

E-mail Message

From: [Information \[EX:/O=CANADA NEWFOUNDLAND OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD/OU=CNOPBLAN/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=INFORMATION\]](mailto:Information [EX:/O=CANADA NEWFOUNDLAND OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD/OU=CNOPBLAN/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=INFORMATION])
To: [Sheppard, Carolyn \[EX:/O=CANADA NEWFOUNDLAND OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD/OU=CNOPBLAN/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=Carolyns\]](mailto:Sheppard, Carolyn [EX:/O=CANADA NEWFOUNDLAND OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD/OU=CNOPBLAN/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=Carolyns])
Cc:
Sent: 1/17/2012 at 11:46 AM
Received: 1/17/2012 at 11:46 AM
Subject: FW: draft scoping document, Western NL Offshore SEA update

From: Len Zedel [mailto:zedel@mun.ca]
 Sent: Tue 1/17/2012 10:35 AM
 To: Information
 Cc: JOHN JACOBS; Len Zedel
 Subject: draft scoping document, Western NL Offshore SEA update

Thank you for providing Nature Newfoundland and Labrador with a copy of the DRAFT scoping document of the SEA update for the Western Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Area. We appreciate the opportunity for input at this early stage of the process.

Overall the document is fairly generic as is expected of a scoping document for a strategic assesment and it appears to include the usual important considerations. One point that I would like to draw attention to is that the general ocean circulation in the Gulf of St. Lawrence has a northward flow along Newfoundland's Northern Peninsula with an area of mixing and recirculation in the Strait of Belle Isle and a subsequent flow southward along the Quebec coastline. With this general circulation pattern, any significant oil spills within the identified study area have the potential to move northward and even send pollutants over to the Quebec coastline. Importantly, given the existance of this known general circulation pattern, it is inappropriate to have the study area restricted to be within the NL boundary when the entire northern end of the Strait of Belle Isle is obviously within the range of potential impacts.

Thank you for considering this issue, Len Zedel.

For circulation in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, see for example:

J. Northw. Atl. Fish. Sci., Vol. 34: 85-101.

Publication (Upload) date: 24 September 2004.

Hydrographic Variability in the Waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Scotian Shelf and the Eastern Gulf of Maine (NAFO Subarea 4) During 1991-2000. Kenneth F. Drinkwater and D. Gilbert.

Home page: <http://brigus.physics.mun.ca/zedel/zedel.html>

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