



Canada-Nova Scotia
Offshore Petroleum Board
Kathleen Funke
1791 Barrington Street
8th Floor TC Centre
Halifax NS B3J 3K9

File No. 75,345.8

December 31, 2015

Dear Ms. Funke,

Re: Notification of Comment Period for Draft Report of a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Sydney Basin and Orpheus Graben Areas Offshore Cape Breton

This letter is in response to your letter dated November 30, 2015 whereby you gave notice Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (CNSOPB) has released a draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Sydney Basin and Orpheus Graben areas offshore Cape Breton for public comment.

As you are aware, Sipekne'katik has capacity issues in dealing with consultation requests. Review of the draft SEA is not possible within the requested timeline.

Potential accumulative impacts to both the environment and fishery from offshore projects are of concern.

Please note, this does not preclude present and future use and may be subject to outstanding Aboriginal Title.

Sincerely,


Chief Rufus Copage

cc. Justin Hustin, Director of Consultation, Office of Aboriginal Affairs

