



Environmental Protection Operations
Environmental Stewardship Branch
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File No.: 4194-10

4 March 2010

Darren Hicks
Environmental Analyst
Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
5th Floor, TD Place
140 Water Street
St. John's, NL
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RE: Investcan Labrador Shelf Area Seismic Survey Program 2010-2017 Environmental Assessment (CEAR 09-01-51352) EAS 2009-319B

Dear Mr. Hicks:

As requested in your letter dated 2 February 2010, Environment Canada (EC) has reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the above-noted project.

From the information provided, it is understood that the proponent, Investcan Energy Corporation, proposes to conduct a multi-year, multi-survey seismic exploration program off the coast of Labrador over its exploration license EL1107 and around the Hopedale and Snorri Significant Discovery Licenses. Two dimensional (2-D) surveys are planned for 2010 in all three areas, followed by a three dimensional (3-D) survey in 2011 in EL1107. Subsequent surveys, including geohazard and vertical seismic profiling (VSP) surveys could occur throughout the life of the Exploration License which runs until 2017.

Overall, the EA is very comprehensive and we are pleased to see that the recommendations made in our initial Federal Coordination Regulations (FCR) response are incorporated in the document. Furthermore, the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) is satisfied with the assessment of effects on migratory birds and species at risk. The document indicates that a seabird observation program will be carried out and the CWS provides the following comments regarding data collection for the seabird observations.

Seabird Data Collection

The CWS has developed a pelagic seabird monitoring protocol that we are recommending for all offshore projects. The protocol is available from the C-NLOPB or CWS. This protocol is a work in progress and we would appreciate feedback from the observers using it in the field. A guide sheet to the pelagic seabirds of Atlantic Canada is available through CWS in Mount Pearl.

In an effort to expedite the process of data exchange, the Canadian Wildlife Service would appreciate that the data (as it relates to migratory birds or species at risk) collected from these surveys be forwarded in digital format to our office following completion of the study. These



data will be centralized for our internal use to help ensure that the best possible natural resource management decisions are made for these species in Newfoundland and Labrador. Metadata will be retained to identify source of data and will not be used for the purpose of publication. The Canadian Wildlife Service will not copy, distribute, loan, lease, sell, or use of this data as part of a value added product or otherwise make the DATA available to any other party without the prior express written consent.

I trust that this information will be of assistance in reviewing this EA. If you wish to discuss these comments or have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 709-256-6617 or via email at Daniel.Ingram@ec.gc.ca at your convenience.

Yours truly,



Daniel Ingram
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Environmental Protection Operations - Atlantic

cc: G. Troke
J. Corkum