



Canadian Environmental
Assessment Agency

Agence canadienne
d'évaluation environnementale

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November 14, 2016

Agency File No.: 005578

Andrew McNeill
Geoscience Supervisor – East Coast Operations
ExxonMobil Canada Ltd.
Suite 1000, 100 New Gower Street
St John's, NL A1C 6K3
andrew.f.mcneill@esso.ca

Dear Mr. McNeill:

SUBJECT: Potential Coordination of the Environmental Assessment for the Eastern Newfoundland Offshore Exploration Drilling Project and Flemish Pass Exploration Drilling Project

ExxonMobil Canada Ltd. (ExxonMobil) has indicated that it wishes to pursue opportunities to coordinate the environmental assessment (EA) of the Eastern Newfoundland Offshore Exploration Drilling Project with the EA of Statoil Canada Ltd.'s Flemish Pass Exploration Drilling Project.

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency requires the following information from ExxonMobil before it can finalize the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines for the Eastern Newfoundland Offshore Exploration Drilling Project.

- Confirm whether ExxonMobil wishes to coordinate the analysis phase of its EA with the EA of Statoil Canada Ltd.'s Flemish Pass Exploration Drilling Project including submission of a joint EIS and coordinating responses to subsequent information requests.
- If yes, identify a single point of contact, which would represent both proponents during the analysis phase of the EIS including responsibility for (1) submission of the EIS and (2) responding to information requests.

As you are aware, *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012*, (CEAA, 2012) timelines do not include the period taken by proponents to comply with the requirement to provide information necessary for the conduct of an EA. In the case of coordinated EAs, proponents would be required to submit information (e.g. EIS, responses to information requests) in relation to both projects, in order for CEAA, 2012 timelines to resume.

In accordance with section 27 (6) of the CEAA, 2012, the time it takes ExxonMobil to respond to this request is not included in the time limit within which the Minister of Environment's decision must be made.



If you have any questions or wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact Catherine Ponsford at 902-426-8268.

Sincerely,



Friederike Kirstein
Acting Regional Director, Atlantic Region

Cc: Catherine Ponsford, Acting Team Lead - Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Dave Burley, C-NLOPB
Stephanie Curran, Statoil Canada Ltd.