

May 3, 2011

Environmental enforcement order issued to Alberta campground

Edmonton... The Government of Alberta has issued an enforcement order against Half Moon Lake Resort Ltd., for diverting water from three water wells without authorization, operating an unauthorized wastewater lagoon, operating an unauthorized waterworks system, and improperly disposing of wastewater in a manner that may affect a wetland.

Half Moon Lake is approximately 30 kilometres east of Edmonton.

In October 2009, Alberta Health Services contacted Alberta Environment regarding water quality issues at the resort and possible unlicensed water wells. A joint inspection confirmed several environmental issues relating to diversion of groundwater from three water wells and the operation of a potable water system. During a second inspection in May 2010, Alberta Environment observed further unauthorized wastewater disposal. To date, efforts to work cooperatively with Half Moon Lake Resort Ltd. have not been successful.

The enforcement order prohibits the release of wastewater to the environment and the further use of the unauthorized lagoon, water wells, and potable water distribution system. Half Moon Lake Resort Ltd. may continue to operate, but will have to truck in all its potable water and haul away all wastewater to an approved facility.

Alberta Environment focuses on education, prevention and enforcement to ensure all Albertans continue to enjoy a clean and healthy environment. When individuals or companies fail to comply with legislation, Alberta Environment has a range of options, depending on the offence, to ensure compliance with environmental regulations. Enforcement orders are issued under the authority of Alberta's *Water Act* to ensure immediate action is taken to correct a situation.

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