



P.O. Box 5667
St. John's, NL A1C 5X1

Your file Votre référence

September 11, 2019

Our file Notre référence
PATH # 19-HNFL-00757

Darren Hicks
Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
140 Water St., 4th Floor
St. John's, NL A1C 6H6

Dear Mr. Hicks:

**Re: *Review of Project Description and Draft Scoping Document BHP Canada
Exploration Drilling Project EL 1157 and 1158 Seabed Survey***

I am writing further to your September 6, 2019 email requesting review of the project description and draft scoping document for the above noted seabed survey proposed for areas in the eastern NL Offshore during the timeframe 2020 to 2025.

Please be advised that Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is in possession of expert knowledge and advice related to fish, fish habitat, marine mammals, species at risk, sensitive marine areas, and fisheries that may inform the project environmental assessment.

Future correspondence in relation to the environmental assessment for this proposed survey can be addressed to me by regular mail or by email bret.pilgrim@dfo-mpo.gc.ca. If you have any questions in this regard please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone (709.772.6562).

Yours sincerely,

Bret Pilgrim
Senior Biologist –Coastal, Marine, Oil and Gas Development Regulatory Review Unit
Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program
Ecosystems Management Branch