CANADA-NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

September 30, 2011

Elaine Feldman
President
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
22nd Floor, 160 Elgin Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H3

Dear Ms. Feldman:

ExxonMobil Canada Properties (EMCP), as Operator, on behalf of the Hebron Project Proponents, ExxonMobil Canada Ltd., Chevron Canada Limited, Petro-Canada Hebron Partnership through its managing partner Suncor Energy Inc., Statoil Canada Ltd., and Nalcor Energy – Oil and Gas Inc. has proposed the construction and operation of the Hebron Offshore Development Project in the Jeanne d'Arc Basin, approximately 340 km offshore Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, together with Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Industry Canada, and Transport Canada are Responsible authorities for the Project pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (the Act). Several components of the Project will require approvals/authorizations as per the following: paragraphs 138(1)(b) and 139(4)(a) of the *Canada-Newfoundland Atlantic Accord Implementation Act*; subsection 127(1) of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*; subsection 35(2) of the *Fisheries Act*; paragraph 5(1)(f) of the *Radiocommunication Act*; and Part 1, Section 5 of the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*. On July 22, 2009, the Minister of the Environment referred the project back to the Responsible Authorities for completion as a comprehensive study. The Project, as proposed, is described in Part IV (Oil and Gas Projects) paragraph 11.1(a) of the *Comprehensive Study List Regulations* of the CEAA.

On behalf of the responsible authorities for the Hebron Development Project (the Project), I am pleased to inform you that a Comprehensive Study Report (CSR) for the Project has been prepared, as required by paragraph 21(b) of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.* The Responsible Authorities worked with the proponent to complete the CSR. The report describes the Project, its environmental setting, potential project-specific environmental interactions, proposed mitigation measures designed to eliminate or reduce the environmental effects of the Project, and an evaluation of the significance of the environmental effects of the Project after taking into consideration the implementation of mitigation measures. This review ensures that the Responsible Authorities have carefully considered the environmental effects of the Project before making any decisions that would allow it to proceed.

Fifth Floor, TD Place, 140 Water Street, St. John's, NL, Canada A1C 6H6
Telephone (709) 778-1400 Fax (709) 778-1473

The Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board received the attached letters from the Responsible Authorities indicating that they have reviewed the CSR and that all the factors identified in the scope of the assessment have been adequately considered and that the CSR is complete. As required under paragraph 22(1) of the Act, the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, on behalf of all the Responsible Authorities, submit the CSR to the Canada Environmental Assessment Agency so that it may be released for public comment. If you would like more information on the CSR, please contact David Burley, Manager, Environmental Affairs at (709) 778-1403 or by email at dburley@cnlopb.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

Max Ruelokke, P. Eng.
Chairman & CEO

Attachments

cc. Paul Schafer, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Bill Coulter, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Dave Burley, Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
Glenn Troke, Environment Canada
Sara Lewis, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Randy Decker, Transport Canada
Steven Mills, Industry Canada
Martin Anderson, Major Projects Management Office

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Environmental Assessment & Marine Programs Division
Place Vincent Massey - 16th Floor
351 St-Joseph Blvd
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

September 23, 2011

File No.: 4572-10

Mr. Max Ruelokke, P.Eng.
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
5th Floor, TD Place
140 Water Street,
St. John's, NL A1C 6H6

Dear Mr. Ruelokke:

Re: Hebron Development Project: Letter of Concurrence Recommendation to Accept the Comprehensive Study Report for Public Review

ExxonMobil Canada Properties Limited has proposed the construction and operation of the Hebron Offshore Oil Development Project in the Jeanne D'Arc Basin, offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. Environment Canada, together with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Transport Canada, Industry Canada and the Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board are Responsible Authorities for the Project pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (the Act). All Responsible Authorities have worked together to conduct a single federal environmental assessment to fulfill their respective responsibilities under the Act.

Following a decision on July 22, 2009, by the Minister of Environment to refer the project back to the Responsible Authorities for completion as a comprehensive study, federal departments worked with the proponent to complete the Comprehensive Study Report (CSR). Environment Canada is of the opinion that all factors identified in the scope of the environmental assessment have been adequately considered and that the CSR is complete.

As required under paragraph 22(1) of the Act, Environment Canada supports that the Canada Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, on behalf of all the Responsible Authorities, submit the CSR to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency so that it may be released for public comment.

Yours truly,

Laurence Davidson on behalf of Michael Wilson
Executive Director
Environmental Assessment & Marine Programs Division

cc: I.R.G. Mercer
J. Corkum

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Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

PO Box 5667
St. John's NL A1C 5X1

Your File Votre référence

Our File Notre référence
BAB 3970-175

SEP 2 6 2011

Mr. Max Ruelokke
Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
140 Water Street
St. John's NL A1C 6H6

Subject: Letter of Concurrence – Recommendation for Acceptance of Comprehensive Study Report – Hebron Development Project

Dear Mr. Ruelokke:

In March 2009, ExxonMobil Canada Properties made a formal submission to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency to develop a fabrication facility at Bull Arm, NL for the fabrication of a Gravity Based Structure (GBS) for the deployment and use at the Hebron Field northeast Grand Banks. Several components of this project are subject to issuance of an Authorization as per subsection 35(2) of the *Fisheries Act*, which is a trigger as defined under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA). As such, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is a responsible authority (RA) for this project, as is the Canada-Newfoundland Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB), Transport Canada, Industry Canada, and Environment Canada.

DFO has reviewed the Comprehensive Study Report (CSR) and is satisfied that the CSR is complete. The document presents an overview of the proposed Project and the surrounding environment, an analysis of the potential environmental effects of the Project, a summary of consultations undertaken in relation to the Project, and mitigation measures designed to eliminate or reduce the environmental effects of the Project. The report concludes with an evaluation of the significance of the environmental effects of the Project after taking into consideration the implementation of recommended mitigation measures.

As a RA, DFO fully supports C-NLOPB conveying on DFO's behalf, the recommendation to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency that the CSR undergo public consultation, pursuant to subsection 22(1) of the CEAA.

Sincerely,

James W. Baird
Regional Director General
Newfoundland and Labrador Region

sl/sp

Canada

Industry Canada
Spectrum Management Operations Branch
Ontario Region
55 St. Clair Avenue East
Room 909, 9th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 1M2

Industrie Canada
Direction générale des opérations du spectre
Région de l'Ontario
55 est, avenue St. Clair
Bureau 909, 9e étage
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 1M2

September 29, 2011

Max Ruelokke, P. Eng.
Chairman & CEO
Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
Fifth Floor, TD Place
140 Water Street
St. John's, NL
A1C 6H6

Re: Hebron Offshore Oil and Gas Development - Comprehensive Study Report

Dear Mr. Ruelokke:

As you are aware, the proposed Hebron Offshore Oil and Gas Development Project will require a radio licence issued by Industry Canada, and as a result, Industry Canada is one of the Responsible Authorities (RA) for the environmental assessment (EA) of this project.

The purpose of this letter is to confirm that we have fulfilled our responsibility as an RA by participating in the process that ensured the preparation of a Comprehensive Study Report (CSR) for this project. In addition, we wish to indicate that we are satisfied that the factors identified in the Scoping Document have been considered, and that the CSR is complete in this regard. Notwithstanding this, I would note that Industry Canada is not in possession of the specialist, expert information or knowledge that is necessary to conduct the environmental assessment of this project.

It is our understanding that, on behalf of all the Responsible Authorities, you will be sending the assessment to Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, which will then release it for public consultation.

If you require any additional information regarding our role in this process, please do not hesitate to contact Steve Mills, Regional Environmental Assessment Coordinator, at (506) 851-3323.

Sincerely,

John Baggio
Regional Director
Atlantic & Ontario Region

Canada

Transport Canada / Transports Canada

September 22, 2011

Mr. Max Ruelokke, P. Eng.
Chairman & CEO
Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
5th Floor, TD Place
140 Water Street, St. John's, NL
A1C 6H6

Dear Mr. Ruelokke:

Re: Letter of Concurrence - Recommendation for Acceptance of Comprehensive Study Report for Section 22(1) Public Consultation

On March 6, 2009, ExxonMobil Canada Properties, on behalf of its Co-Venturers, submitted a project description for its proposal to develop the Hebron Development Project that required a comprehensive study in accordance with the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (the CEA Act). Several components of the Project will require approvals from Transport Canada under the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*. As such, Transport Canada is a Responsible Authority (RA) for this Project, as are the Canada-Newfoundland & Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Industry Canada.

Transport Canada has reviewed the Comprehensive Study Report (CSR) and is satisfied that the CSR is complete. The CSR adequately addresses the Section 16(1) and 16(2) factors detailed in the CEA Act.

As a RA, Transport Canada fully supports the Canada-Newfoundland & Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board on the recommendation to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency that the CSR be subject to public consultation in accordance with subsection 22(1) of the CEA Act.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice Landry
Regional Director - Programs
Transport Canada - Atlantic Region