

# UPDATE TO DIRECTIVE 2010-05

October 6, 2010



## UPDATE - SUSPENSION OF SURFACE WATER WITHDRAWALS

**TO:** INDUSTRY CLIENTS

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** IMMEDIATE

### **REQUIREMENT:**

Effective immediately, the following are changes to the suspension of water withdrawal under Directive 2010-05, issued on August 11, 2010 and updated on September 16, 2010:

**Halfway River** - The suspension remains partially in place. The oil and gas industry are now able to access previously approved surface water withdrawals from the Halfway River basin where there is a demonstrated current need to do so, and only from the Halfway River mainstem channel. Companies are required to contact the Commission for specific approval.

**Pine River** - The suspension is ended. The oil and gas industry are now able to access surface water from the Pine River basin, previously approved by the Commission for withdrawal under Section 8 of the *Water Act*. In the September 16, 2010 update, industry was requested to limit withdrawals to the Pine River mainstem channel and other large sources in the basin. This limitation is ended.

**Kiskatinaw River** - The suspension is ended. The oil and gas industry are now able to access surface water from the Kiskatinaw River basin, previously approved by the Commission for withdrawal under Section 8 of the *Water Act*.

**Moberly River** - The suspension is ended. The oil and gas industry are now able to access surface water from the Moberly River basin, previously approved by the Commission for withdrawal under Section 8 of the *Water Act*.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Significant rainfall has occurred in the Peace River watershed over the last few weeks, and water levels on a number of rivers have improved notably. The Ministry of Environment is ending the “drought notification” for the Peace River basin. With the exception of the Halfway River, levels on gauged rivers throughout the Peace are very close to where they would “normally” be for this time of year.

The water level on the Halfway River has improved as well, but remains sufficiently below normal to result in concern over impacts to Bull Trout, which have just completed spawning. At the present time, water withdrawals will be limited to only those that are operationally required by industry, to ensure there is no impact on river levels or fish habitat. In addition, withdrawals are restricted to the Halfway River mainstem channel only.

**Should you have any questions regarding this Directive update, please contact:**

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**For oil and gas incidents and emergencies, please contact the Commission at:  
1-800-663-3456 (24 hours).**