



December 18, 2008

Distribution

**Re: HMDC – Jeanne d’Arc Basin
Drill Centres Construction & Operations Program
Environmental Assessment (CEAR 08-01-42279)**

On December 18, 2008, Hibernia Management and Development Company (HMDC) submitted to the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) an environmental assessment report for the construction and operations of drill centres on the Grand Banks within the Jeanne d’Arc Basin. The enclosed report “*HMDC Drill Centres Construction and Operations Program Environmental Assessment*” (JW 2008) describes the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, modification, decommissioning and abandonment of up to six drill centres within glory holes at various locations in the Jeanne d’Arc Basin area over a 27-year period.

The C-NLOPB is conducting a screening, pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEA Act), of the proposed Project. The environmental assessment (EA) report was completed in accordance with the scoping document prepared by the C-NLOPB on October 7, 2008. A copy is enclosed for your information.

Please review the enclosed environmental assessment report and forward comments to me no later than **February 13, 2009**. CDs containing the environmental assessment report and supporting documentation for the EA Report are enclosed. If you have any questions on the attached, I may be reached at 709-778-1431 or via email at kcoady@cnlopb.nl.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by K. Coady

Kim Coady
Environmental Assessment Officer

Enclosures

cc D. Burley
D. McDonald

DISTRIBUTION:

Federal Agencies	
Ms. Carole Grant Department of Fisheries and Oceans Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Centre 80 White Hills Road P. O. Box 5667 St. John's, NL A1C 5X1	Mr. Glenn Troke Environment Canada Newfoundland District Office 6 Bruce Street Mount Pearl, NL A1N 4T3
Mr. Samson Dazogbo Natural Resources Canada 580 Booth Street, 3 rd Floor Ottawa, ON K1A 0E4	
Provincial Agencies	
Mr. Bas Cleary Department of Environment and Conservation Environmental Assessment Division P. O. Box 8700 St. John's, NL A1C 4J6	Mr. Tom Dooley Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture Petten Building 30 Strawberry Marsh Road P. O. Box 8700 St. John's, NL A1C 4J6
Mr. Fred Allen Department of Natural Resources P. O. Box 8700 St. John's, NL A1C 4J6	