



April 6, 2017

Mr. David Ralph
Operations Manager
Statoil Canada Ltd.
2 Steers Cove
Level 3, Cormack Building
St. John's, NL A1C 6J5

File No. 7705 N54-3

Dear Mr. Ralph:

**Re: Statoil Canada Ltd. Exploration/Appraisal/Delineation Drilling Program, 2008 to 2016
Environmental Assessment Amendment**

The Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB), in consultation with the Board's fishery and environmental review agencies, has reviewed the environmental assessment (EA) amendment report *2016 Amendment to the Environmental Assessment Statoil Canada Ltd. Exploration and Appraisal / Delineation Drilling Program for Offshore Newfoundland, 2008-2016* (Statoil February 2017). The report is an amendment to the *Environmental Assessment of StatoilHydro Canada Ltd. Exploration and Appraisal/Delineation Drilling Program for Offshore Newfoundland, 2008-2016* (LGL Limited March 2008) and was provided by Statoil Canada Ltd. (Statoil) to assess modifications to the scope of the original Project, including:

- An extension of the temporal scope of the Project beyond the original 2008-2016 timeframe to the end of 2019;
- A planned increase in the number of exploration and appraisal / delineation wells that will be completed as part of the Project;
- The proposed inclusion of batch drilling activity, in which the tophole sections are initially drilled at multiple wellsites followed by the completion of the wells (with resulting increases in associated rig movements); and
- The planned decommissioning of wells in deeper water portions of the Project Area via cutting of the wellhead above the seafloor and leaving a portion of the pipe in place above the seafloor.

We have considered the above noted information and the advice of the Board's advisory agencies and have determined that the EA Amendment provides a satisfactory assessment of the environmental effects associated with the proposed activities. The C-NLOPB is of the opinion that taking into account the implementation of proposed mitigation measures committed to by Statoil and the conditions identified in the July 10, 2008 C-NLOPB Screening Report, the project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.

If you have any questions on the attached, or wish to discuss the above, please do not hesitate to contact me at 709-778-4232 or via email at eyoung@cnlopb.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by Elizabeth Young

Elizabeth Young
Environmental Assessment Officer

Cc D. Burley
S. Curran