



DIRECTIVE 2014-01 Update

August 8, 2014



UPDATE - Expanded Suspension of Short-Term Water Use in Northeast B.C.

To: Industry

Effective Date: Immediately

Background:

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) issued [Directive 2014-01](#) on July 28, suspending some short-term water withdrawals by the oil and gas industry in northeast B.C. due to drought conditions. This is an update to that Directive.

The Commission closely monitors stream flow and water levels and makes changes to permitted uses as conditions change. Due to ongoing low stream flow, concerns continue for impacts to fish and aquatic resources and community water supply in some key river basins. The current weather forecast from Environment Canada is for seasonal to above-normal temperatures continuing.

The Peace River area has been unusually dry for more than three months, with above-normal temperatures. As a result, water levels on most rivers are low, with many rivers currently near or below their record low flows for this time of year. River levels are anticipated to continue dropping until such time as significant rainfall occurs in the area.

New Requirement:

The suspension of short-term water withdrawals by the oil and gas industry is now expanded to include the following watersheds:

- Beatton River
- Halfway River
- Moberly River
- Kiskatinaw River
- Pouce Coupe River

The Directive is still in effect for the following basins within the Peace River watershed as directed on July 28: Blueberry River, Cameron River, Cache Creek, Lynx Creek and Farrell Creek.

The withdrawal of water is suspended from rivers, streams, creeks and lakes in all of these watersheds. Withdrawal of water stored in dugouts is not suspended.

A map of the watersheds under suspension is attached.

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).**

Northeastern British Columbia

