

## **CNSOPB extends public consultation period on Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment**

August 09, 2005

**Halifax, NS** - The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (CNSOPB, the Board) today extended the Public Consultation period for its draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Misaine Bank area offshore Cape Breton.

The assessment provides an overview of the existing environment in the Misaine Bank area. Moreover, it discusses the potential environmental effects associated with offshore oil and gas exploration activities, identifies knowledge and data gaps, highlights issues of concern, and makes recommendations for mitigation and planning in the area. Information from the SEA will assist the CNSOPB in determining whether exploration rights should be offered in whole or in part for the area assessed, and may also help to identify appropriate general restrictive or mitigative measures applicable to exploration activities.

The consultation period is being extended by two weeks until Friday, August 19th, 2005 in order to accommodate written submissions from all interested parties.

Copies of the draft SEA are available from the Board and can be found on the Board's website, [www.cnsopb.ns.ca](http://www.cnsopb.ns.ca) under "Latest News".

For more information, or for a copy of the Draft SEA, please contact:

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