



September 4, 2012

Mr. Jerry Witney
Vice President, North America
Multi Klient Invest AS
Petroleum Geo-Services
15150 Memorial Drive
Houston, Texas 77-79
USA

Dear Mr. Witney:

Re: Multi Klient Invest AS – Northeast Newfoundland Slope Seismic Program, 2012-2017 Environmental Assessment

The Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) has reviewed the environmental assessment (EA) information regarding the proposed geophysical survey program in the northeastern Grand Banks offshore area as described in the “*Environmental Assessment Northeast Newfoundland Slope 2D Seismic Survey Program 2012-2017*” (April 2012), the “*Response to Comments from C-NLOPB dated 29th June 2012*” (June 2012) and “*Response to Comments from C-NLOPB dated 15th August 2012*” (August 2012). The C-NLOPB has completed our environmental assessment determination respecting the Project. A copy of our determination is enclosed for your information.

The EA Report and other correspondence, as referenced above, describes the Project in sufficient detail and provides an acceptable assessment of the potential environmental effects of the Project. We have considered this information and the advice of the Boards’ advisory agencies and have determined that the proposed project, following the application of mitigation measures, is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.

At the time of application for subsequent program authorizations in the Project Area, Multi Klient invest AS will be required to provide information to the C-NLOPB. This information should outline the proposed activities, confirm that the proposed program activities fall within the scope of the previously assessed program, and indicate if, with this information, the EA predictions remain valid. In addition, Multi Klient Invest AS shall provide information

regarding the adaptive management of requirements of the SARA into program activities (e.g., introduction of new species or critical habitat to Schedule 1; additional mitigations; implementation of recovery strategies and/or monitoring plans). If there are any changes in the scope or if new information becomes available that may alter the EA conclusions, then a revised EA will be required at the time of authorization application and/or renewal.

The following conditions are recommended to be appended to authorizations granted by the C-NLOPB for the seismic survey program, as described in the environmental assessment reports referenced above:

For geophysical programs:

- *The Operator shall implement or cause to be implemented, all the policies, practices, recommendations and procedures for the protection of the environment included in or referred to in the Application and in the “Environmental Assessment Northeast Newfoundland Slope 2D Seismic Survey Program 2012-2017” (April 2012), the “Response to Comments from C-NLOPB dated 29th June 2012” (June 2012) and “Response to Comments from C-NLOPB dated 15th August 2012 (August 2012).*
- *The Operator, or its contractors, shall shut down the seismic airgun array if a marine mammal or sea turtle listed as **Endangered or Threatened** (as per Schedule 1 of SARA) is observed in the safety zone during ramp- up procedures and when the array is active. The safety zone shall have a radius of at least 500 m, as measured from the centre of the air source array(s).*
- *No later than January 31, 2013, the Operator shall submit a report to the C-NLOPB describing the progress and potential environmental effects of its 2012 2D seismic program. It shall include, but not be limited to, copies of the Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO) reports and the marine mammal observer (MMO) reports that were produced during the program.*

We expect that mitigation and communication measures, identified through the Multi Klient Invest AS offshore Labrador project's EA process and in response to the C-NLOPB Notice of Non-Compliance, remain in effect. If you have any questions on the attached, or wish to discuss the environmental assessment review process, I may be reached at 709-778-4232 or via email at eyoung@cnlopb.nl.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by Elizabeth Young

Elizabeth Young
Environmental Assessment Officer

Enclosure

cc D. Burley