



Environmental Stewardship Branch
6 Bruce Street
Mount Pearl NF A1N 4T3

March 1, 2013

File No.: 4194-10

Mr. Darren Hicks
Canada Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board
Fifth Floor, TD Place
140 Water Street
St. John's, NF A1C 6H6

Dear Mr. Hicks:

**RE: ARKeX North Flemish Pass Gravity Gradient Survey 2013-
2017**

EAS 2013-018

As requested in your letter of February 15, 2013, Environment Canada has reviewed the project description and draft scoping document for the above noted project.

It is understood from the project description that the gravity gradient survey uses passive instrumentation. Nevertheless, EC feels the scoping document should include consideration of the effects of any active signal on migratory birds as follows:

- Section 5.2.2, third bullet should be revised to read “Noise or any electronic disturbance from equipment including both direct effects (physiological), or indirect effects (foraging behavior, prey species, adult attendance at the nest);”

I trust that this information will be of assistance in your review of this proposal. If you wish to discuss these comments or have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Yours truly,

Original Signed by Glenn Troke

Glenn Troke
Environmental Assessment Coordinator
Environmental Protection Operations Directorate/NL
Environmental Sustainability Branch

cc Rosalie Allen-Jarvis