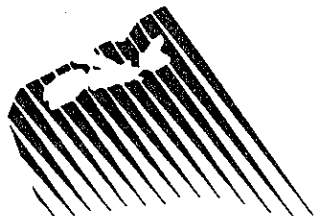


FILE COPY



CANADA - NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

6th Floor TD Centre 1791 Barrington Street Halifax Nova Scotia B3J 3K9 Tel 902-422-5588 Fax 902-422-1799 www.cnsopb.ns.ca

File No. 30,008.14 / BA50,001

September 24, 2004

Dr. Roger Rangeley
Marine Program Director
Atlantic Regional Office
World Wildlife Fund Canada
Suite 1202 - Duke Tower
5251 Duke Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 1P3

Dear Dr. Rangeley:

**Re: BEPCo Canada Company – Environmental Assessment Report
Exploratory Drilling on EL2407**

This is to acknowledge receipt on September 10, 2004, of your comments concerning the Environmental Assessment for the BEPCo Canada Exploratory Drilling Program on EL2407. You have raised, among other matters, such issues as benthic surveys and species at risk.

Your comments are being considered as the Board reviews all related documents and prepares the Comprehensive Study Report. The report will include a section on the public consultation process and how comments received were addressed.

Meanwhile, the Board continues to work with Fisheries and Oceans Canada in its oceans management initiatives under the Oceans Act. This work is outside the scope of this project specific environmental assessment.

Thank you for your comments on the Environmental Assessment for this proposed project and your continued interest in this process.

Sincerely,

Eric Theriault, P.Eng.
Advisor, Environmental Affairs

ET/jls

c.c. Derek McDonald – CEA Agency
Phil Zamora – DFO
Friederike Kirstein - EC
Patrick Blanchard – BEPCo Canada
Katherine Fleet – Jacques Whitford