

ANNUAL REPORT 2018 2019



CROGO

NWT OFFICE OF THE REGULATOR OF OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS

*Front Cover: Service rig, Cameron Hills, February 2019.
(Credit: OROGO)*

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MESSAGE FROM THE REGULATOR

I am pleased to present this Annual Report on the activities of the Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations (OROGO) for 2018-2019.

OROGO was established in April 2014 as a result of devolution. 2018-2019 was the fifth year of OROGO's operations and this Annual Report celebrates that milestone. Congratulations!

This year saw a change in the leadership of OROGO. James Fulford, the founding Executive Director of OROGO, left the organization. I thank Jamie for his years of dedication to OROGO and his

steadfast vision for the organization. Pauline de Jong took on the role of Executive Director on February 4, 2019. Pauline has worked for OROGO since 2014 as the Senior Advisor, Legislation and Policy, ensuring continuity and capacity during a time of increased activity. I am happy to welcome her to this leadership role.

As the risks associated with long-term suspended wells and unused oil and gas infrastructure across Canada become more evident, I am pleased to see the *Well Suspension and Abandonment Guidelines and Interpretation Notes* bearing fruit in our jurisdiction. I look forward to continued reductions in the risks associated with unused wells and infrastructure in the coming years.

OROGO continues to prioritize efforts to promote accessibility to the regulatory system and build resilient working relationships with stakeholders. Well history records can now be obtained digitally from the Information Office and digital geophysical program records will be coming soon. OROGO staff are actively engaged in educational activities through events such as the Geoscience Forum in Yellowknife and the Resource and Energy Development Information (REDI) shows in Norman Wells, Fort Simpson and Yellowknife.

The publication of the *Environmental Protection Plan Guidelines and Interpretation Notes* and the *Safety Plan Guidelines and Interpretation Notes*, as well as other policy documents, supports OROGO's ongoing commitment to transparency, and to certainty and predictability in its regulatory decisions.

I congratulate OROGO on its accomplishments over the past five years and look forward to another successful year in 2019-2020, continuing to deliver on OROGO's mission: regulating oil and gas activities to keep people safe and protect the environment where we live and work.



Louis Sebert, GNWT Regulator
(Credit: GNWT)



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am pleased to offer this Annual Report on the activities of the Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations (OROGO) for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

The 2018-2019 Annual Report is my first as Executive Director of OROGO. It is also the fifth Annual Report since OROGO was established in April 2014 as a result of devolution. The years have flown by, punctuated by many firsts – first application, first inspection, first guidelines and many others. This Annual Report contains a special section celebrating OROGO's achievements and showcases a refreshed design to carry us through the next five years.



Pauline de Jong, Executive Director, OROGO (Credit: Angela Gzowski)

This year saw a significant increase in oil and gas activity in OROGO's jurisdiction associated with the maintenance and abandonment of suspended wells. This activity was largely driven by OROGO's *Well Suspension and Abandonment Guidelines and Interpretation Notes*, issued in 2017, which establish timeframes for operators to bring suspended wells into compliance with the Guidelines and to permanently plug, cut and cap suspended wells. It is satisfying to see the reduction in risk associated with suspended wells resulting from the implementation of the Guidelines.

In 2018-2019, OROGO accomplished a great deal in its efforts to make information more easily accessible to stakeholders. All well history files are now digitized and available through the Information Office, and geophysical program (seismic) files will be available early in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

ENGLISH

The Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations (OROGO) ensures oil and gas activities are conducted in a safe and environmentally responsible manner that conserves oil and gas resources.

For more information, visit www.oro.go.gov.nt.ca

In December 2018, the Regulator issued *Environmental Protection Plan Guidelines and Interpretation Notes* and *Safety Plan Guidelines and Interpretation Notes*. These Guidelines are based on those issued by the National Energy Board prior to devolution, but have been updated to remove unnecessary or incorrect references and reformatted to meet OROGO's standard. This year, OROGO also developed a Compliance and Enforcement Policy, a Well Material and Core Sampling Policy and a roadmap to the Operations Authorization and Well Approval application process. All of these documents are available on OROGO's website.

OROGO continues to prioritize strong working relationships with other regulators and open communications with stakeholders. In 2018, OROGO was accepted as an International Affiliate of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC), taking its place alongside several other Canadian jurisdictions, and deepened its engagement with other western Canadian regulators through the Western Regulators Forum. OROGO also continues to receive valuable technical support from the Alberta Energy Regulator and the National Energy Board through its service agreements.

I would like to thank James Fulford, who served as OROGO's first Executive Director from its creation in 2014 to February 2019. Jamie worked extremely hard to establish OROGO as a credible, professional regulatory body and I am grateful to him for building such a strong foundation for the organization. I would also like to thank all of OROGO's staff, who have risen to the challenge of our increased activity level and made my transition into the role of Executive Director as smooth as possible. I look forward to continuing our work together in the coming years.



THE REGULATOR

MANDATE

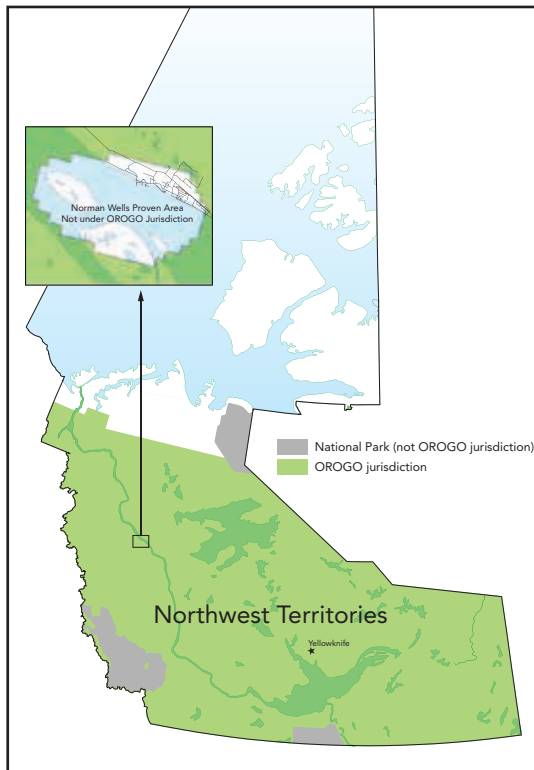
The Regulator is designated by the Commissioner in Executive Council under the *Oil and Gas Operations Act* (OGO). The Minister of Justice was designated as the Regulator, effective February 22, 2016.

The Regulator's mandate is to regulate the exploration for and exploitation of oil and gas resources for the primary purposes of ensuring human safety, environmental protection and the conservation of those resources. The Regulator's mandate does not include promoting oil and gas-related development.

The Regulator's activities are governed by OGO, the *Petroleum Resources Act* (PRA) and the regulations under those Acts as well as the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

JURISDICTION

The Regulator has jurisdiction for the regulation of oil and gas works and activities in the onshore Northwest Territories (NWT), with the exception of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and lands that were not transferred from the Government of Canada to the Government of the Northwest Territories with devolution on April 1, 2014. Within these boundaries, the Regulator has jurisdiction over oil and gas activities on Aboriginal settlement lands as well as other private lands.



CREE

ōma masinahikew kamikos ohci ōma nahaw isihcikewin ohci pimiy mīna pahkitewipimiy pimpayihcikewin (OROGO) kehcinahiwewin pimiy mina pahkitewipimiy waskawiwin mīna kīkway ka nikaniskamihk eta kanaweyihāmihk mīna isi nakayāskamowin kīkway ka nākatēyihāmihk tansi kesāyahk nema nahascikewin pahkitewipimiy isihcikewin

ohci ayiwak kwayaskomowewin kiyokata www.oro.go.nt.ca

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Regulator is responsible for:

- Considering applications for and issuing Operations Authorizations (including geophysical operations authorizations);
- Considering applications for and issuing Well Approvals for activities, including drilling, re-entry, work overs, completion, recompletion, suspension and abandonment of a well or part of a well;
- Inspecting active and historic oil and gas facilities;
- Responding to incidents and spills at regulated oil and gas facilities;
- Considering applications for and issuing Significant Discovery Declarations and Commercial Discovery Declarations; and
- Issuing Operating Licences.

DELEGATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Delegations

OGO A allows the Regulator to delegate his powers to issue Operating Licences, Operations Authorizations and Well Approvals, including the consideration of safety factors and the determination of the nature and amount of proof of financial responsibility (security) required.

The Regulator delegated these powers to James Fulford, Chief Conservation Officer, from June 16, 2014 to February 3, 2019. On February 4, 2019, the Regulator delegated these powers to Pauline de Jong, Chief Conservation Officer.

The PRA allows the Regulator to delegate his powers to issue Significant Discovery Declarations and Commercial Discovery Declarations. These delegations are made on a case-by-case basis.

No new delegations were made under the PRA in 2018-2019.

Appointments

Section 4 of OGO A requires the Regulator to appoint a Chief Conservation Officer and a Chief Safety Officer.

Pauline de Jong, Executive Director, was appointed Chief Conservation Officer, effective February 4, 2019. James Fulford's appointment as Chief Conservation Officer was revoked the same day.

Brian Heppelle, Senior Technical Advisor, was appointed Chief Safety Officer, effective February 23, 2015.

The Regulator also appointed Michael Martin, Senior Technical Advisor, as Safety Officer, effective November 5, 2018.

THE OFFICE OF THE REGULATOR OF OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS

ROLE

The role of the Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations (OROGO) is to support the Regulator in carrying out his statutory responsibilities under OGOA and the PRA.

STRATEGIC PLAN

OROGO's strategic plan, established in 2016-2017, sets out its mission, vision and strategic objectives.

Mission

We regulate oil and gas activities to keep people safe and protect the environment where we live and work.

Strategic Objectives



To enhance certainty and predictability in our actions and in regulatory decisions.



To promote accessibility and transparency in our work.



To build and maintain resilient working relationships.



To grow oil and gas regulatory capacity in the Northwest Territories.

Vision

OROGO is a respected and effective regulator grounded in the values of Northerners.

GWICH'IN

Aii Khaii akoo ts'at Nan Tl'at Guk'atr'inaatii kat (OROGO) nits'oo khaii gòo nan tl'at hàh goo'aii danh tthak lòo nan diinagòo'ee gwà'àn tthak gwjjzrii hàh gwintl'àntr'ahkaii ji' geenjit guk'andehtr'inaatih.

Tth'aih hee jii geenjit gaviidandai' yinothan ji', jii gwits'at gwinoth'i: www.oro.go.nt.ca

STAFF

Six staff members make up OROGO: the Executive Director; the Office Administrator; the Senior Advisor, Legislation and Policy; two Senior Technical Advisors; and the Manager, Information Office.

On November 4, 2018, Mike Martin joined the OROGO team as Senior Technical Advisor on a transfer assignment from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. OROGO said farewell to Ed Hardy, Technical Specialist, at the end of his transfer assignment on January 2, 2019. On February 4, 2019, Jamie Fulford left the position of Executive Director and Pauline de Jong took on the role.

OROGO receives technical advice and support from the National Energy Board and the Alberta Energy Regulator through service agreements. OROGO is also able to access support from other regulators or consultants as may be required.

LOCATION

OROGO's offices are located on the 4th floor of the Northwest Tower in Yellowknife. The public is invited to visit during working hours, weekdays between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm, except statutory holidays.



The OROGO Team, December 2018: Ed Hardy (Safety Officer), Mike Martin (Safety Officer), Kristen Cameron (Manager, Information Office), James Fulford (Executive Director), Donna Schear (Office Administrator), Brian Heppelle (Chief Safety Officer) and Pauline de Jong (Senior Advisor, Legislation and Policy). (Credit: Angela Gzowski)

2018-2019 ACTIVITIES

APPLICATIONS

In 2018-2019, OROGO received:

- Five applications for operations authorizations;
- Twenty applications for well approvals;
- Six applications to amend an existing operations authorization or approval;
- One application to change a well name (to reflect a change in ownership);
- One core sample request covering four wells; and
- All annual reporting requirements for continued compliance, including production reports, environmental reports and safety reports.

These applications represent a significant increase in oil and gas activity in OROGO's jurisdiction. As shown in the following table, the activity revolves primarily around well suspension and abandonment. It is largely driven by the *Well Suspension and Abandonment Guidelines and Interpretation Notes* (the Guidelines), which came into effect on February 1, 2017, establishing requirements for suspended and abandoned wells under OROGO's jurisdiction and deadlines for the safe abandonment of inactive wells.

INUINNAQTUN

Uqhuryuaplu Gaasiliiplu Aulapkiayit Munaqhiyiita Havakviat (OROGO) hapkunaniq munaqhivaktuq uqhuryuaplu gaasiliiplu hulilukaarutait aulatdjutainniklu ihuangnikkut aanningniattukkut nunaplu immaplu itdjuhiit ihumagittiaqhugit, uqhuryuaqarvigigamikik gaasiliiqarvigigamikiklu munarittiaqhugit atungniit pivaktut.

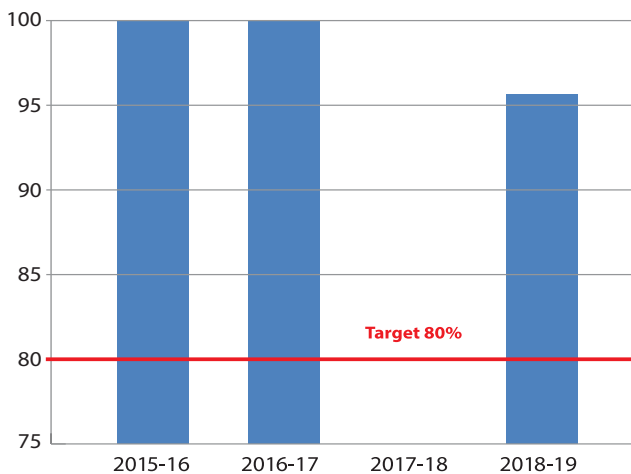
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2018-2019 OA and Well Approval Applications

Type of Application	Application #	Purpose	Region
Operations Authorization	OA-2018-001	Well Maintenance	Dehcho
Operations Authorization	OA-2018-002	Well Abandonment	Sahtu
Operations Authorization	OA-2018-003	Ongoing Operations	South Slave
Operations Authorization	OA-2018-004	Well Abandonment	Dehcho
Operations Authorization	OA-2018-005	Well Abandonment	Dehcho
Well Approval	ACW-2018-002	Well Abandonment	Sahtu
Well Approval	ACW-2018-003	Well Abandonment	Sahtu
Well Approval	ACW-2018-004	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-005	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-006	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-007	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-008	Well Abandonment	Dehcho
Well Approval	ACW-2018-009	Well Abandonment	Dehcho
Well Approval	ACW-2018-010	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-011	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-012	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-013	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-014	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-015	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2018-016	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2019-001	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2019-002	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2019-003	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2019-004	Well Suspension	South Slave
Well Approval	ACW-2019-005	Well Suspension	South Slave

Despite the increased level of activity, OROGO processed 96% of the applications received within its established service standards, well above its target of 80%.

Applications Processed within Service Standard (%)



Since 2015-2016, OROGO has processed more than 80% of all applications for Operations Authorizations and Well Approvals within its established service standard.

8 Oil and Gas
Capacity E

6 Guidelines
Issued



4

Memoranda of
Understanding
with Partner
Regulators



2

Significant
Discovery
Declarations



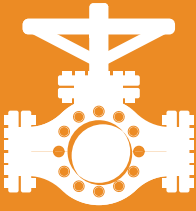
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NWT OFFICE OF THE REGULATOR OF OIL AND GAS

5

ANNIVERSARY
MILESTONE

24 Inactive Wells
Safely Abandoned



49
Applications
Processed



2K⁺
(2,000 Plus)
Historical Files
Converted to
Digital Format



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ND GAS OPERATIONS

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IVES

Although 2018-2019 saw many wells brought into compliance with the Guidelines, there is still work to be done on a number of non-compliant suspended wells. OROGO anticipates that this work will occur in the winter 2020 work season. In accordance with the Guidelines, wells that were brought into a compliant suspended state in 2019 must be abandoned within six years, by the end of the 2025 winter work season. In addition, operators of suspended wells that were found to be in compliance with the guidelines in 2017 have until January 31, 2023, to bring them back into production or abandon them. In order to manage the volume of applications expected, operators must provide a plan for their activities to OROGO by January 31, 2021.

OROGO also accepted the 2018 annual report from Imperial Oil Resources Limited on progress toward a “Final Decision to Construct” for the authorization applicable to the Mackenzie Gathering System component of the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project. The proponents indicated that the construction of the Mackenzie Gas Project is unlikely to begin prior to December 31, 2022.



Fuel and chemical tanks cleaned out and tagged as out of service, Cameron Hills, March 2019. (Credit: GNWT Lands)

INSPECTIONS

OROGO's inspection activities in 2018-2019 fell into two categories:

- On-site inspections of authorized oil and gas activities; and
- Review of operator inspections of suspended wells.

OROGO staff conducted six on-site inspections in 2018-2019, including inspections of all authorized activities.

The *Oil and Gas Drilling and Production Regulations* also require operators to regularly monitor and inspect their suspended wells to ensure they are in good condition and are not leaking. OROGO staff reviewed the resulting inspection reports and followed up with operators to address any potential issues, which may involve applying to OROGO for permission to conduct remedial work, to re-suspend or to abandon the well in question.

OROGO's
*Compliance and
Enforcement Policy*
is available on its
website.



Brian Heppelle (Chief Safety Officer) and Mike Martin (Safety Officer), Cameron Hills, February 2019. (Credit: AER)

FRANÇAIS

Le Bureau de l'organisme de réglementation des opérations pétrolières et gazières (BOROPG) veille à ce que les activités pétrolières et gazières soient menées d'une manière sécuritaire et respectueuse de l'environnement en préservant les ressources en pétrole et en gaz naturel.

Pour en savoir plus, consultez le www.oro.go.nt.ca.

INCIDENT RESPONSE

Oil and gas incidents are reported to the Regulator in two ways. If the incident results in a spill over a certain threshold from OROGO-regulated facilities or pipelines, the incident must be reported through the NWT-Nunavut Spill Line, which then routes the information to OROGO. All incidents must also be reported directly to OROGO through a dedicated 24/7 phone line, even if the incident results in a spill below the threshold or is a non-spill incident or a near miss.

As part of its commitment to regulatory transparency, Summary Incident Reports are available on OROGO's public registry.

The increase in activity in winter 2019 resulted in an increase in incidents reported to OROGO. A total of ten incidents and one near-miss were reported in 2018-2019. The reports required under the *Oil and Gas Drilling and Production Regulations* were received and reviewed by OROGO.

2018-2019 Incidents

Incident #	Nature of the Incident
INC-2019-001-HUS-OA-2018-002	Inconsistent pressure reading/leaking primary controls during accumulator function test – no injury
INC-2019-002-HUS-OA-2018-002	Improper functioning of accumulator – no injury
INC-2019-004-HUS-OA-2018-002	Spill – fresh water with trace KCl (salt)
INC-2019-005-HUS-OA-2018-002	Injured worker – struck by low pressure hose
INC-2019-006-SOG-OA-1237-001	Injury – twisted knee
INC-2019-007-HUS-OA-2018-002	Spill – cement/water release
INC-2019-008-HUS-OA-2018-002	Over pressurized well – jacking of tubing – no injury
INC-2019-009-SOG-OA-1237-001	Uncontrolled release of sour gas from a well head – no injury
N/A*	Dripping methanol tank – no injury
N/A*	Uncontrolled release of sour gas from well head – no injury

*Incidents reported prior to January 2019 do not have a number.



OROGO continues to participate in the NWT-Nunavut Spills Working Group, a group of agencies that have signed the NWT-Nunavut Spills Working Agreement. In keeping with OROGO's strategic goals of growing northern capacity and building resilient working relationships, in 2018 OROGO coordinated and funded the delivery of a table-top emergency response exercise.



Brian Heppelle (Chief Safety Officer), Natalie Burge (AER) and Mike Martin (Safety Officer), Sahtu, February 2019. (Credit: AER)

CHIPEWYAN

T'ą Beghár Ní Ts'j Gáslín chu Tłesdógh chu Náłtsi T'at'ú Beghálada Hałni Ją ʔeghálana Kúé sí (OROGO), deni t'a ní ts'j gásłín chu tłesdógh chu náłtsi beghálada sí, raté nezú beghátada-u, bet'á ní ts'édhir chá xa yałni-u, tth'í yunéth haʔa xa bek'enéłá

ʔałú beghą bek'éřilyą řıl?ł dé, computer yé ją nił?ł, www.oro.go.nt.ca

OTHER INITIATIVES

Promoting Open and Transparent Regulation

OROGO continues to focus on increasing the openness and transparency of the oil and gas regulatory system. This work is shaped by section 91 of the *Petroleum Resources Act* (PRA), which places significant limits on the type of information that OROGO can make available about the applications it receives and its interactions with operators.

On May 10, 2016, the Regulator approved OROGO's *Information Disclosure Guidelines*. The objective of the Guidelines is to encourage transparency by obtaining advance permission from applicants to disclose as much information relating to an application as possible, while maintaining each operator's right to confidentiality under section 91 of the PRA. All applications to the Regulator for Operation Authorizations and Well Approvals must include a completed and signed *Information Disclosure Consent Form*.

OROGO also asks all operators conducting a hydraulic fracturing operation to consent to the disclosure of information related to hydraulic fracturing operations. Disclosure can include the well name and identifiers, the well total vertical depth and data on the hydraulic fracturing operations such as the fracture data, the total water volume, hydraulic fracture fluid ingredients, and the combinations and concentrations of chemicals. The information provided by operators who have consented is then posted on FracFocus.ca, a website established to provide public information on hydraulic fracturing for participating Canadian jurisdictions.

Making Information Available

OROGO is a repository for information collected during oil and gas activities and maintains an Information Office that makes non-privileged (non-confidential) information about oil and gas activities in the Regulator's jurisdiction publicly available. This data is particularly valuable to companies and researchers evaluating oil and gas potential. It can be accessed by contacting the Information Office.



OROGO is increasingly able to make this information available in electronic form, which improves its usefulness for industry, researchers and other stakeholders. Historical files for all wells in OROGO's jurisdiction, dating back to the 1920s, are now available electronically through the Information Office. Geophysical information has also been digitized and is being prepared for public availability.

In 2018-2019, OROGO received:

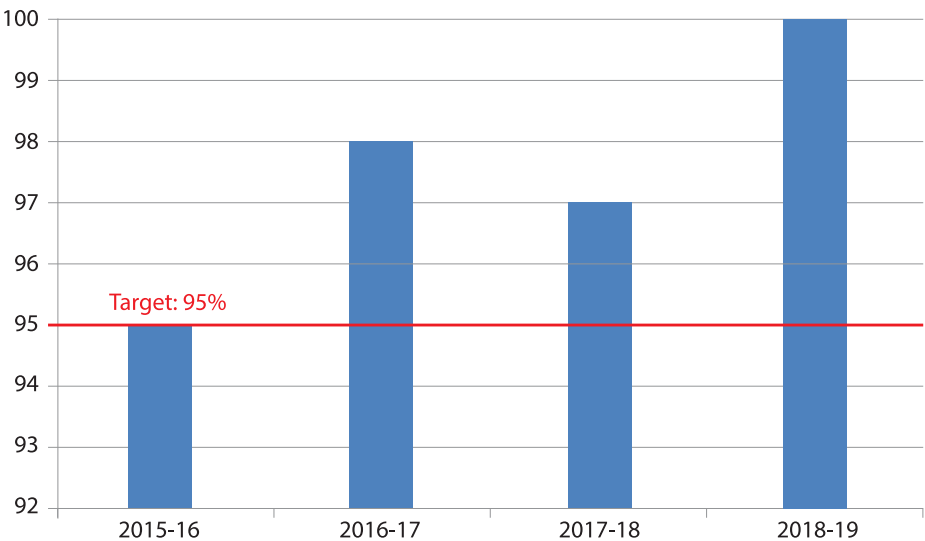
- 15 different requests for well information, resulting in 183 files sent;
- Six requests for seismic information, resulting in 57 files sent; and
- 128 other public inquiries.

Access to well materials (cuttings, fluid samples and core samples) is also available by applying to the Information Office. These materials are located at the Geological Survey of Canada core facility in Calgary, Alberta.

In keeping with its objective of accessibility, OROGO places a high priority on responsiveness to public inquiries. In 2018-2019, OROGO responded to 149 public inquiries, all but one within one business day.



Response to Public Inquiries within Service Standards (%)



Since 2015-2016, OROGO has provided a preliminary response to at least 95% of all public inquiries within one business day.

NORTH SLAVEY

Diri Tlehgo't'ine Goxeghalaeda k'é eyia areyqné Tlehret'o hé Tleh dek'ale hé areyqné asqodé lé, nezq bet'á, ghqedi (OROGO) goredi qt'e bek'eodi gha yeghokedi qt'e.

Waa begodi k'eoruzhá nahwhé nídé ejq www.oroغو.gov.nt.ca k'e dat't'e qt'e

Guidelines and Interpretation Notes

OROGO continues to seek out opportunities to provide more certainty and predictability in key areas of the regulatory process. The issuance of guidelines by the Regulator under section 18 of OGOA is one tool that can be used for this purpose.

In 2018-2019, the Regulator issued:

- *Safety Plan Guidelines and Interpretation Notes*; and
- *Environmental Protection Plan Guidelines and Interpretation Notes*.

These guidelines are updated versions of those issued by the National Energy Board and carried over under section 123(5) of the *Oil and Gas Operations Act* with devolution in 2014.

In September 2018, OROGO began a public engagement process on the possible costs associated with spills and debris from oil and gas activities and the Proof of Financial Responsibility held by the Regulator for Operations Authorizations. The public engagement period ended on February 28, 2019. Responses were received from government, Indigenous organizations and industry. A report summarizing the responses will be published in the first quarter of 2019-2020.



Kristen Cameron (Manager, Information Office) at REDI in Norman Wells, February 2019.
(Credit: OROGO)

Relationships with Other Regulators

OROGO prioritizes building and maintaining resilient working relationships with other regulators. It participates in organizations that bring regulators from different jurisdictions together as well as establishing direct, one-on-one relationships through Memoranda of Understanding and other tools.

In 2018-2019, OROGO was accepted as an International Affiliate member of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC), which allows OROGO to participate on committees, join in oil and gas studies, and access international best practices. Seven other Canadian provinces and territories are IOGCC International Affiliates. In September 2018, OROGO participated in its first IOGCC annual meeting.

OROGO is a member of the Western Regulators Forum (WRF), which focuses on facilitating the exchange of information and discussion of ideas about oil and gas regulation, collaborating on research into issues of common interest, and supporting inter-organizational communications and engagement. The WRF includes representation from Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, as well as the National Energy Board. In 2018-2019, OROGO participated in WRF activities on incident reporting, Indigenous engagement and the use of standards in regulation.



Brian Heppelle (Chief Safety Officer), Sheena Jensen (WSCC), Matthew Ewasiuk (AER), Ed Hardy (Safety Officer) and Ken Fortin (NEB) conducting a joint inspection at Cameron Hills, September 2018. (Credit: OROGO)

SOUTH SLAVEY

Godj Tleh Det'q gots'eh Tleh Nihts'j eghalagenda k'êé (OROGO) la daqndih t'áh tleh det'q gots'eh tleh nihts'j t'áh eghalagenda sii, seé nezu zeehéh eghalagenda gots'eh zhaat'áá ts'eh k'éh chu nezu k'êogeah gha gots'eh azhij kii tleh det'q gots'eh tleh nihts'j t'áh eghalagenda le, sii kaqndih t'áh chu k'êogeah gha.

K'ëndah keodahshá enahthé enidé, satsq ahsii lq kenandih k'éh gots'ê gondi nináh?a, www.oroغو.gov.nt.ca

OROGO participates actively in the NWT Board Forum, which brings together resource management organizations in the territory, and strives to improve and maintain effective lines of communication between its members, resolve common issues and share expertise. In 2018-2019, the NWT Board Forum held its September meeting in Yellowknife and Behchokò.

OROGO has Memoranda of Understanding with the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board, the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, the National Energy Board and the Government of Yukon.

OROGO also participates in the NWT-NU Spills Working Group, FracFocus.ca, CAMPUT (a non-profit organization of Canada's energy and utilities regulators) and the Professional Petroleum Data Management Association (PPDM).

Outreach and Engagement

In April 2018, OROGO presented its Well Watch program to the Tulita Renewable Resources Council. Well Watch is an opportunity for OROGO to further engage with NWT communities on old, abandoned well sites. The program is designed to encourage local land users to report concerns with historic, abandoned well sites to OROGO so that any risks can be identified and assessed. Well Watch has already resulted in one historic abandoned well, near Jean Marie River, being identified for further research by the operator in the summer and fall of 2019.

In January 2019, Trails in Tandem (TT) launched *In the Footsteps of Our Ancestors*, a documentary about the Canol Trail. OROGO contributed to this project by funding interviews with Sahtu elders, who were present during the construction of the project, in order to help document both the positive and negative aspects of the North's first energy megaproject. OROGO also provided funding for public screenings of the film in Tulita and Norman Wells.



Nicholas Castel (TT), Jordan Lennie (TT), Donna Shear (Office Administrator), Pauline de Jong (Senior Advisor, Legislation and Policy) and Erinn Drage (TT) at the Norman Wells premiere of *In the Footsteps of Our Ancestors*, January 2019. (Credit: OROGO)

In 2018-2019, OROGO made particular efforts to connect with operators with respect to the implementation of the *Well Suspension and Abandonment Guidelines and Interpretation Notes*. In June 2018, OROGO held one-on-one meetings with the operators of non-compliant suspended wells in Calgary as well as an open house for all operators. OROGO continued to meet regularly with operators on a one-on-one basis throughout the year.

Follow OROGO on Twitter: @OROGO_NWT

OROGO participated in a number of other community outreach and stakeholder engagement activities in 2018-2019, including:

- A Petroleum Technology Alliance of Canada (PTAC) workshop on wellbore integrity research in Calgary;
- The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) Resource and Energy Development Information (REDI) sessions Fort Simpson, Norman Wells and Yellowknife;
- A presentation to the Environmental Studies Research Fund Management Board in Yellowknife;
- The Geoscience Forum in Yellowknife;
- The annual meeting of GNWT petroleum-related divisions in Yellowknife;
- A resource co-management workshop titled “Fostering Integrated Decision-making in Resource Management”, hosted by the Gwich’in Settlement Area co-management boards and the GNWT in Inuvik; and
- The Arctic Oil and Gas Symposium in Calgary.

OROGO has developed a one-page Roadmap for Operations Authorization and Well Approval applications to improve understanding of the regulatory requirements.



Glady's Norwegian (Grand Chief, Dehcho First Nations), Jamie Fulford (Executive Director) and Mike Mageean (Regional Superintendent, ITI) at REDI in Fort Simpson, October 2018. (Credit: OROGO)

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Tieh eyits'q Tiehtsj Wehoidi t'à Eghàlageedaa Wenjhtl'èkò (OROGO) dè gots'q tteet'o eyits'q tieh xè eghàlagiidèe sii edete ts'à kehogiihdi xè dè gomòq gòʔqò tsjgowii ts'à K'ehogera, hani-ìdè dè gots'q tteet'o eyits'q dègottee gòlaa sii deʔò wek'ehowì ha-le.

Deʔò wegodi k'èahsq ha njdè satsò t'à asii hàetaa www.oroغو.gov.nt.ca k'eyaahì.

For the fifth consecutive year, OROGO has published an Annual Report for tabling in the Legislative Assembly. While this is not a requirement of the legislation, OROGO sees this as an effective way to share information about its work and maintain accountability to the public and legislators.

Capacity Building

OROGO continues to enhance its own capacity to regulate oil and gas activities and to promote oil and gas regulatory capacity building across northern organizations.

OROGO staff participated in formal and informal learning opportunities throughout the year, including:

- Emergency and spill readiness training – both operator-specific and in cooperation with other regulators;
- Job-shadowing field compliance activities of other regulators;
- A familiarization visit to a hydraulic fracturing site in Alberta;
- Incident Command System (ICS) training;
- A workshop on geothermal energy in conjunction with the Geoscience Forum;
- The Professional Petroleum Data Management Symposium;
- Society of Exploration Geophysicists online training;
- Administrative justice training through the Foundation of Administrative Justice; and
- Energy Safety Canada Training.

OROGO has established a tradition of making training and educational events available to others. In November 2018, in conjunction with the Geoscience Forum, OROGO organized a workshop on hydraulic fracture behaviour by Professor Maurice Dusseault of the University of Waterloo. The workshop was attended by staff from the National Energy Board, the Petroleum Resources Division, the Northwest Territories Geological Survey and the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board, along with OROGO staff.



Donna Schear (Office Administrator) and Ed Hardy (Safety Officer) answering students' questions at the Geoscience Forum in Yellowknife, November 2018. (Credit: OROGO)

*Back Cover: Slickline truck, Cameron Hills, February 2019.
(Credit: AER)*

OROGO

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