

**ALBERTA
PUBLIC LANDS APPEAL BOARD**

Decision

IN THE MATTER OF section 123(8) of the *Public Lands Act* and sections 211, and 216 of the *Public Lands Administration Regulation*, A.R. 187/2011;

-and-

IN THE MATTER OF an appeal filed by Canadian Natural Resources Limited.

Facts

The Public Lands Appeal Board (“Board”) received a Notice of Appeal on April 15, 2013, from Canadian Natural Resources Limited (“Appellant”) in relation to the assessment of an administrative penalty in the amount of \$4,150. The penalties were assessed by the director, Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, against the Appellant for alleged contraventions under the *Public Lands Act* involving violation of condition 9 of the Short Term approvals for LOC 110128 and MSL 110161. The Appellant appealed the penalty assessment claiming that the director erred in law, erred in determination of a material fact and exceeded the director’s jurisdiction or legal authority.

The Board began processing the appeal, defining issues and scheduling a hearing, however, a letter from counsel for the director was received August 6, 2013, advising that the Notice of Penalty Assessment for LOC 110128 and MSL 110161 was being withdrawn. The appeal was not withdrawn by the Appellant at this time as they had yet to receive a refund of the penalty amounts they had paid. In a letter dated October 29, 2013, counsel for the director was able to advise that the penalty amount had been refunded to the Appellant. In an email received November 5, 2013, the Appellant advised the Board that it no longer had any concerns related to the appeal.

Rationale for Discontinuance

As the subject matter of the appeal – the penalty – has been withdrawn and refunded to the Appellant, and as the Appellant no longer wishes to proceed with the appeal, the Public Lands Appeal Board has discontinued its proceedings and closed its file on PLAB 13-0002.