



UPDATE TO DIRECTIVE 2010-05

September 16, 2010



UPDATE - SUSPENSION OF SURFACE WATER WITHDRAWALS (PEACE RIVER)

TO: INDUSTRY CLIENTS

EFFECTIVE DATE: IMMEDIATELY

REQUIREMENT:

Effective immediately, the BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) is updating the suspension of water withdrawal under Directive 2010-05, previously released on August 11, 2010:

Pine River - the suspension is ended. Oil and gas industry are now able to access surface water from the Pine River basin, previously approved by the Commission for withdraw under Section 8 of the *Water Act*. The Commission requests that withdrawals be limited to the Pine River mainstream channel and other large sources in the basin.

Halfway River - the suspension is partially ended. Oil and gas industry are now able to access previously approved water surface withdrawals from the Halfway River basin where there is a demonstrated current need to do so. Withdrawals will be limited to the Halfway River mainstream channel. Industry is required to contact the Commission for specific approval.

Kiskatinaw River and Moberly River - the suspension of water withdrawals from these basins remains in effect.

BACKGROUND:

Rainfall has occurred in the Peace River watershed over the last two weeks, and water levels on a number of rivers have improved. For the Pine and Halfway rivers, with the improved stream flow conditions, concerns for impacts to fish resources have eased. However, although improved, the Halfway River is at a level where water withdrawals will be limited to only those that are operationally required by industry at the present time, to ensure there is no impact on river levels or fish habitat.

The Kiskatinaw and Moberly rivers remain very low, and the suspension of water withdrawal remains in effect for those basins.

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).**

