



Report Released on Seismic Activity in the Horn River Basin

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) has released a report detailing its investigation into hydraulic fracturing and seismic activity in northeast British Columbia.

The Commission initiated the investigation after anomalous seismic activity was recorded in a remote area of the Horn River Basin between April 2009 and December 2011.

The report, Investigation of Observed Seismicity in the Horn River Basin, shows that the seismicity observed in the study area was induced by fault movement resulting from the injection of fluids during hydraulic fracturing.

The investigation determined that movement associated with the events was confined to the targeted gas bearing shales. No injuries or property damage were reported as a result of the induced seismicity, and only one event was reported by Natural Resources Canada to have been felt at the surface.

The Commission's report includes seven findings and recommendations, which include plans to upgrade the seismic monitoring network in northeast B.C., the establishment of monitoring and reporting procedures, geological assessments to identify pre-existing faulting, and further analysis and research into prediction and mitigation.

The full report can be viewed on the Commission website at www.bcogc.ca.

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