



October 7, 2008

Mr. Rob Dunphy  
Rob Dunphy  
Environmental Advisor  
Hibernia Management and Development Co. Ltd.  
Suite 1000, 100 New Gower St.  
St. John's, NL A1C 6K3

Dear Mr. Dunphy:

**Re: Hibernia Drill Centres Construction and Operations Program  
CEA Act Environmental Assessment**

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In accordance with the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) and based on the information presented in the project description “*Hibernia Drill Centres Construction and Operations Program Project Description*” (Hibernia Management and Development Company Limited, 2008), the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) has determined that a screening level of environmental assessment is required for the proposed drill centres construction and operations program.

In addition, in accordance with the *Regulations Respecting the Coordination by Federal Authorities of Environmental Assessment Procedures and Requirements* (FCR Regulations), the following federal authorities have determined that an environmental assessment of the Project is required and that they will be Regulatory Authorities (RAs) in the screening of this project:

- Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Authorization pursuant to Section 35(2) *Fisheries Act*, and
- Environment Canada - Ocean Disposal Permit under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*.

The RAs, in consultation with other federal and provincial departments, have determined the scope of the project, the factors to be assessed and the scope of those factors (the Scoping Document). A copy of the Scoping Document is attached for your information and use in preparation of the environmental assessment report. Please note, as stated on page 2 of the Scoping Document,

***The C-NLOPB, Environment Canada, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, as Responsible Authorities (RAs) intend that the environmental assessment submitted with any supporting documents as may be necessary, will fulfill the requirements for a Screening. The RAs therefore, pursuant to Section 17(1) of the CEA Act, formally delegate the responsibility for preparation of an acceptable Screening environmental assessment to HMDC, the project proponent. The RAs will prepare the Screening Report, which will include the determination of significance.***

If you have any questions regarding the CEAA environmental assessment process or wish to discuss the Scope of Project, I may be reached at 709-778-1431 or via email at [kcoady@cnlopb.nl.ca](mailto:kcoady@cnlopb.nl.ca).

Yours truly,

***Original Signed by K. Coady***

Kim Coady  
Environmental Assessment Officer

Enclosure

cc D. Burley  
J. Meade (DFO)  
G. Troke (EC)