

HMDC Response to Comments on 2D/3D/4D Seismic Projects to Remaining Life of Field. Comments Provided to HMDC by C-NLOPB on October 6, 2014.

| Source | Comment | HMDC Response |
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| Environment Canada (EC) | Comment No. 1: The proponent should be reminded that results from the onboard seabird observation program should be sent to EC-CWS on an annual basis. | Response No. 1: Results from the onboard seabird observation program will be sent to EC-CWS on an annual basis. |
| Fisheries and Oceans | Comment No. 2: Section 2.2.9 Seismic Energy Source Parameters, page 5 - With respect to the proposed OBS survey "The air source operates on compressed air at pressures 1,800 to 2,500 psi, and produce approximate peak-to-peak pressures 100 to 180 bar-m." The output range and source operating pressure for OBS should be reflected in Table 1 (page 3) since OBS is included in the Table under 'Type of Survey'. | Response No. 2: HMDC no longer requires an OBS scenario as part of the Project Description and EA. Please remove OBS from the EA and from further consideration at this time. |
| C-NLOPB | Comment No. 3: Section 2.0 Project Description, 2nd para, line 4, pg 2 – The streamer length may be upgraded to "10,000 m" but Section 2.2.10 states up to "10, 050 m". | Response No. 3: Please change streamer length to 10,050 m which is more accurate given that sections are commonly 75 m or 150 m in length. |
| | Comment No. 4: Section 2.2 Project Overview, 1st para, line 3, pg 3 – Additional detail is required for the "Ocean Bottom Seismic" activity. The information should include a description of the sensors (including size), the number, length of time placed on the seabed. If they are independent recording nodes, how are they placed on the seabed? When they are retrieved, is there anything left on the seabed? | Response No. 4: HMDC no longer requires an OBS scenario as part of the Project Description and EA. Please remove OBS from the EA and from further consideration at this time. |
| | Comment No. 5: Section 4.7 Special Areas, last para, last sentence, pg 12 – "Given the nature...corals and sponges". But if OBC is used, what would be the interaction with corals and sponges? | Response No. 5: HMDC no longer requires an OBC (i.e., OBS) scenario as part of the Project Description and EA. Please remove OBS from the EA and from further consideration at this time. |
| | Comment No. 6: Section 5.7 Cumulative Effects, pg 14 – Would there be a cumulative effect within the project if an undershoot vessel is used? | Response No. 6: Please change "undershoot vessel" to "secondary source vessel". This vessel will not discharge sound sources concurrent with the primary vessel and thus there will be no cumulative effect from sound. There may be a slight, non-significant cumulative effect from the presence of an additional vessel which likely would be no greater than other offshore vessels commonly encountered on the Grand Banks. |
| | Comment No. 7: Section 5.9 Residual Effects of the Project, Table 4, pg 15 – The Table does not include "undershoot vessel". | Response No. 7: A revised Table 4 that adds a secondary source vessel and deletes the OBC is provided below. |

