

Maritime Forces Atlantic PO Box 99000 Stn Forces Halifax, NS B3K 5X5

MARL: 1262-7 (N48) TD: 2012-000307

[] April 2012

Mr. Darren Hicks, Environmental Analyst Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board 5th Floor, TD Place 140 Water Street St. John's, NL A1C 6H6 Email: dhicks@cnlopb.nl.ca

Dear Mr. Hicks:

As requested, the Department of National Defence (DND) has reviewed the report entitled "Environmental Assessment of Husky's Jeanne d'Arc Basin/Flemish Pass Regional Seismic Program, 2012-2020" dated February 2012 and authored by LGL Limited. DND provides the following comments on the report:

- DND is likely to be operating in the vicinity of the study area in a non-interference manner during the project timeframe;
- A search of the UXO records was conducted to determine the possible presence of UXO within the proponent's project area and our records indicate no wrecks are present within the survey area. Given our understanding of the survey activities to be conducted, the associated UXO risk is assessed as negligible. Nonetheless, due to the inherent dangers associated with UXO and the fact that the Atlantic Ocean was exposed to many naval engagements during WWII, should any suspected UXO be encountered during the course of the proponent's operations it should not be disturbed/manipulated. The proponent should mark the location and immediately inform the Coast Guard. Additional information is available in the 2012 Annual Edition Notices to Mariners, Section F, No.37; and
- In the event of activities which may have contact with the seabed (such as drilling or mooring), it is strongly advised that operational aids, such as remote operated vehicles, be used to conduct seabed surveys in order to prevent unintentional contact with harmful UXO items that may have gone unreported or undetected. General information regarding UXO is available at our website at www.uxocanada.forces.gc.ca.

DND requests these comments be included in amendments to the environmental assessment.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Carol Lee Giffin
Formation Safety and Environmental Officer
for Commander