

File: 292-30/BCER2025-015

September 8, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL:

Dear

Re: Request for Access to Records – Response
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA)

I am writing further regarding your request received by the BC Energy Regulator (BCER) for access to the following:

A summary of flaring-related incidents for the past 10 years, indicating the nature of the incident, specifically, the total number of incidents where carry-over or coarse debris / char from the flare stack was responsible for any ignition of surrounding grass or forested area.

Please see the attached spreadsheet containing a summary of flare fire incidents for the last 10 years. A complete copy of FOIPPA is available online at: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (gov.bc.ca)

Please note, a copy of these records will be published on the BCER's website within five business days after release. To find out more about proactive disclosure of requests, please visit the BCER website: Proactive-Disclosure-of-FOl-Requests-Guide.pdf. Your file is now closed. Pursuant to section 52 of the FOIPPA, you may ask the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) to review any decision, act, or failure to act with regard to your request under FOIPPA within 30 business days by writing to:

Information and Privacy Commissioner PO Box 9038 Stn Prov Govt 4th Floor, 947 Fort Street Victoria BC V8W 9A4

Phone: 250.387.5629 Fax: 250.387.1696

Email: info@oipc.bc.ca

If you request a review, please provide the OIPC with a copy of your original request, a copy of the BCER's response, and the reasons or grounds upon which you are requesting the review. Further information on the complaint and review process can be found on the OIPC website: https://www.oipc.bc.ca. Please write FOIIntake@bc-er.ca, if you have any questions regarding your request or require any further clarification.

Sincerely,

D. Keough

BC Energy Regulator

28-May-2025 2-May-2025	2025-0151 2025-0165 2025-0136	While blowing down site in preparation for maintenance activities a fire ignited in the cereal crop outside of the facility boundaries. The exact cause of the fire is unknown, but it is assumed that the wind carried hydrocarbon char into the field. Fire was extinguished in approximately 1 hour. While performing pigging activities compressor unit shut down due to high jacket water pressure resulting in a blowdown event. Materials carried up the flare stack and ignited. High winds caused hydrocarbon embers to carry into nearby bush resulting in a 3.2 acre fire. BC Wildfire services extinguished the fire. Gas Plant was experiencing issues due to high pipeline pressure
		high jacket water pressure resulting in a blowdown event. Materials carried up the flare stack and ignited. High winds caused hydrocarbon embers to carry into nearby bush resulting in a 3.2 acre fire. BC Wildfire services extinguished the fire.
2-May-2025	2025-0136	Gas Plant was experiencing issues due to high nineline pressure
		triggering a blow down event. Gas was blown down through the flare stack. Shortly after operator noticed small grass fire. It is assumed that carbon residue had built up on the flare tip resulting in embers once ignited. Dry ground conditions and high wind speeds caused the fire to quickly spread to an area of approximately 15 hectares. BC Forestry was able to extinguish the fire in approximately 6 hours.
1-Jun-2024	080684746-001	While pigging, NPS 16 pipeline, the associated booster station experienced an emergency shutdown resulting in additional flaring. Bush adjacent to the flare stack ignited resulting in approximately 2 hectares burned. Tanker trucks and BC wildfire assisted in extinguishing the fire.
30-May-2024	080682696-001	Station blow down to perform repair. While blowing down the station to flare, grass adjacent to the flare stack ignited. Fire extinguished by onsite personnel.
9-May-2024	080611047-001	Electrical failure on site cause plant to Emergency Shut Down resulting in flaring. A small grass fire was observed, assumed to be caused by an ember from the flare stack. On site staff extinguished immediately.
6-May-2024	080604016-001	Small grass fire. This was likely caused by a blow down flaring event. Extinguished by on site staff.
9-Apr-2024	080511207-001	Incident cancelled and changed to a level 1 as incident number 080510047-001. Flare stack carry-over occurred during pigging activities, resulting in a release of condensate to ground at the base of the flare stack. Condensate was on fire on the ground and burned out on its own without further intervention.
9-Apr-2024	080510047-001	A process upset occurred causing a condensate carry over into the flare line. The flare knock out tank became full and condensate came out of the top of the flare stack, caught fire and landed on the ground. Fire extinguished in less than 1 hour.
2-Jun-2023	079596795-001	Plant had an Emergency Shut Down event resulting in a flare event. An ember ignited vegetation near the plant. Fire extinguished same day.
3-May-2023	079510724-001	During normal operations, a grass fire was observed at the base of the flare stack. Assumed to be caused by carry over. Fire was extinguished by onsite personnel.
6-Jan-2023	079094559-001	While pulling tubing out of a well, hydrate causes seal to release resulting in a condensate release. Condensate carried over the test vessel and into the flare stack and then out of the top of the flare stack. Condensate ignited at base of flare stack. Fire did not migrate beyond base of flare stack.
5-Oct-2022	078415737-001	Overfilling of Flare Knock Out resulted in liquids becoming entrained in the flare stack resulting in a fire inside the flare stack and at the base of the flare stack. Fire was extinguished by onsite personnel.
13-Aug-2021	074123766-001	Power outage resulted in a blow down of compressors. Shortly after blowdown, a vegetation fire was observed on the site berm. Assumed to be related to the blow down flaring event. Fire extinguished same day.
21-Nov-2020	068782531-001	Operator received callout for a compressor shutdown. Upon arrival carryover and fire at base of flare stack. Fire was extinguished.

8-Jul-2020	065341183-001	While pigging NPS 10 pipeline, pipeline liquids exceeded the capacity of the flare knock out tank resulting in spillage over the top of the flare stack. An area of vegetation at the base of the flare stack (approximately 10m x 10 m based on images) ignited. Fire was manually extinguished by onsite staff.
29-Apr-2020	064027413-001	Grass fire started by high winds blowing ember from flare stack after restarting the compressor, the fire started off lease about 60 meters from the flare stack. Fire extinguished in approximately 5 hours.
22-Jun-2019	055959643-001	This incident was changed to a level 1 and is captured in incident number 055959612-001.
22-Jun-2019	55959612-001	Minor leak on pipeline sent to flare.
31-Jan-2018	044299190-001	This incident was changed to a level 1 and is captured in incident number 044312150-001.
31-Jan-2018	044312150-001	Flare stack carry over occurred which burned passed site boundaries.
31-Jan-2018	044312150-001	System configuration upset resulted in a slug of liquid going up the flare stack and spilling on ground and igniting. Fire extinguished on its own.
9-Jan-2018	043574559-001	This incident was created as part of a system error. It is originally captured in incident number 43574578-001.
9-Jan-2018	043574578-001	Flare stack went out and originally failed to reignite, it later reignited.
20-May-2017	037783080-001	Operator flaring down compressor to perform repairs. A grass fire, assumed to be started by an ember from the flare, started to the NE of the site. On-site staff extinguished fire in approximately 1 hour.
18-Feb-2017	035839262-001	Separator high level shutdown failed to actuate resulting in condensate flooding into compressor inlet piping causing compressor to ESD and flare. Condensate carried up the stack and onto ground, igniting at the base of the flare stack. When operators arrived at site, the fire had self-extinguished.
2-Dec-2016	034042469-001	While performing well testing condensate was not properly routed to storage tanks resulting in approximately 100L of condensate flowing out of the flare stack. Condensate ignited at the base of flare stack. Fire was extinguished by operators on site.
15-Aug-2016	032106777-001	During normal operations, operator identified that the flare on the flare stack had gone out resulting in unburned gas to be vented. Operator reignited the flare which cause the plume of vented gas to ignite. The fire ignited crop below the flare stack. Size of fire is not known, however it was extinguished in approximately 15 mins.
14-May-2016	029933384-001	Small amount of fluid went into flare stack which ignited and fell to bottom of flare stack on ground. there was just blacked soil around it so Operater that responded to site found small 4 " flame burning in the dirt.
14-May-2016	029760045-001	This incident was changed to a level one and is captured under incident number 0299933384-001
30-Nov-2015	026622099-001	While flowing back the well, producing condensate and storing it in the low stage, testers were reading the level gauge wrong, they thought the tank was half full when it was actually full. It pressed up and shot condensate out of the flare stack. Condensate on the ground caught on fire, and was extinguished.
12-May-2015	023079743-001	Personnel identified smoke in forest near gas plant. Cause of fire is unknown but assumed to be caused by flare stack carry over. Resulted in fire of 500 m by 200 m. Fire was extinguished within 24 hours of identification.