INFORMATION LETTER

OIL AND GAS DIVISION OGD-18-03

SUBJECT: NEW INTERIM MEASURES APPLIED TO PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS TENURE REQUESTS

A new Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment Interim Measures Agreement (Agreement) signed by Blueberry River First Nations (BRFN), Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, the BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission), and Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development will apply to defined areas within the BRFN traditional territory.

The Agreement is designed to address immediate concerns with respect to petroleum and natural gas development activities in BRFN’s critical areas while supporting the access and development of resources in specific areas identified by the parties. The Agreement is set to be in place until final recommendations are made under the Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment process.

Within Area 2 tenure requests that could result in new surface disturbance will be referred for additional review.

Within Areas 1 and 3 the management objective is “no new surface disturbance”. Within these areas tenuring requests will not be considered unless the request is for disposal well purposes.

The Commission is incorporating the interim measures into their application review process and Area-based Analysis (ABA). Shapefiles of the Interim Measures area can be found here (ZIP), and Area-based Analysis datasets and maps can be found here.

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