

Board Receives Joint Directive to Hold Public Review

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Halifax, NS - The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board has received a joint directive from the federal and provincial governments to hold a public review of the effects of potential oil and gas exploration and drilling activities offshore Cape Breton. The directive from the federal Minister of Natural Resources and the provincial Minister responsible for the Nova Scotia Petroleum Directorate refers to activities within Exploration Licenses 2364, 2365 and 2368.

The Board will conduct a public review pursuant to Section 44 of the Accord Acts. Under that section, the Board has the authority to appoint a Commissioner and establish the Terms of Reference and timetable that will permit a comprehensive review of all aspects of the matter. Following public hearings, the Commissioner will make a report to the Board and the two ministers.

The Commissioner shall conduct the review in an open, fair and effective manner ensuring that the public is provided with a full and fair opportunity to participate in the process. Further information on the public review will be announced when the Board has appointed the Commissioner and set the Terms of Reference.