



## **2011 WORK PLAN**

### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

### **CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD**

### **FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA**

### **AND**

### **ENVIRONMENT CANADA**

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Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Environment Canada (EC), and the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (CNSOPB) will collaborate on the following projects with the objective of enhancing current mechanisms and practices for delivering environmental protection and conservation measures in the Nova Scotia offshore environment. The Work Plan does not preclude DFO, EC and the CNSOPB from working on other priority issues or projects, which may be identified during the course of the 2011 calendar year.

#### **Project 1 – Joint Priority Setting and Planning**

##### Project Description:

The CNSOPB, DFO and EC all have legislative and regulatory responsibilities related to petroleum activities offshore Nova Scotia. As such, it is desirable that the agencies develop a set of agreed-to areas of collaborative work and develop strategies to ensure resources are available to carry out this work.

To achieve this outcome, the three parties have agreed to meet as required, and at least annually, to discuss and plan for anticipated workloads and to identify priorities. These meetings will be led by the Implementation Committee Chair.

Deliverables:

- Discussions of issues/areas requiring collaborative work, and an estimate of associated workloads.
- Continued input into research objectives of various funding groups (e.g. ESRF, PERD).
- Development of a joint 2012 Annual Work Plan, coordinated by the CNSOPB with DFO and EC.

Timing: Ongoing

Project Team Leader: Keith Landra (CNSOPB)

Project Team Resources:

Geoff Mercer (EC)

Odette Murphy and Roland Cormier (DFO)

**Project 2 - Environmental Assessment**Project Description:

The CNSOPB, DFO and EC must satisfy their respective obligations under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. These organizations share an interest in improving the environmental assessment (EA) process, such that impacts are understood and managed effectively and efficiently. The exchange of expertise and information is fundamental to the conduct of an EA that fulfills CNSOPB, DFO and EC obligations. This project will facilitate the exchange and ensure appropriate linkages are made to other relevant work plan items.

Deliverables:

- Ongoing cooperation between the parties in fulfilling their respective obligations under the *CEAA*.
- Continued cooperation in addressing post-EA commitments on the Deep Panuke project, including the review of additional information submitted by the proponent.
- Finalization of EnCana's production Environmental Protection and Compliance Monitoring Plan (EPCMP) for Deep Panuke.

Timing: Ongoing

(EPCMP finalization June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011)

Project Team Leader: Eric Theriault (CNSOPB)

Project Team Resources: Don Logan and Elizabeth MacDonald (CNSOPB)  
Jayne Roma and Jeff Corkum (EC)  
Donald Humphrey and Ross Alexander (DFO)

### **Project 3 - Environmental Effects Monitoring**

Project Description:

*The CNSOPB, EC and DFO have developed the Environmental Effects Monitoring Coordination Framework (April 2005) to assist in coordinating a review of new EEM programs and the results of completed or ongoing programs. ExxonMobil's SOEP EEM Program is an ongoing activity that the CNSOPB, EC and DFO review annually, following the Framework. The Deep Panuke Production EEM Program review will begin in early 2011.*

Deliverables:

- Ongoing review of EEM programs and results on an as-needed basis, following the *Environmental Effects Monitoring Coordination Framework* developed by the CNSOPB, DFO and EC.

Timing: Ongoing.

Project Team Leader: Eric Theriault (CNSOPB)

Project Team Resources: Sue Ellen Maher (EC),  
Donald Humphrey and Ross Alexander (DFO), Don Logan (CNSOPB)

### **Project 4 – Ongoing Activities**

Project Description:

There are several ongoing activities that the CNSOPB, EC and DFO collaborate on regularly. The deliverables of Project 4 are each of the following ongoing projects, which will require collaborative work in 2011 and in years to follow.

Deliverables:

- EC and the CNSOPB will endeavor to undertake joint compliance verification activities each year, including monitoring and audits, under their respective mandates.

- Exchange of information between EC and the CNSOPB regarding response to offshore spills.
- The CNSOPB will continue to participate in SARA recovery strategy discussions and recovery planning teams initiated by DFO and Environment Canada.
- The SARA Working Group will continue to meet and share information to help interpret SARA requirements and provide guidance.

Timing: Ongoing

Team Co-leads: Heidi Schaefer (DFO Maritimes Region) and Fernand Savoie (DFO Gulf Region) for the SARA working group. Wayne Barchard (EC), and for the SARA Working Group, Julie McKnight (EC), Don Logan and Elizabeth MacDonald (CNSOPB)

## **Project 5 – Integrated Management and Conservation Initiatives**

Project Description:

Under the *Oceans Act*, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans has the responsibility to lead and facilitate the development and implementation of integrated management plans for all marine waters and a national system of Marine Protected Areas (MPA). The Minister may also establish marine environmental quality guidelines, objectives and criteria. Within the Maritimes and Gulf Regions of DFO, there are a number of *Oceans Act* initiatives that require CNSOPB involvement and collaboration.

Deliverables:

- The CNSOPB will collaborate with DFO on initiatives and governance structures developed under the *Oceans Act*, including the Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) and Gulf Region processes and related working groups.
- The CNSOPB and DFO will collaborate in support of the management and conservation of the Gully Marine Protected Area.
- The CNSOPB will continue to participate in DFO's MPA processes, as appropriate.

Timing: Ongoing

Project Team Leaders: Odette Murphy and Roland Cormier (DFO), Eric Theriault (CNSOPB)

Project Team Resources: Don Logan and Elizabeth MacDonald (CNSOPB)  
Glen Herbert and Ross Alexander (DFO)

## **Project 6 – Air Emissions**

### Project Description:

Ambient concentrations of a number of air pollutants are being measured on Sable Island and analyzed along with Thebaud flare observations and meteorological data, to try to determine the potential sources of increased air pollution concentrations on the Island.

### Deliverables:

- Ongoing collection, sharing and analysis of data.

Timing: Ongoing

Project Team Leader: Michael Hingston (EC)

Project Team Resources: Elizabeth MacDonald (CNSOPB)

## **Project 7 – Ocean Disposal**

### Project Description:

This project will examine Disposal at Sea regulatory requirements as they relate to activities undertaken by the offshore oil and gas industry.

### Deliverables:

- Following completion of the internal review of a 2008 study which examined the applicability of the Disposal at Sea requirements, EC will initiate discussions with the CNSOPB on the development of a guidance document.

Timing: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Project Team Leader: Jeffrey Corkum (EC)

Project Team Resources: Eric Theriault (CNSOPB)

## **Project 8 - Reporting on Progress**

### Project Description:

The Implementation Committee Members will keep the MOU signatories advised of the status of projects. An annual report will be prepared by January 31, 2011 on the previous year's progress under the MOU.

### Deliverables:

- Semi-annual summary of progress
- Annual report to Executive Committee

Timing: Semi-annual summary: on or before July 31, 2011  
Annual progress report: before December 31, 2011

Project Team Leader: Keith Landra (CNSOPB)

Project Team Resources: Geoff Mercer (EC)  
Odette Murphy and Roland Cormier (DFO)

**Approvals:**

Whereas the parties have signed this MOU on the dates indicated below.

for: **Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board**

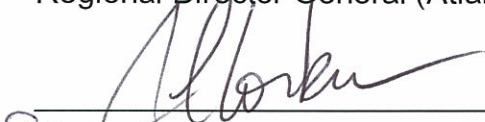
  
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Mr. Stuart Pinks  
Chief Executive Officer

January 24, 2011  
Date

for: **Environment Canada**

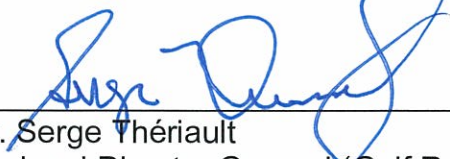
  
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Mr. Daniel Lebel  
Regional Director General (Atlantic)

Jan 24, 2011  
Date

  
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Mr. I.R. Geoffrey Mercer  
Regional Director, Environmental Protection  
Operations Directorate, Atlantic

24 Jan 11  
Date

for: **Fisheries and Oceans Canada**

  
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Mr. Serge Thériault  
Regional Director General (Gulf Region)

Jan 24, 2011  
Date

and

  
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Ms. Faith Scattolon  
Regional Director General (Maritimes Region)

January 24, 2011  
Date