

2018 ABAER 001, PLA160532, PLA160531

March 29, 2019

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Paige Dodd, Regulatory Project Manager

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White Spruce Pipeline Project, Condition 6, Caribou Habitat Restoration Plan

Dear Ms. Dodd,

The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has reviewed your revised Caribou habitat Restoration Plan (CHRP) submission dated March 19, 2019 for the TransCanada White Spruce Pipeline. This CHRP submission was in response to condition 6 of AER hearing decision 2018 ABAER 001. Specifically, condition 6 required that:

- TransCanada must prepare and submit a caribou habitat restoration plan to the AER for approval for PLA160532 and PLA160531. This plan must have the effect of restoring 2.0 times the area of new cut habitat affected in the West Side Athabasca Range by the project. The goal or outcome of the plan is to ensure that there is, at a minimum, no net loss of caribou habitat from the project in the West Side Athabasca Range. The restoration plan must be filed at least six months before operations for the White Spruce pipeline project begin and approved by the AER before operations start up. In addition to any measures that TransCanada determines should be included, the restoration plan must include
 - a list of specific restoration sites in the West Side Athabasca Range identified for restoration, including their location, area, description and site-specific restoration plans;
 - specification drawings for implementation of restoration methods at each site;
 - a quantitative and qualitative assessment of the total area of caribou habitat that will be restored and how these restoration sites are equivalent to the 2.0 times the new cut area disturbed by the White Spruce pipeline project within the West Side Athabasca Range;

- a schedule indicating when restoration measures will be initiated and completed;
- a process and timeline for completing an assessment of the effectiveness and value of the restoration plan; and
- a summary of TransCanada's discussions with Fort McKay about the restoration plan, including any concerns that Fort McKay raised and how or if these concerns were addressed.

The AER has reviewed the March 19, 2019 CHRP relative to the requirements of condition 6 of the 2018 ABAER 001 decision, and has determined that this CHRP meets the requirements of this condition.

Please consider this letter as approval of the March 19, 2019 CHRP, including the associated monitoring and reporting requirements.

Should you have any questions, please contact Jeff Smith at jeff.smith@aer.ca or 403-563-0703.

Sincerely,

Lane Peterson

Lane Peterson
Director, Pipelines
Authorizations

LP/js

cc: Anastasia Shukalkina, AER
Bori Arrobo, Fort McKay First Nation
Jeff Smith, AER