



Orphan Well
Association

Vermilion Well Project Community Update

March 2020

Orphan Well Association Continues to Gather Data

The Orphan Well Association (OWA) continues to gather data and review options related to an historical abandoned well in the Brennan playground. While there is still no risk to public safety, the OWA is working with the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) and Alberta Health Services (AHS) to find a more permanent way to handle the small amounts of methane leaking from the well.

As mentioned previously, OWA continues to investigate options for both management of the methane at surface and re-entering the well. Technical teams have been established to explore both approaches.

In June 2019, an Active Methane Management System (AMMS) was installed on the site. This system was designed to gather and manage the methane in the subsurface soil with a vacuum unit connected to surface piping. The methane gathered is vented to the atmosphere through a vent stack.

In January 2020, crews were on site to sample soil vapour and groundwater. This was the third round of sampling conducted since the AMMS was installed. By sampling in the winter (at approximately -40 C) the OWA was able to confirm that the system works as effectively in frozen conditions as it does during warmer months of the year.

Sampling results to date have been favourable and confirm that the well continues to present little to no elevated risks to the public in the vicinity. Plans are in place to ensure public safety and minimize impact on the community. Monitoring and inspection of the system continues to be conducted regularly.

The OWA will be meeting with the AER and AHS within the next month to review data and technical studies. It is anticipated that a decision will be made on a more permanent solution later this spring.



Questions? – If you have questions about this project; contact Dave Marks, Manager – Projects, with the OWA (403.297.8555).

Stay Up-To-Date –Get the most up-to-date information on the project from our website <http://www.orphanwell.ca/community/>

Future Newsletters – If you would like to receive future newsletters about 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.