

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

MARL: 1262-7 (MARL SEO)  
TD: 2017-000320

17 May 2017

Mr. Darren Hicks, Environmental Analyst  
Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board  
140 Water Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
St. John's, NL A1C 6H6  
dhicks@cnlopb.ca

Dear Mr. Hicks:

As requested, the Department of National Defence (DND) has reviewed documentation sent respecting the “Offshore Seafloor and Seep Sampling Program (2017-2027)”.

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

- Please identify a specific individual or office to serve as a Point Of Contact (POC) for MARLANT queries and concerns;
- 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;
- 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
- Please ensure engagement of CTF 84, through Director General Naval Strategic Readiness (DGNSR), to ensure de-confliction with possible Allied submarine activities.

The DND UXO Program conducted a search of its records with respect to possible UXO sites within the area of interest for the Fugro GeoSurveys. Our records indicate that there are two wrecks present within the survey area.

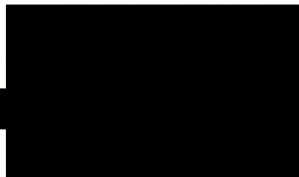
- U-520 Submarine (47.7833N, 49.8333W)
- U-658 Submarine (50.0089N, 46.5333W)

Given our understanding of the survey activities to be conducted, there will be interaction with the sea bed. Due to the inherent dangers associated with UXO and the fact that the Atlantic Ocean was exposed to many naval engagements during WWII, should any suspected UXO be encountered during the course of operations, the UXO should not be disturbed or manipulated. The proponent should mark the location and immediately inform the Coast Guard. Additional information is available in the 2010 Annual Edition - Notices to Mariners, Section 37.

For activities which have contact with the seabed (such as coring), it is strongly advised that operational aids, such as remote operated vehicles, be used to conduct seabed survey in order to prevent unintentional contact with harmful UXO items that may have gone unreported or undetected.

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

Sincerely,



MARLANT Safety and Environmental Officer  
for Commander