



OIL AND



March 29, 2007

INFORMATION LETTER #OGC 07-09

SUBJECT: SPRING FLOODING POTENTIAL

On March 1, 2007, The Ministry of Environment (MoE) River Forecast Centre reported that all areas of the province continue to have above or well above normal snow packs. The **Peace River Basin** is well above normal (+130%) for snow pack. Snow conditions for the end of the winter season, (i.e., mid-April) will likely remain the same.

This means there is severe flood potential.

Emergency Management BC/Provincial Emergency Program and the Ministry of Environment continue to monitor at-risk areas. The MoE River Forecast Centre issues warnings and advisories as necessary.

Any extended period (5+ days) of well above normal temperatures, and/or a period of heavy rainfall during the spring (generally mid-May to mid-June) will be sufficient to produce high river flows and likely flooding in some areas. Should flooding occur, the potential for impact is may be significant.

Requirement:

Due to the high potential of flooding in the Peace region, companies are required to ensure that:

- Emergency Response Plans are in place and practiced to reflect the potential for floods or slides to damage infrastructure such as roads, pipelines, wells or facilities;
- All drainage infrastructure, including road culverts, are kept free and clear of ice and other blockages and monitored on an ongoing basis and;
- Snow melt within lease boundaries is monitored on an ongoing basis with testing of water quality done prior to any pump off;

OGC inspection staff will be in the field monitoring activities in higher risk areas to ensure compliance to these requirements

For up-to-date flood information, visit the Provincial Emergency Program web site (www.pep.bc.ca) or the MoE River Forecast Centre web site (http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/rfc/river_forecast/advisories_current.htm).

.../2

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

#200, 10003 110 Ave Fort St. John BC V1J 6M7 Ph: (250) 261-5729 Fax: (250) 261-5744
http://www.ogc.gov.bc.ca Ph: (250) 261-5700 24 Hr.

For more information on this subject, or to clarify industry requirements, please contact:

Rick Newlove
Director - Corporate and Enforcement
Oil and Gas Commission
(250) 261-2056
Rick.Newlove@gov.bc.ca

Original signed by:

Ross Curtis
Commissioner