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CANADA – NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

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File No.: 30,008.26/NSG002

February 9, 2010

Mr. Jeff Corkum
Environmental Assessment Section
Environment Canada
16th Floor, Queen Square
45 Alderney Drive
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 2N6

RE: Species at Risk - Section 79(1) Notification of Competent Minister for the project ExxonMobil Canada Properties Seabed Survey – Potential Sable Subsea Satellites Development Project

Dear Mr. Corkum:

Pursuant to Section 79(1) of the *Species at Risk Act (SARA)*, the CNSOPB hereby informs the Minister of Environment (the Competent Minister) that the following Schedule 1 Species are likely to be in the project area under the jurisdiction of the CNSOPB. A determination of the likelihood of adverse affects on these species will be undertaken during the environmental assessment screening process.

Endangered: Roseate tern (*Sterna dougallis*)

Special Concern: Savannah (Ipswich) sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis principis*)

The CNSOPB is a responsible authority and is required to conduct an environmental assessment under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* before an authorization is issued under paragraph 142(1)(b) of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act.

If you have any questions about the above, I may be reached at 902-496-0737 or via email at emacdonald@cnsopb.ns.ca.

Best regards,

Elizabeth MacDonald
Environmental Analyst
Conservation Officer