



P.O. Box 5667
St. John's, NL A1C 5X1

Your file Votre référence

April 10, 2015

Our file Notre référence
PATH #15-HNFL-00114

Darren Hicks
Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
140 Water St., 4th Floor
St. John's, NL A1C 6H6

Dear Mr. Hicks:

Darren:
**Re: Review of Project Description and Draft Scoping Document MG3 (Survey) UK
Limited offshore Labrador Geochemical and Seabed Sampling Program 2015-2024
Survey**

I am writing further to your April 9, 2015 email requesting review of the project description and draft scoping document for the above noted sea bed sampling and geochemical survey proposed for Labrador Offshore and Orphan Basin areas 2015 to 2024.

Please be advised that Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is in possession of expert knowledge and advice related to fish, fish habitat, marine mammals, species at risk, sensitive marine areas, and fisheries that may inform the project environmental assessment.

Based on review of the above noted Project Description the proponent should note the following references that may be applicable to the description of sensitive marine areas within the study area – "Identification of Ecologically and Biologically Sensitive Areas. DFO. Can. Sci. Advis. Sec. Sci. Advisory Report 2004/006" and "Identification of Additional Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas within Newfoundland and Labrador Shelves Bioregion. DFO. Can. Sci. Advis. Sec. Sci. Advisory Report 2013/048".

Based on review of the Draft Scoping Document (Section 5.2.2 page 5) it should be noted that the Eastern Newfoundland Strategic Environmental Assessment (ENLSEA) does not cover the entire project study area, as such the proponent will likely have to rely on sources of information in addition to the ENLSEA when describing the biological environment of the project study area.

Also with respect to the Draft Scoping Document (Section 5.2.4 page 6) the third line of the 2nd bullet should include reference to "...present or potential commercial fishing activity..." and the second line 3rd bullet should include reference to "...commercial and/or aboriginal fisheries..."



Future correspondence in relation to the environmental assessment for this proposed survey can be addressed to me by regular mail or by email [REDACTED] If you have any questions in this regard please do not hesitate to contact me [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist – Marine, Coastal, Oil and Gas Development
Fisheries Protection and Regulatory Reviews
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