



November 23, 2016

Canada Newfoundland Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board  
Mr. Scott Tessier  
Chair & Chief Executive Officer  
5<sup>th</sup> Fl., TD Place  
140 Water Street  
St. John's, NL A1C 6H6

by email: [STessier@cnlopb.ca](mailto:STessier@cnlopb.ca)

Re: **EMGS, Inc., Western Newfoundland Controlled Source Electromagnetic (CSEM) Survey, 2017 Gulf of St. Lawrence**

Dear Mr. Tessier,

On November 10, 2016, the St. Lawrence Coalition noticed, with much dismay, the posting on your website of EMGS' Western Newfoundland 2017 CSEM survey in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

We knew, since Corridor Resources announced in its 2014 Management's Discussion and Analysis<sup>1</sup> its intention to buy the data, that such a survey would eventually be proposed for the Gulf of St. Lawrence, so it was not a total surprise.

The source of our consternation was rather the timing chosen by the C-NLOPB for the public release of this project. While there are no fixed rules, there seems to be a tradition at the C-NLOPB to make projects public rather quickly, usually after 10-20 days. In the current case however, even if EMGS Inc. tabled its project description on July 8<sup>th</sup> 2016<sup>2</sup>, your Board chose to wait four full months (nearly 120 days) before the public release of the project description on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 2016. Why would that be?

The end result is that this EMGS Inc. project was made public right in the middle of the controversy surrounding the new licence your Board is proposing to issue to Corridor Resources at Old Harry. All around the Gulf of St. Lawrence, people are shocked that you are considering to issue a new licence to Corridor Resources, considering Corridor's weak financial situation, its total disregard towards addressing the issues raised by Environment Canada on its environmental assessment report as well its utter lack of preparedness to face a major spill. Moreover, as explained in our November 22 letter, the St. Lawrence Coalition is contesting the legality of issuing a new licence to Corridor Resources. To publicly release the EMGS Inc. project at this very moment gives people the impression that the issuance of Corridor's new licence is already decided and that everything goes as far as the Gulf of St. Lawrence is concerned. In our view, this poses a major problem of public perception.

<sup>1</sup> <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/19046799/CORRIDOR%20CSEM/2014%20Management%20Discussion%20Analysis.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.cnlopb.ca/pdfs/egcsurvey/projdescen.pdf?lbisphpreq=1>

We are confident that you will recognize the importance of the preceding point and see that it is fully addressed. Oil and gas in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is, in the end, a multi-provincial issue of great concern to many people. These people have their eyes turned towards Newfoundland which is leading the way for oil exploration in the Gulf. Let's make sure their concerns are heard.

Considering the importance of this issue, a quick follow-up on your part would be appreciated.

Best regards,

Sylvain Archambault,  
Spokesperson, St. Lawrence Coalition

**cc. : Hon. James Gordon Carr**, Natural Resources Minister  
[Jim.carr@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Jim.carr@parl.gc.ca)

**Hon. Siobhan Coady**, Natural Resources Minister  
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