in the area of concern can be attributed to grandfathered production some of which commenced in the early 1980s.”

Our response to that is some consultation should have occurred and more studies done before hasty decisions were made and we are now paying the price for it. Unfortunately, the almighty dollar was ruling in the Athabasca Oil Sands Area then and it is now starting again and we can foresee history repeating itself. In frank terms, better means of communication and consultation needs to happen to ensure the 1980’s scenario is not duplicated.

Your statement in the General Bulletin reads, “The geology of the Wabiskaw-McMurray in the area of concern is complex”. We agree the area of concern is complex. The area of concern is complex in geology but also more importantly in the very existence of our future generations. All decisions made by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board today will affect this country’s future.

Your statement “the Board believes that the most rational and compelling course of action to effect bitumen conservation is to immediately shut in all Wabiskaw-McMurray gas in the area of concern except that addressed in Decision 2003-023.” This policy change jeopardizes the very existence of C.P. Services Ltd. and the survival of an aboriginal company that has worked very hard to achieve its goals and objectives.

CONCLUSION

In concluding, the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board decisions are affecting an entire region and must consider solutions to fully satisfy the issues and concerns put forth by those parties that are affected economically, financially and socially. Solutions can be found when interested parties come together to address these important concerns and issues.

Solutions can come in the form of meeting the goals and objectives of C.P. Services Ltd. and compensation for the loss of revenues as a result of the decisions made by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board. C.P. Services Ltd. has grown since its conception and is now generating annual revenue of \$750,000.00. Future estimated growth would generate revenues of 7.5 million dollars by 2010. Although, this revenue is minimal compared to the huge royalty payments paid to the Alberta government by gas producers in the Wabiskaw-McMurray formation, the economic benefit and impact to the aboriginal community is enormous.

Investments have been made by C.P. Services Ltd. to ensure it carried out its mission statement. Unfortunately, it would seem C.P. Services Ltd. investments would have been for naught because of the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board's policies and procedures. Once again an aboriginal company that is viable and competitive will have lost its chance to share in the Athabasca Oil Sands Area's rich resources located in our traditional land area.