



**LETTER TO OPERATORS, LICENCE HOLDERS AND CERTIFYING
AUTHORITES RE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR OFFSHORE SAFETY**

The Chair and CEO of the C-NLOPB sent a letter dated December 14, 2010 to each of the operators, license holders and certifying authorities regarding accountability for offshore safety. The full text is as follows:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am sure you are aware of the December 13th statement by Premier Dunderdale regarding the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's support for Recommendation 29 of the Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry Phase I Report, namely the establishment of a "... separate agency to regulate safety in the offshore industry ...". The Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board takes its direction from the Governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador under the Atlantic Accord legislation. The creation of a separate agency to regulate safety will likely require amendments to this legislation.

We will support and assist Governments in any way they feel might be helpful if they collectively choose to establish the separate agency to regulate safety. However, until that agency is created and fully functional, we will maintain our current regulation of the safety of the offshore workforce as our highest priority. So, from your point of view as operators and licence holders, we are still your regulator, and it will be to us that you will continue to answer regarding any issues affecting the safety of your workforce. We expect, and will demand, your full commitment and attention to safety as your top priority.

Sincerely,

Max Ruelokke, P. Eng.
Chairman & CEO

c.c. Minister Christian Paradis
Minister Shawn Skinner