



May 31, 2018

Distribution

**Re: Fugro GeoSurveys Offshore Seafloor and Seep Sampling Program, 2017-2027
Environmental Assessment**

On May 29, Fugro GeoSurveys (Fugro) submitted to the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) an amendment to the environmental assessment (EA) report, *Offshore Seafloor and Seep Sampling Program (2017-2027) Environmental Assessment* (Stantec June 28, 2017) and Addendum, *Fugro - Offshore Seafloor and Seep Sampling Program (2017-2027) Environmental Assessment - Consolidated Addendum* (Stantec September 26, 2017). The *Offshore Seafloor and Seep Sampling Program (2017-2027) Environmental Assessment Amendment* (Stantec May 29, 2018) has been submitted in support of Fugro's request to amend the mitigation regarding the restriction to enter and conduct survey work in NAFO coral / sponge closure areas. The EA Amendment assesses the potential interactions with and effects on benthic habitat, specifically coral / sponge habitat, within the Marine Fish and Shellfish (fish habitat) Valued Ecosystem Component (VEC).

The C-NLOPB requests that you review the enclosed EA Amendment and provide your response no later than **June 14, 2018**, however earlier replies would be appreciated. If no comments are received by this date then the C-NLOPB will assume that your organization will not be submitting comments. If you have any questions regarding the EA Amendment report, you may contact me (709-778-1431 or dhicks@cnlopb.ca).

Yours truly,

Original signed by Darren Hicks

Darren Hicks
Environmental Analyst

Enclosure

cc D. Burley
E. Young

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