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Your file    Votre référence

November 10, 2017

Our file    Notre référence

PATH #17-HNFL-00525

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

Dear Mr. Hicks: *Darren,*

**Re:    Review of Project Description and Draft Scoping Document Chevron Canada  
Limited Capelin 3D Seismic Survey, 2018-2021**

I am writing further to your November 6, 2017 email requesting review of the project description and draft scoping document for the above noted seismic survey proposed for Exploration License area EL 1138 in the eastern NL Offshore during the timeframe 2018 to 2021.

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.

Based on review of the draft Scoping Document the following is offered for your consideration and review:

Section 5.2.5 Marine Mammals (page 6) and Section 5.2.7 Species at Risk (SAR) (page 6) – with respect to new and or updated information the project EA should note recent work completed in the Flemish Pass area that has highlighted the potential presence of Scotian Shelf population of Northern Bottlenose whale listed in the Species at Risk Act public registry as endangered and the implications of such relative to mitigation measures to be implemented especially during periods of darkness and or low visibility.

Section 5.2.8 Sensitive Areas (page 7) – with respect to sensitive marine areas the EA should include a description of Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) and NAFO Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME) that occur within the project / study area.

Future correspondence in relation to the environmental assessment for this proposed survey can be addressed to me by regular mail or by email [catherine.andrews@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:catherine.andrews@dfo-mpo.gc.ca). If you have any questions in this regard please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone (709.772.6105).

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Andrews  
A/ Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist – Marine, Coastal, Oil and Gas Development



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