



Canadian Natural

January 17, 2014

Mr. Alex Bolton, Joint Review Panel Chairman
Pierre River Mine Joint Review Panel Secretariat
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
160 Elgin Street, 22nd Floor
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H3

Dear Mr. Bolton:

**Re: Joint Review Panel for Shell Canada's Pierre River Mine Project
Environmental Assessment Registry Reference #59539
Canadian Natural Resources Limited Application for Interested Party Status**

In response to the Joint Review Panel (JRP) Notice on December 5, 2013 inviting applications for Interested Party status, this letter serves as the Canadian Natural Resources Limited ("Canadian Natural") Application.

a. Organization name and contact information

Canadian Natural Resources Limited

Suite 2500, 855 – 2 Street SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 4J8
Attention: Anita Sartori

<contact information removed>

b. The Purpose of the Organization

Canadian Natural is a major independent crude oil and natural gas producer and is the operator of Horizon Oil Sands. Horizon Oil Sands includes surface oil sands mining and bitumen extraction plant, complimented by on-site bitumen upgrading with associated infrastructure to produce high quality Synthetic Crude Oil (SCO). Horizon is currently approved to produce 232,000 barrels per day of SCO with the current targeted production rate 110,000 barrels per day of SCO.

The Horizon Oil Sands leases are located north of Fort McMurray, Alberta in the Athabasca oil sands region.

Canadian Natural Resources Limited

<contact information removed>

c.1 The relevance of Shell's Pierre River Mine Application to Canadian Natural

Canadian Natural holds extensive oil sands leases associated with Horizon, some which share a common lease boundary with Shell's Pierre River Mine leases (see attached figure). Accordingly, Canadian Natural has an interest in the hearing proceedings and subsequent JRP decision. Decisions in respect to Shell's Pierre River Application could affect the overall future development of Canadian Natural's Horizon oil sands leases.

c.2 Canadian Natural's specific connection with the project area

Canadian Natural's geology model indicates that the Horizon Mine ore body is contiguous with Shell's Pierre River ore body and that the mineable zones cross into Shell's leases. Based on the attached figure, it is also evident that three of Canadian Natural's Horizon oil sands leases share common boundaries with Shell's Pierre River Mine oil sands leases.

c.3 How Shell's Pierre River Application may affect Canadian Natural's interest

Shell's development plans may affect Canadian Natural's ability to maximize oil sands recovery along the common lease boundaries. As a result, Canadian Natural and Shell will need to coordinate the development of a plan for resource recovery along the entire length of the common lease boundary. The objective of this plan will be to develop a common lease boundary plan which maximizes oil sands resource recovery, while at the same time, ensuring that the mine, tailings management and closure plans are feasible. These plans must be in place well in advance of mining to allow for tree clearing, placement of ditches, dewatering of muskeg, location or relocation of infrastructure and incorporation of material volumes into effective and practicable mine and tailings management plans.

d. Summary of relevant information to assist the Panel

To help illustrate the common boundaries between both companies, a map showing Canadian Natural's oil sands leases at Horizon and Shell's oil sands leases in the area has been enclosed. In the attached map, Canadian Natural's oil sands leases are shown in yellow, Shell's leases are shown in green and the specific leases that border Shell's leases are highlighted.

e.1 Canadian Natural's Intended Participation

Canadian Natural would like to notify the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency of its interest in participating in the JRP hearing and being notified of all the proceedings related to these Applications. Canadian Natural hereby applies for "Interested Party Status" to have the right to cross-examine any parties at the hearing and make submissions or arguments in response to matters potentially affecting Canadian Natural's interest.

e.2 Issues Canadian Natural would like to address

Canadian Natural intends to understand Shell's proposed mine development plan and mining sequence along the common lease boundary and the potential implications on Canadian Natural's ability to maximize resource recovery.

f. How Canadian Natural intends to collaborate

Canadian Natural is not specifically objecting to the Application and recognizes the need for both parties to agree to work together to share information and develop coordinated plans along the common lease boundaries.

If you require additional information, please contact the undersigned at <contact information removed>

Sincerely,

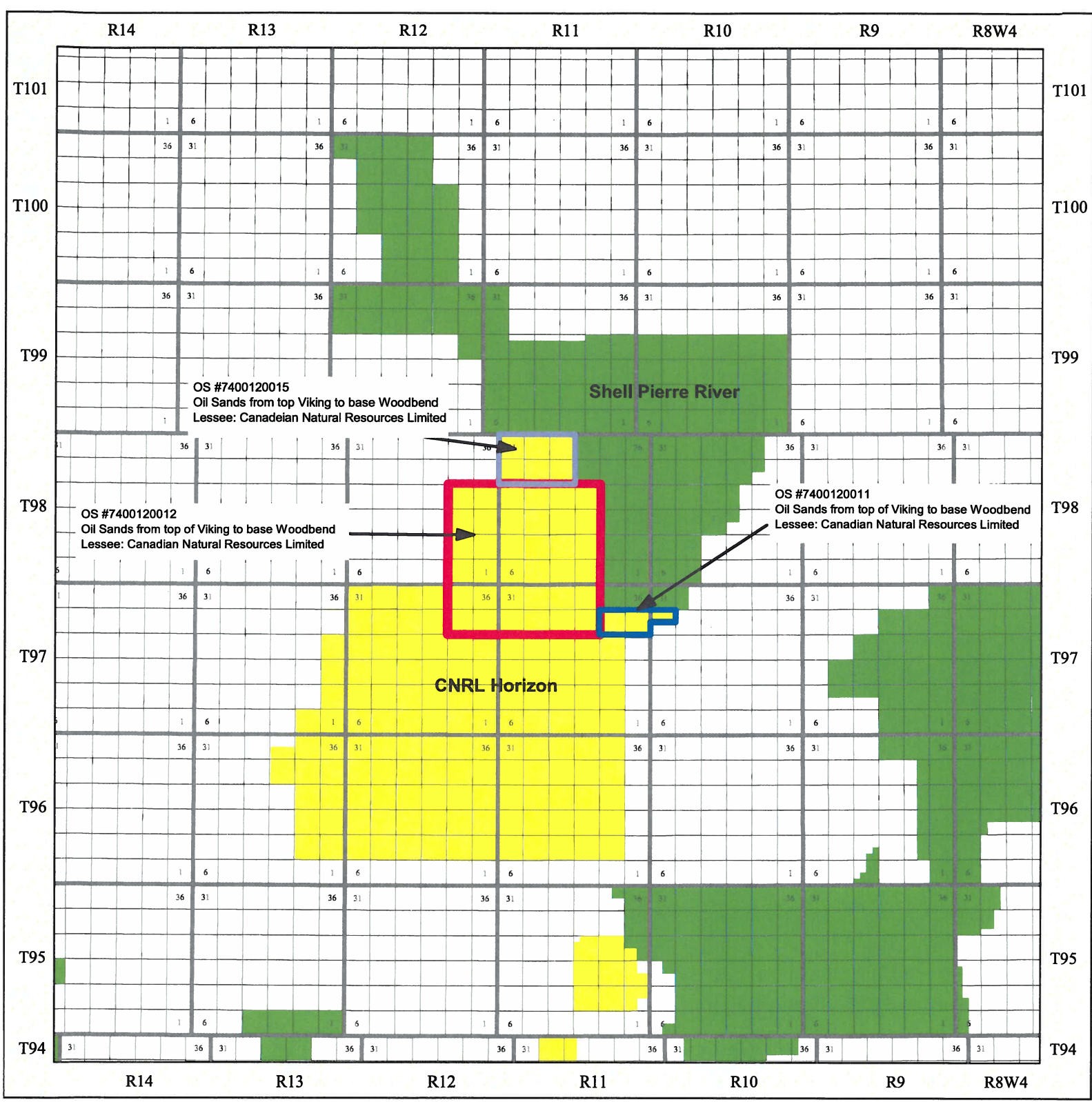
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED



<original signed by>

Anita Sartori, P. Eng.
Manager, Projects and Approvals

Attachment

cc: Donald Crowe, Shell
Margwyn Zacaruk, Shell
Amanda Black, AER
Alex Bagnall, Canadian Natural
Douglas Gibson, Canadian Natural



LAND LEGEND	
	CNRL Crown Oil Sands Leases
	Shell Crown Oil Sands Leases

Canadian Natural Resources

Horizon

<p>Created in AccuMap™ Product of IHS Datum: NAD27 Vol. 23 No. 12, Dec 9 2013 (403) 770-4646</p>	<p>Author: Erin Mccoy Lunn Date: January 16, 2014 File: CNRL Horizon.Shell Pierre Rive Scale: 1 : 323749 Projection: Stereographic Center: NS748309 W111.74057</p>
<p>Grid Information: DLS: IHS Enhanced Grid NTS: Theoretical Grid FPS: Theoretical Grid US: IHS US Grid</p>	<p>DLS Version Information: AB: ATS 2.6 BC: PRB 2.0 SK: STS 2.5 MB: ML007</p>

