



ORDER RESPECTING ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES

Pursuant to section 198 and subsection 210.094(1) of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act (Accord Act) (federal version) and section 190 and subsection 202CQ(1) of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation (Nova Scotia) Act (Accord Act) (provincial version).

ISSUED TO: Holders of Authorizations (Operators)

WHEREAS the Canada–Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (hereinafter referred to as “the Board”) has authority to issue authorizations for petroleum-related work or activities in the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Area (“Can-NS offshore area”);

AND WHEREAS the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic on March 11, 2020 in relation to COVID-19; and Nova Scotia’s Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing declared a state of emergency for the entire province of Nova Scotia as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic on March 22, 2020;

AND WHEREAS on March 23, 2020, Nova Scotia’s Chief Medical Officer of Health issued an Order pursuant to section 32 of the *Health Protection Act* (Nova Scotia);

AND WHEREAS the *Health Protection Act* is social legislation as defined by Part III.1 of the *Accord Acts* and has application to any workplace in the Can-NS offshore area;

AND WHEREAS the Board, in consultation with the Chief Safety Officer, has regulatory oversight responsibilities pursuant to the *Accord Acts* with respect to operational safety, protection of the environment and matters respecting the occupational health and safety of persons employed in petroleum-related work or activities in the Can-NS offshore area;

AND WHEREAS Operators have responsibilities under the *Accord Acts* to conduct operations in a safe manner and to protect the environment and also, a duty to ensure the health and safety of employees;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Safety Officer recognizes and is of the opinion that the COVID-19 global pandemic could create a dangerous situation at any workplace in the Can-NS offshore area;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Safety Officer has been granted the authority to issue this Order pursuant to section 198 and subsection 210.094(1) of the *Accord Act* (federal version) and section 190 and subsection 202CQ(1) of the *Accord Act* (provincial version).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Upon receipt of this Order, Operators shall ensure that only employees essential to conducting safe and environmentally responsible offshore oil and gas activities are permitted to work at a workplace in the Can-NS offshore area, unless otherwise approved by the Chief Safety Officer.
2. Operators shall immediately take any action necessary for all non-essential employees to disembark from their respective workplaces as soon as reasonably practicable, unless otherwise permitted to remain by the Chief Safety Officer.
3. Operators shall comply with the *Accord Acts*, the Order of Nova Scotia's Chief Medical Officer of Health, as amended from time to time, and this Order to meet their statutory duties and responsibilities and to ensure precautions are taken to comply with this Order and the Order of Nova Scotia's Chief Medical Officer of Health, as amended from time to time.
4. Operators shall ensure that all providers of services and others with responsibilities enumerated in subsection 210.01(1) of the *Accord Act* (federal version) and subsection 202K(1) of the *Accord Act* (provincial version) are taking the necessary precautions to comply with this Order and the Order of Nova Scotia's Chief Medical Officer of Health, as amended from time to time, to meet their respective statutory duties and responsibilities.
 - a. Prior to the transportation of passengers to or from offshore workplaces on vessels or aircraft, Operators shall provide COVID-19 management plans acceptable to the CSO describing arrangements in place to minimize risk of COVID-19 transmission for passengers immediately before and during transportation. (*April 29, 2020 revision*)
5. Operators shall ensure that all providers of services, especially those respecting helicopters, supply and standby vessels, be kept informed of the circumstances respecting this Order.
6. A copy of this Order is to be posted in prominent locations onboard any workplace in the Can-NS offshore area and at the heliport facilities in Halifax.

This Order amends and replaces the original Order issued on March 25, 2020, and shall remain in effect until such time the Chief Safety Officer is satisfied normal operations can resume without restrictions. (Amended sections noted with revision date).

Effective this 29th day April, 2020.



Robert Normore
Chief Safety Officer