

From: Pulchan, Jerry [St. John's] [Jerry.Pulchan@EC.GC.CA]  
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2012 4:19 PM  
To: Hicks, Darren  
Cc: Corkum, Jeffrey [Dartmouth]; Hingston, Michael [Dartmouth]; Mailhiot, Joshua [St. John's]  
Subject: Western Geco Canada Jeanne d'Arc Basin Seismic Program 2012-2015, 2011- 353 [CEAA #4194-10] Attachments: Western Geco Canada Jeanne d'Arc Basin Seismic Program 2012-2015, 2011-353 [CEAA #4194-10]

Mr. Hicks,

Environment Canada's comments for the draft scoping document (Western Geco Canada – Jeanne d'Arc Basin Seismic Program 2012-2015 prepared by the C-NLOPB on December 6, 2011) applies to the project report Environmental Assessment of WesternGeco's Seismic Program for the Jeanne d'Arc Basin, 2012–2015 prepared by LGL Ltd. (April 2012).

In addition, the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada (EC-CWS) offers the comments below (all of which deal with Section 5.8 [Mitigations and Follow-up] of the environmental assessment report.

#### Stranded Birds

Should storm-petrels or other species become stranded on vessels, the proponent is expected to adhere to the protocol described in Williams and Chardine's brochure entitled, The Leach's Storm-Petrel: General Information and Handling Instructions (attached). A permit is required to implement the Williams and Chardine protocol. The proponent should be advised that it is required to complete a permit application form prior to proposed activities. This form is available from the EC-CWS by emailing [Permi.atl@ec.gc.ca](mailto:Permi.atl@ec.gc.ca) <<mailto:Permi.atl@ec.gc.ca>> .

#### Data Collection

EC-CWS has developed a pelagic seabird monitoring protocol that we are recommending for all offshore projects. Attached is a version of the protocol for experienced observers. This protocol is a work in progress and we would appreciate feedback from the observers using it in the field. A guide sheet to the pelagic seabirds of Atlantic Canada has also been attached to this response, for assistance in identifying pelagic seabirds in the area.

A report of the seabird monitoring program, together with any recommended changes, is to be submitted to EC-CWS on a yearly basis.

In an effort to expedite the process of data exchange, EC-CWS would appreciate that the data (as it relate to migratory birds or species at risk) collected from the seabird monitoring surveys be forwarded in digital format to our office. These data will be centralized for our internal use to help ensure that the best possible natural resource management decisions are made for these species in Newfoundland and

Labrador. Metadata will be retained to identify source of data and will not be used for the purpose of publication. The Canadian Wildlife Service will not copy, distribute, loan, lease, sell, or use of this data as part of a value added product or otherwise make the data available to any other party without the prior express written consent.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding our comments.

<<Western Geco Canada Jeanne d'Arc Basin Seismic Program 2012-2015, 2011-353  
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