



New Noise Controls for Operators in Farmington

EFFECTIVE DATE: Nov. 13, 2018

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) is introducing requirements for noise management within the Farmington Development Area (FDA) through Special Project Order 18-90-002 (Order).

The Order is intended to ensure when drilling and completion activities are conducted within the FDA, industry provide impacted residents with information on the source of the noise, the likely noise levels, and the likely duration of the noise. In addition, the Order requires industry to develop an overarching program for noise management which specifies when site-specific noise mitigation plans are required.

During operations, the Order also requires industry to collect noise data when undertaking noise mitigation plans. The Commission intends the data collected under this Order will be made public and will be used to improve the Commission's regulatory framework.

Through the introduction of enhanced noise management requirements within the FDA, including the consideration and implementation of innovative noise reduction solutions, industry will be responsible for: developing a Noise Management Program; undertaking site specific noise mitigation plans; and, notifying residents impacted by noise associated with oil and gas activities prior to work commencing.

Noise Management Plans can be submitted to OGC.DrillingNoiseSubmissions@bcogc.ca.

An Order follows.

Should you have any questions regarding this Industry Bulletin, please contact:

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ORDER 18-90-002

Farmington Development Area Special Project Order

Under section 75(1)(c) of the *Oil and Gas Activities Act*, the Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) designates an innovative method of carrying out oil and gas activities and related activities as a special project in the following area:

- Farmington Development Area (FDA) Special Project Order (Appendix I)

Per section 75(2) of the *Oil and Gas Activities Act*, the special project designation in this Order is subject to the following conditions:

A. Pre-Operation Requirements

1. A permit holder of any well or facility wholly or partially located in the FDA (see Appendix I) must, before undertaking permitted activities on or after November 13, 2018:
 - a. Develop, document and implement a Noise Management Program (the "Program") which meets the criteria outlined in Chapter 1.3 of the British Columbia Noise Control Best Practices Guidelines (Noise Guidelines); and
 - b. Submit to the Commission the Program required under section 1(a) in a form acceptable to the Commission by November 13, 2018.
2. In addition to implementing the Program, a permit holder of any well wholly or partially located in the FDA must, before undertaking permitted activities on or after November 13, 2018, develop and document a site specific Noise Mitigation Plan specific to the site within the FDA if either
 - i. a resident is located within 800 meters of the well site, or
 - ii. concerns regarding noise have been expressed during the permit application consultation and notification process or during First Nations consultation.
3. The Noise Mitigation Plan(s) referenced in section 2 must contain the assessments and other information outlined in items 1 through 3 of Chapter 1.7 of the Noise Guidelines.
4. A permit holder of any well wholly or partially located in the FDA must submit to the Commission the site specific Noise Mitigation Plan(s) referenced in sections 2 and 3 in a form acceptable to the Commission at least 10 days prior to undertaking activities.

B. Active Operation Requirements

1. In addition to implementing a Program, a permit holder for any well located in the FDA who is required to develop a Noise Mitigation Plan pursuant to this Order must:
 - a. Implement the site specific Noise Mitigation Plan(s);
 - b. Develop a noise monitoring program that includes:
 - i. The deployment and maintenance of noise monitoring equipment in accordance with recommendations of a qualified noise/acoustical specialist and including:



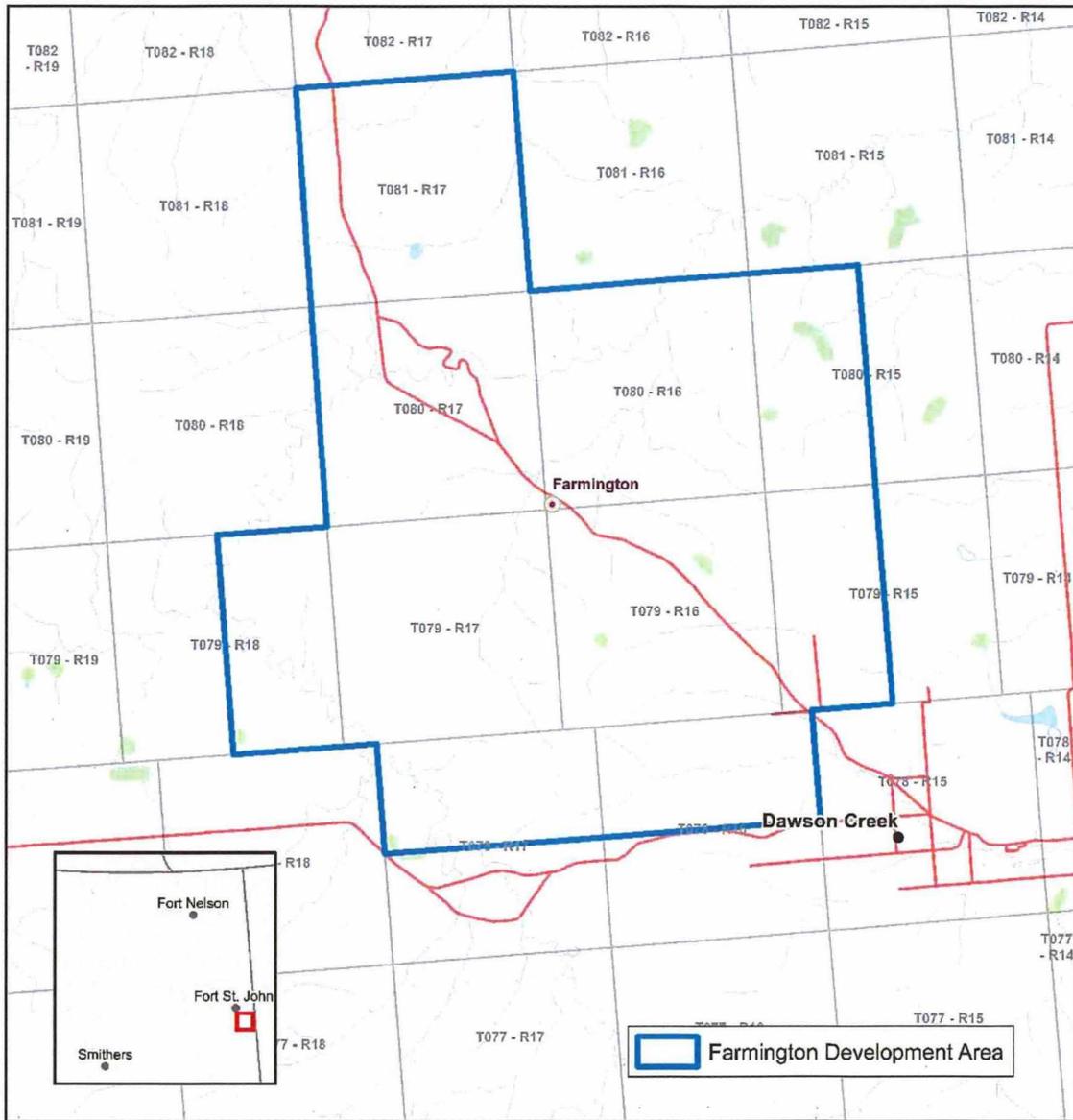
- (1) Consideration to placement near residences within 800 metres of a well ;
and
 - (2) Provision of noise monitoring where requested by residents within 1.5 km
of a well through consultation and notification.
- ii. Use of noise monitors equipped with data logging functionality capable of
continuous monitoring of minimum and maximum sound levels.
- c. Notify and provide information to residents in advance of carrying out any activity, or
combination of activities likely to generate noise in accordance with the requirements set
out in Appendix II.
 - d. Provide the results of noise monitoring to the Commission on a monthly basis.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Jeakins', written over a horizontal line.

Paul Jeakins
Commissioner and CEO
BC Oil and Gas Commission

DATED AT the City of Victoria, in the Province of British Columbia, this 25th day of October 2018.

**Appendix I:
Farmington Development Area (FDA)**





Appendix II

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- (1) Subject to (4), a permit holder must give the information set out in (2) to an individual who resides on land that is located within 1.5 km of a well that is located with the FDA and who has expressed concern regarding noise during the consultation and notification process (resident).
- (2) Subject to (4), the information provided under (1) must include:
 - (a) a description of what activities will be taking place, where the activities will be located and when the activities will happen;
 - (b) an explanation that the activities may generate noise;
 - (c) a description of the noise, its source and likely duration;
 - (d) permit holder contact details, and a commitment to contact residents as soon as possible, if excessive noise occurs;
 - (e) a description of how these activities are regulated and contact information for the BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission);
 - (f) an outline of noise monitoring and mitigation plans within the Program;
 - (g) a description of monitoring and measurement as well as reporting; and
 - (h) additional information as may be practical, necessary or required in the circumstance.
- (3) Subject to (4), the information given under (1) must be provided no less than two and no more than 21 days prior to commencing permitted activities, as follows:

RESIDENT	NOTIFICATION METHOD
<p>An individual who resides on land that is located within 1.5 km of a well located within the FDA.</p>	<p>Notification will preferably be provided verbally and in-person, or by phone. Alternatively, notification may be accomplished using the following method(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) by leaving a copy with the individual or an agent of that individual; (b) by sending a copy by ordinary mail or registered mail to the address at which that individual resides; (c) by sending a copy by electronic mail to the electronic mail address provided by that individual; (d) by leaving a copy in a mail box or mail slot for the address at which that individual resides; (e) by attaching a copy to a door or other conspicuous place at the address at which that individual resides; (f) through other means that ensures adequate notification, including but not limited to public meeting, broadcast, publication, and public posting.

- (4) The Commission, on written request, may exempt a person from one or more of the requirements set out in (1) to (3) above and, on making an exemption, substitute other requirements.