



National Défense
Defence nationale

Maritime Forces Atlantic
PO Box 99000 Station Forces
Halifax, NS B3K 5X5

MARL: 1262-7 (MARL SEO)
TD: 2019-000439

19 September 2019

Mr. Darren Hicks, Environmental Analyst
CNLOPB
140 Water St, St. John's, NL A1C 6H6
Tel: 709-778-1431
Email: dhicks@cnlopb.ca

Dear Mr. Hicks:

The Department of National Defence (DND) has reviewed documentation entitled "Project Description BHP Canada Exploration Drilling Project EL1157 and 1158 Seabed Survey".

MARLANT Safety and Environment (MARL SE) has the following comments:

- a. Please identify a specific individual or office to serve as a Point Of Contact (POC) for MARLANT queries and concerns;
- b. Please ensure the appropriate Notice to Mariners will be issued for all underwater activities and any significant surface ventures, such as use of flares, buoys, and unconventional night lighting;
- c. Please ensure the appropriate Notice to Airmen will be issued for all activities that could affect air safety, such as use of balloons, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) or tethered airborne devices; and
- d. Please ensure engagement of DND, through CANSUBFOR Operations at ESQJTFPJ32Duty@Forces.gc.ca, to ensure de-confliction with possible Allied submarine activities.

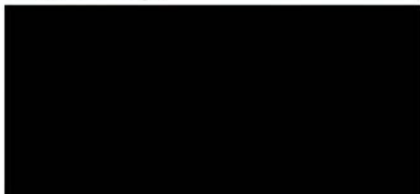
Please consult the Notice to Mariners website (<https://www.notmar.gc.ca/index-en.php>) to ensure the Proponent has the most up to date information regarding the proposed work site(s). Also, please visit DND's UXO website, specifically the page prepared for Commercial Fishermen, Divers, and the Maritime Industry (<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-national-defence/services/uxo/commercial-fishers-divers-maritime-industry.html>).

Due to the fact that there may be uncharted shipwrecks or other UXO sites or munition dumps, and in the event activities are conducted that have contact with the seabed (such as drilling or mooring), it is strongly advised that operational aids, such as remotely operated vehicles, be used to conduct seabed survey to prevent unintentional contact with harmful UXO items, shipwrecks, or dumpsites that are not noted on the charts.

Should any suspected UXO be encountered during the course of the operations, do not disturb/manipulate it (even if the item has already been moved). Please mark the location and leave the area, and prevent others from entering the area if possible. Contact the nearest Joint Rescue Coordination Center at 1-902-427-8200, toll free at 1-800-565-1582 or, if the item is close to shore, call 911 or the local police – first responders have protocols in place to deal with explosive hazards.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Carol Lee Giffin /
MARLANT Safety and Environmental Officer
for Commander