



Maritime Forces Atlantic
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Mr. Darren Hicks, Environmental Analyst
Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
140 Water Street, 4th Floor
St. John's, NL A1C 6H6

Dear Mr. Hicks:

As requested, the Department of National Defence (DND) has gathered information pertaining to the Southern Grand Banks, as proposed by GX Technology.

Our records indicate that there are six shipwrecks present within the immediate survey area; the U-520 Submarine (47.78N, 49.83W); the U-658 Submarine (50.00N, 46.53W); the HMCS Valleyfield (46.04N, 52.40W); the USS Pollux (45.88N, 55.48W); the U-656 Submarine (45.24N, 53.25W) and U-658 Submarine (50.00N, 46.53W). These vessels contained munitions at the time of sinking and these munitions may continue to pose an explosive hazard. Additionally, the Sydney Shallow Disposal Site (46.31N, 58.65W) is located in the project area. The Sydney Shallow Disposal Site was used to dispose excess munitions following WWII and the area surrounding the point will likely contain discarded military munitions.

Given our understanding of the seismic activities to be conducted and that there will be no interaction with the sea floor, the associated UXO risk is assessed as negligible. Nonetheless, due to the inherent dangers associated with UXO and the fact that the Northwest Atlantic Ocean was exposed to many naval engagements during WWII, and that the project area includes the Sydney Shallow Disposal Site, should any suspected UXO be encountered during the course of the operations, they should not disturb/manipulate it. 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.

Further UXO general information is available at our website at www.uxocanada.forces.gc.ca.

DND is likely to be operating in the vicinity of the study area in a non-interference manner during the project timeframe; thus, there is potential for interaction with naval operations in areas where seismic activities will occur. Please keep DND informed of dates and locations of seismic activities. Also, DND would like to review the environmental assessment to identify potential impacts from arrays due to proximity to DND operations.

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