



Maritime Forces Atlantic
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MARL: 1262-7 (N48)
TD: 2012-000371

/O May 2012

Mr. Darren Hicks, Environmental Analyst
Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
5th Floor, TD Place
140 Water Street
St. John's, NL A1C 6H6
Email: dhicks@cnlopb.nl.ca

Dear Mr. Hicks:

As requested, the Department of National Defence (DND) has reviewed the report entitled "Environmental Assessment of WesternGeco's Seismic Program for the Jeanne d'Arc Basin, 2012-2015" dated April 2012 and authored by LGL Limited. DND provided comments on the project in January 2012; however, the comments have not been represented in the EA report. DND requests the comments be added to the report as summarized below:

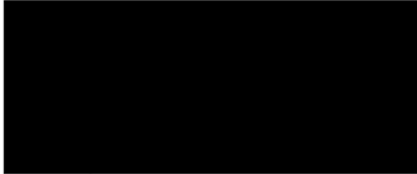
DND is likely to be operating in the vicinity of the study area in a non-interference manner during the project timeframe;

A search of the UXO records was conducted to determine the possible presence of UXO within the proponent's project area and our records indicate no wrecks are present within the survey area. Given our understanding of the survey activities to be conducted, the associated UXO risk is assessed as negligible. Nonetheless, due to the inherent dangers associated with UXO and the fact that the Atlantic Ocean was exposed to many naval engagements during WWII, should any suspected UXO be encountered during the course of the proponent's operations, it should not be disturbed/manipulated. The proponent should mark the location and immediately inform the Coast Guard. Additional information is available in the 2012 Annual Edition - Notices to Mariners, Section F, No.37; and

In the event of activities which may have contact with the seabed (such as drilling or mooring), it is strongly advised that operational aids, such as remote operated vehicles, be used to conduct seabed surveys to prevent unintentional contact with harmful UXO items that may have gone unreported or undetected. General information regarding UXO is available on 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,



Carol Lee Giffin
Formation Safety and Environmental Officer
for Commander