



Orphan Well
Association

Vermilion Well Project Community Update

May 2019

Orphan Well Association to Conduct Environmental Site Assessment

As mentioned in our March newsletter, the Orphan Well Association (OWA) is conducting some additional monitoring of the historical abandoned well in the playground in the Brennan sub-division. As part of this monitoring, an environmental site assessment will take place in May.

The environmental assessment will be conducted in two parts over a two-week period. During the week of May 13th, about a dozen shallow wells will be drilled in the playground area. A specialize, small drilling rig will be used. This rig is about the size of a commercial lawn tractor.

Once the wells have been drilled, each will be covered at ground level with a metal disc. This will allow the well to be accessed for on-going monitoring.



Example of a metal well covering

Plans are in place to ensure public safety and minimize impact on the community. While the well continues to release some methane, the concentrations of gas do not present a risk to public safety.

Drilling will take place between 8 am and 5 pm, May 13 to 17. Noise levels from the drilling rig are expected to be similar to a commercial tractor-mower. To control access, temporary fencing will be installed around the section of the park being drilled each day.

Most days, the playground equipment will still be accessible from 64th Street. However, we anticipate a closure of the playground equipment on either May 15th or 16th while two wells are drilled near the play structure.



Play structure in the Brennan playground

There will be a number of trucks on site during drilling operations. These may include a flatbed truck to transport the drilling rig, a supply truck and crew vehicles. There are no plans to block or restrict traffic.

The week of May 21 to 24, personnel will be on site to take soil, air and water samples from the playground area. During this time a few crew vehicles will be parked near the site.

The playground will be fully accessible on the May long weekend and during the week when sampling is occurring.

Questions? – The OWA is committed to on-going communication with the Town of Vermilion and members of the local community. If you have questions about this project, contact Dave Marks, Manager – Projects, with the OWA (403.297.8555).

Future Updates – If you would like to receive future updates on this project by email, notify us at community@orphanwell.ca. Just provide your name and email address and indicate you want future updates by email. We will add you to our email list.