



National Défense  
Defence nationale

Maritime Forces Atlantic  
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MARL: 1262-7 (N48)  
TD: 2014-000157

26 February 2014

Mr. Darren Hicks, Environmental Analyst  
Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board  
140 Water Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
St. John's, NL A1C 6H6  
Email: DHicks@cnlopb.nl.ca

Dear Mr. Hicks:

As requested, the Department of National Defence (DND) has gathered information pertaining to the TGS NOPEC Geophysical Company ASA and Multi Klient Invest AS Offshore Labrador Seafloor and Seabed Sampling Program, Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Area, 2014-2019.

Our records indicate that there are two wrecks present within the immediate survey area; the U-520 Submarine (47.78N, 49.83W) and U-658 Submarine (50.00N, 46.53W). These vessels contained munitions at the time of sinking and may continue to pose an explosive hazard.

Given our understanding of the exploration activities to be conducted and the expected interaction with the sea floor, the associated UXO risk is assessed as low. Nonetheless, 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](http://www.uxocanada.forces.gc.ca).

DND is likely to be operating in the vicinity of the study area in a non-interference manner during the project timeframe; thus, there is potential for interaction with naval operations in areas where activities will occur. Please keep DND informed of dates and locations of activities. Also, DND would like to review the Environmental Assessment to identify potential impacts due to proximity to DND operations.

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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