



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

MARL: 1262-7 (MARL SEO)
TD: 2015-000246

30 April 2015

Mr. Darren Hicks, Environmental Analyst
Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
140 Water Street, 4th Floor
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 documents entitled “Project Description: Geochemical Data Acquisition and Seabed Sampling for Basin Modelling in Labrador Offshore (2015 to 2024)” and “MG3 (Survey) UK Limited Offshore Labrador Geochemical and Seabed Sampling Program 2015-2024, Draft Scoping Document”.

MARLANT Safety and Environment (MARL SE) has the following comments:

- Please identify a specific individual or office to serve as a Point Of Contact (POC) for MARLANT queries and concerns;
- Please ensure the appropriate Notice to Mariners will be issued for all underwater activities and any significant surface ventures, such as use of flares, buoys, and unconventional night lighting;
- Please ensure the appropriate Notice to Airmen will be issued for all activities that could affect air safety, such as use of balloons, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) or tethered airborne devices; and
- Please ensure engagement of CTF 84, through Director General Naval Strategic Readiness (DGNSR) (Point of Contact for: LCdr Hopkins, DNSO SSO Readiness. Tel: 613-945-0652), to ensure de-confliction with possible Allied submarine activities.

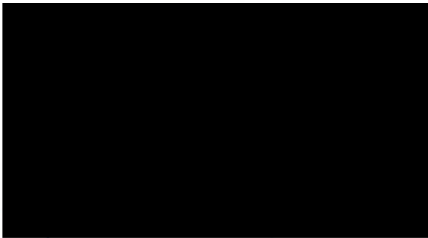
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Given our understanding of the activities to be conducted and that there will not be interaction with the sea floor, the associated UXO risk is assessed as low. Nonetheless, due to the inherent dangers associated with UXO and the fact that the Northwest Atlantic Ocean was exposed to many naval engagements during WWII, should any suspected UXO be encountered during the course of the operations, the Proponent should not disturb or manipulate it. The Proponent should mark the location and immediately inform the Coast Guard. Additional information is available in the 2015 Annual Edition – Notices to Mariners, Section 37.

Furthermore, when conducting activities which may have contact with the seabed (such as mooring, sampling or well installation), it is strongly advised that operational aids, such as remotely operated vehicles, be used to conduct a seabed survey in order to prevent unintentional contact with harmful UXO items that may have gone unreported or undetected. Further UXO general information is available at our website at www.uxocanada.forces.gc.ca.

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

Sincerely,



MARLANT Safety and Environmental Officer
for Commander