

September 30, 2012

Dear Panel Members

Please consider these few comments regarding the proposed expansion of Shell Oil's Jackpine and Muskeg River projects.

In July 2012, Minister Kent announced a commitment to "...a scientifically rigorous, comprehensive, integrated, and transparent environmental monitoring program..." for the northern Alberta. This was in direct response to criticisms by several different review panels on the lack of appropriate monitoring of oil sands extractive activities. It is therefore perplexing how another project/expansion is being considered given that this monitoring program is not yet implemented. Further, even if the monitoring program were fully implemented as of today, the data required to determine the impacts of current projects would still need to be collected before approving more development. In my opinion, there should be no further development until the rate of development is at least equivalent to the rate of habitat restoration. In addition, there should be no further projects approved until alternate way of dealing with tailing ponds is realized. If neither of these issues are immediately addressed, Alberta's, indeed Canada's lasting legacy will be one of an environmental contamination disaster.

Consider this your opportunity to do something that has never been done, one which would be a significant contribution towards the betterment of Canadian society: reject this application.

Kind Regards,

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