



Board Announces Result of Call for Bids NS03-1

Halifax , NS - The Canada - Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board today announced the results of the Call for Bids No. NS03-1 for new Exploration Licences offshore Nova Scotia.

The federal and provincial governments have been notified of the bid results. The Board will review all public comments and make its final decision prior to the end of November with respect to issuance of new Exploration Licences. This decision is subject to joint ministerial veto. If there is no joint veto within 30 days and the bidder satisfies the security deposit requirements specified in the Call for Bids, the Board will issue Exploration Licences for land parcel number two and parcel number four.

The Call for Bids NS03-1 was issued in June of 2003 on four parcels of land. At that time, interested parties were invited to bid on the parcels and the public was invited to submit written comments to the Board. Bids were received on parcel number two and parcel number four. Written public comments were also received specific to the parcels. The Board will ensure that operators address those comments and concerns in the environmental assessments and environmental impact statements which the Board requires before authorizing any activities in the licence areas. The written submissions will be forwarded to the successful bidders.

The Bids represent the amount of money the bidder intends to spend exploring the land parcels during the initial five-year period of a nine-year licence. The minimum bid is \$1,000,000.

It is important to note that an Exploration Licence does not give a company the right to conduct oil and gas activities. The Board stresses, that prior to any petroleum-related activities, the operator must apply for and receive work authorization from the Board for each activity. Application for work authorization must include an acceptable environmental impact statement, a comprehensive scope of work, a safety plan, a benefits plan, an environmental protection plan and evidence of financial responsibility.

The following successful bids have been received and are subject to Board acceptance:

Call for Bids NS03-1	Work Expenditures Bid (\$Cdn)
Land Parcel No. 2	
Canadian Frontier Energy Corp.* 100%	\$12,857,000.00
Land Parcel No. 4	
Canadian Frontier Energy Corp.* 100%	\$1,250,000.00

* Canadian Frontier Energy Corp. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Canadian Superior Inc.

The Board will not proceed with Call for Bids NS03-2 in December 2003. The next nomination closing date is March 31, 2004 . Nominations received prior to that date will be considered for inclusion in Call for Bids NS04-1, which, if held, would be issued June 2004.

For further information, contact:

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(Map of NS03-1 attached)

