

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.cnsoph.ns.ca

DP50,001.2

June 4, 2007

Honourable John Baird
Minister of the Environment
House of Commons
Ottawa Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister:

The Canada Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board, along with the National Energy Board, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Transport Canada, and Industry Canada would like to inform you that the Comprehensive Study Report (CSR) for the Deep Panuke Offshore Gas Development Project (the Project), as required under subsection 21.1(1) of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA), has been submitted to the President of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency). In addition, letters of support for this submission were provided to the Agency from all the responsible authorities and Environment Canada.


EnCana Corporation (the Proponent) proposes to develop and produce the Deep Panuke gas field which is located on the Scotian Shelf, offshore Nova Scotia. Authorizations under sub-sections 142(1)(b) and 143(4)(a) of the *Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act*, will be required by the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board. The National Energy Board will require a section 52 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, or Section 58 Order, pursuant to the *National Energy Board Act*. An authorization under subsection 35(2) of the *Fisheries Act* will be required, since the Project will impact on fish habitat. Because the Project includes a variety of works in navigable water, approval may be required under paragraph 5(1) of the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*. Finally, the Project requires that Industry Canada issue a Radio license under subsection 5(1)(a) of the *Radiocommunication Act* and pursuant to subsection 5(1)(f) requires Industry Canada approval for each site on which a radio apparatus including antenna systems may be located.

By triggering the CEAA, the Canada Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board, the National Energy Board, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Transport Canada, and Industry Canada became responsible authorities thus requiring them to undertake an environmental assessment of the Project. A comprehensive study under the CEAA is required when a proposed project meets at least one of the requirements in the

Comprehensive Study List Regulation. In this case, the Project as proposed is described in Section 11.1(b) of the *Comprehensive Study List Regulations*. The CSR also incorporates the expert advice provided by Environment Canada and Natural Resources Canada.

Following your review of the Agency's recommendation on the CSR, and taking into account any public comments received during the consultation period, the responsible authorities would appreciate receiving your advice on an appropriate course of action that should be taken with respect to this Project.

Yours sincerely,


Diana Dalton
Chief Executive Officer

DD/wa

cc: Jean-Claude Bouchard, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Gaétan Caron, National Energy Board
Honourable Loyola Hearn, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans
Honourable Lawrence Cannon, Transport Canada
Honourable Maxime Bernier, Industry Canada