



April 26, 2006

File: NL-041

Kim Coady  
Environmental Assessment Officer  
Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board  
5th Floor, TD Place  
140 Water Street  
St. John's NL A1C 6H6

**Subject: Orphan Basin Environmental Assessment Review**

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Dear Ms. Coady,

As per section 12(3) Of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan) experts from the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) have examined the proponent's response to our initial 7 comments provided on the draft environmental assessment report for the proposed exploratory drilling program in the Orphan Basin.

Our initial comments related to the geology of the area, the seabed, currents, the effects of the environment on the project, and the deep-water benthic habitat.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding NRCan's response, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at (613) 943-0773 or by E-mail at [iannick.lamirande@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:iannick.lamirande@nrcan.gc.ca)

Sincerely,

Iannick Lamirande  
Acting Team Leader

Attachments (1)

c.c.: Derek McDonald – CEAA  
Margo Burgess – NRCan/GSC