



July 22, 2009

Mr. Hareesh Pillai
ExxonMobil Canada Properties
Suite 701 Atlantic Place
215 Water Street
St. John's, NL
A1C 6C9

Dear Mr. Pillai:

Re: Hebron Development Project
Comprehensive Study

The Minister of the Environment informed the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) and announced on July 22, 2009 that the environmental assessment of the proposed Hebron Development Project can proceed as a Comprehensive Study under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEA Act).

The Board, in consultation with federal and provincial regulatory agencies and the general public prepared a Scoping Document, which outlines the scope of the project, the factors to be assessed and the scope of those factors. A copy of the Scoping Document is attached for your use in the preparation of the comprehensive study report and associated environmental assessment documentation. Please note, as stated on page 3 of the Scoping Document,

The C-NLOPB, Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Transport Canada, and Industry Canada, pursuant to Section 17(1) of the Act, formally delegate the responsibility for preparation of an acceptable environmental assessment report that satisfies the requirements of a Comprehensive Study environmental assessment to ExxonMobil Canada Properties Limited, the project proponent. The Project Proponent will also prepare the Comprehensive Study Report. However, the RAs will be responsible for the environmental assessment determination of significance to be included in the Comprehensive Study Report.

Please note that the CEA Agency web site (www.ceaa.gc.ca) contains a number of guidance documents and Operational Policy Statements on numerous topics (e.g., cumulative effects,

biodiversity, addressing alternative means/alternatives to a project, defining study area) that we encourage you to consider during your preparation of the Comprehensive Study Report.

If you have any questions on the Scoping Document or the Comprehensive Study process generally, you may reach me at 709-778-4232 or via email at eyoung@cnlopb.nl.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by E. Young

Elizabeth Young
Environmental Assessment Officer

Attachment

cc D. Burley
D. McDonald (CEA Agency)
S. Powell (DFO)
G. Troke (EC)
S. Mills (IC)
R. Decker (TC)
M. Preston (MPMO)
J. O'Reilly (ExxonMobil)