

C-NLOPB Issues Administrative Monetary Penalty to Equinor Canada Ltd. for not meeting Operations Authorization Commitments

August 30, 2022

The C-NLOPB has applied an Administrative Monetary Penalty (AMP) of \$16,000 to Equinor Canada Ltd. (Equinor), for not fully meeting Condition 20 of its 2020 Operations Authorization issued by the C-NLOPB. Condition 20 required Equinor to comply with the Conditions in the Decision Statement issued to Equinor by the Minister of Environment under Section 54 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* for Equinor's Flemish Pass Exploration Drilling Project between April 24, 2020 to July 7, 2020. The following Conditions not met in the Decision Statement were:

1. Condition 4.3.1 required Equinor to monitor daily for the presence of marine birds from the drilling installation using a trained observer following Environment and Climate Change Canada's *Eastern Canada Seabirds at Sea Standardized Protocol for Pelagic Seabird Surveys from Moving and Stationary Platforms*; and
2. Condition 4.3.2 required Equinor to monitor the drilling installation and supply vessels daily for the presence of stranded birds and follow Environment and Climate Change Canada's *Procedures for Handling and Documenting Stranded Birds Encountered on Infrastructure Offshore Atlantic Canada*.

Equinor provided reasonable steps to prevent reoccurrence of this violation.

Pursuant to section 202.2 of the *Accord Act*, companies are permitted to request a review of the amount of the penalty, the facts of the violation or both. On May 13, 2022, Equinor filed a Request for Review, but withdrew this Request on August 2, 2022. The Committee accepted the withdrawal in a letter to Equinor on August 8, 2022. The penalty was paid in full on August 11, 2022.

For further information, the *Administrative Monetary Penalty Guidelines* can be found [here](#).

Media Contact

Lesley Rideout
C-NLOPB Communications Lead
(709) 725-2900
lrideout@cnlopb.ca