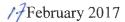National Defence   Défense nationale

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

MARL: 1262-7 (MARL SEO)
TD: 2017-000060

17 February 2017

Mr. Darren Hicks, Environmental Analyst
Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
140 Water Street, 4th Floor
St. John's, NL A1C 6H6
dhicks@cnlopb.ca

Dear Mr. Hicks:

As requested, the Department of National Defence (DND) has reviewed documentation sent respecting the "Nexen Energy ULC Eastern Newfoundland Offshore Geophysical, Geochemical, Environmental and Geotechnical Program (2018-2027) Environmental Assessment ProjectD".

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), to ensure de-confliction with possible Allied submarine activities.

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Canada

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/manipulate it. The Proponent should mark the location and immediately inform the Coast Guard. Additional information is available in the 2010 Annual Edition – Notices to Mariners, Section 37. 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