

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

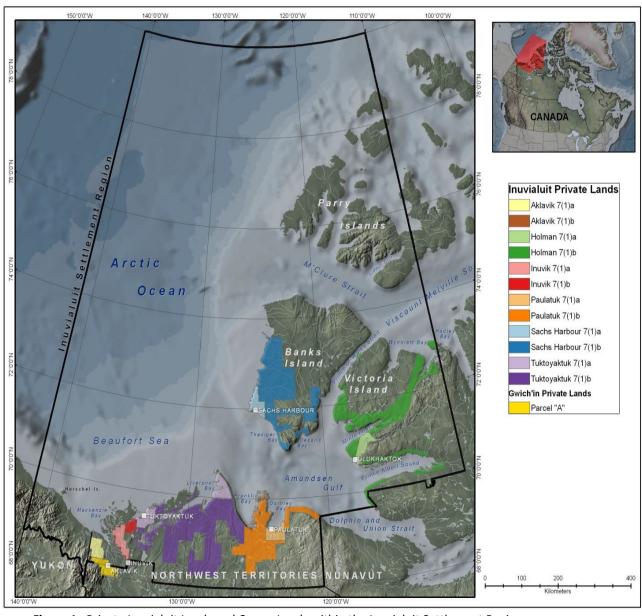
2013 - 2014

For the period April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014

Printed in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, Canada

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**Figure 1**. Private Inuvialuit Lands and Crown Lands within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

#### **CHAIR'S COMMENT**

The Environmental Impact Review Board's (EIRB) work during the reporting period focused on preparing for and initiating the public review of the Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture Drilling Program (the Development) proposed by Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited (IORVL) on behalf of the Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture.

The Development involves drilling one or more wells within Exploration Licence (EL) 476 or 477 located in the Beaufort Sea in the offshore of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). These ELs are in water depths that range from 60 m to 1500 m, and lie about 175 km north-northwest of Tuktoyaktuk. The well(s) would be drilled in water depths of 80 to 850 m.

The preferred or baseline case set out by the Developer would have the first well drilled in EL 477 commencing in the 2020 open water season, before the expiry of EL 477 (on 30 September 2020). The well(s) are assumed to require at least two years to complete and IORVL's proposed drill program schedule indicates that it may take three seasons to complete.

IORVL indicates that it will prepare a relief well plan as part of its Operations Authorization (OA) application to the National Energy Board (NEB) and that this plan will not include a same season relief well (SSRW). IORVL states that a relief well could be started but not be finished in the same season. IORVL's position is that a relief well is not a same season well control measure and that it is not possible to drill a well in a single season given the short drilling season in the Arctic, and that faster options exist to bring a well under control.

On December 11, 2013, the EIRB received a decision letter from the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) referring the Development for environmental impact assessment and review as set out in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). The EISC determined that the proposed development could have significant negative environmental impacts and referred the development to the EIRB for a public review under subsection 11(20) of the IFA.

The IFA requires the EIRB to expeditiously review this proposed development and, on the basis of the evidence and information submitted to it, recommend whether or not the development should proceed and, if it should, on what terms and conditions, including mitigation and remedial measures. The Review Board may also recommend that the development should be subject to further assessment and review and, if so, the data or information required.

The EIRB commenced the review on December 23, 2013. In late February 2014 the EIRB released draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a sixty-day comment period. To enable input from Inuvialuit organizations and individuals, the Board conducted a tour of all of the communities in the ISR in March 2014. The Board received a number of submissions from governments, organizations and individuals and, after carefully considering those submissions, released a revised draft EIS ToR on May 30, 2013. To finalize the EIS ToR the EIRB requires more information from the proponent to correct deficiencies in the Project Description. The proponent has informed the EIRB that it will provide the requested information. The review will continue into the next fiscal year.

The EIRB has initiated discussion regarding this Development with the National Energy Board with respect to its' responsibilities under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* and associated regulations with a view to minimizing or eliminating any duplication in these review processes.

Because of the complexity of the proposed Development, the Board has undertaken an internal development program to ensure that the Board is familiar with the technology of offshore exploration drilling and the lessons learned from the Macondo disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. In addition to participating in the Arctic Technology Conference, the Board visited the Shell Woodcreek Operations Center, the Schlumberger Operations Support Center, the Chevron Operations Center, Cameron Iron Works and the Marine Well Containment Company in February 2014. The Board also engaged internal expertise through an interchange with the NEB.

Preparing and initiating the review has required significant new staff resources. The Board welcomed Richard Binder as the new EIRB Co-ordinator, Marie-Anick Elie as the Hearing Manager, Bharat Dixit as the Senior Technical Advisor and Dez Loreen as support staff. The EIRB also benefits from the advice of Bruce Young on process and John Donihee, legal advisor to the Board, in relation to the review and other Board related matters. We appreciate the excellent work provided by all of these individuals.

During this reporting period Crystal Lennie was appointed to the Board by the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) replacing Lawrence Amos and I was appointed Chair by the federal government upon agreement by the IGC replacing Elizabeth Snider.

As Chair of the EIRB, I wish to welcome Crystal to the EIRB and also thank the Board for the warm welcome that was extended to me. I would also like to thank the Board members and staff for their work and perseverance in undertaking the review and development program. As always, the assistance of the staff of the Joint Secretariat over this period is appreciated by the EIRB.

The Board thanks Elizabeth Snider and Lawrence Amos for their diligent work over the years. Crystal and I have large shoes to fill.

Jon Pierce

Chair

#### **PERIOD OF REPORT**

This report describes the affairs of the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) for the fiscal period of April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.

#### **AUTHORITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD**

The EIRB was established under the terms of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) between Canada and the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement, representing the Inuvialuit. The IFA was approved, given effect, and declared valid by the *Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act* [S.C. 32 - 33 Elizabeth II, C.24.], on June 28,1984.

The IFA provides the groundwork for a two-stage Environmental Screening and Review Process that is carried out by the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) and the EIRB [IFA Section 11.0]. The EISC conducts environmental screenings of development activities proposed for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The EIRB carries out detailed environmental impact assessments and public reviews of development projects referred to it by the EISC pursuant to the IFA.

The goals of the IFA, directly relevant to EIRB operations, are:

- to preserve Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern society;
- to enable Inuvialuit to be equal and meaningful participants in the northern and national economy and society; and
- to protect and preserve the Arctic wildlife, environment, and biological productivity.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

The EIRB is composed of seven people. Three members are appointed by the Government of Canada; three members are appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC); and a Chair is selected by the Government of Canada with the consent of the IGC. Of the three members appointed by Canada, one is nominated by the Government of Yukon, one is nominated by the Government of the Northwest Territories, and one is nominated by the Government of Canada.

#### MEMBERS FOR 2013-2014

#### CHAIR

#### Jon Pierce, Bowman, QC

Appointed by the Government of Canada (2013)

Present Term: October 11, 2013 to October 11, 2016

#### Elizabeth Snider, Smith Falls, ON

Appointed by the Government of Canada (2005)

Resignation effective: June 27,2013

Present Term: March 29, 2011 to March 29, 2014
Previous Terms: March 29, 2008 to March 29, 2011
March 29, 2005 to March 29, 2008

#### **MEMBERS**

#### Lawrence Amos, Sachs Harbour, NT

Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (2010)

Previous Term: September 2010 to September 2013

#### Crystal Lennie, Inuvik, NT

Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (2013)

Present Term: September 2013 to September 2016

#### Herbert Felix, Inuvik, NT

Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (1995)

Present Term: September 2011 to September 2014
Previous Terms: September 2008 to September 2011

September 2005 to September 2008 September 2002 to September 2005 September 1999 to September 2002 September 1996 to September 1999 September 1995 to September 1996

#### Roland Kikoak, Tuktoyaktuk, NT

Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (2008)

Present Term: September 2011 to September 2014
Previous Term: September 2008 to September 2011

#### **Bruce Chambers, Whitehorse, YT**

Nominated by the Government of Yukon.

Appointed by the Government of Canada (2008)

Present Term: September 5, 2011 to September 5, 2014
Previous Term: September 5, 2008 to September 5, 2011

#### Catherine Cockney, Inuvik, NT

Nominated by the Government of the Northwest Territories

Appointed by the Government of Canada (2006)

Present Term August 8, 2013 to August 8, 2016
Previous Term: December 2009 to December 2012
Previous Term: December 2006 to December 2009

#### Jim Umpherson, Yellowknife, NT

Appointed by the Government of Canada (2011)

Present Term: December 28, 2011 to December 28, 2014

#### ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The EIRB receives administrative, technical, and clerical support from the Joint Secretariat (JS) in Inuvik. Eli Nasogaluak, Environmental Coordinator, has been providing full-time assistance since March 2010. Richard Binder(CSU) assumed the responsibility of the Environmental Coordinator in December 2013. In addition, the staff of the Joint Secretariat (JS) included the following individuals:

#### JOINT SECRETARIAT BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Frank Pokiak – IGC
Vice-Chair John Ondrack – EISC
Director Vic Gillman – FJMC

Director Elizabeth Snider/Jon Pierce – EIRB
Director Larry Carpenter – WMAC (NWT)
Director Lindsay Staples – WMAC (NS)
Secretary Norm Snow – Executive Director

#### JS ADMIN STAFF

Secretary/Receptionist Bernice Joe/Jessica Wilson (casual)

Travel/Accommodation Shannon Jensen/Camellia Gray/Jerome Gordon

Finance Officer Eunice Thrasher
Senior Finance Officer Shannon Jensen

Office Manager Kim Bernier/Linda McDonald

Librarian Myrna Button
Acting SAO Peggy Madore
HTC Admin Support Shawna Kaglik

#### CO-MANAGEMENT BOARDS RESOURCE PERSONNEL

Organization	Present Staff	Past Staff
CBM	Jennie Knopp	
CSU	Richard Binder and Eli Nasogaluak	
EIRB	Richard Binder, Bharat Dixit, Marie-	Eli Nasogaluak
	Anick Elie and Dez Loreen	
EISC	Darrell Christie	
FJMC	Kristin Hynes	James Malone and Danny Swainson
IGC	Steven Baryluk and Jennifer Lam	Environment Advisor (vacant)
WMAC (NS)	Jennifer Smith and Christine	
	Cleghorn	
WMAC (NWT)	James Malone	Alex Bradley

#### **REVIEWS**

On December 11, 2013 the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) referred the proposed development known as "Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture Drilling Program, [09-13-01]" submitted by Imperial Oil Resources Venture Limited (IORVL) to the Environmental Impact Review Board for public review.

The EIRB has a Registry site located on the EIRB site (<a href="www.eirb.ca">www.eirb.ca</a>); it is the role of the EIRB Coordinator to regularly update the registry site.

#### OPERATING PROCEDURES

Persons who are interested in obtaining a copy of the EIRB's current *Operating Procedures* or who have questions about the EIRB should contact:

Environmental Impact Review Board
Joint Secretariat - Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees
Inuvialuit Corporate Centre
PO Box 2120, Inuvik, NT,
CANADA X0E 0T0

phone: (867) 777-2828 fax: (867) 777-2610 email: eirb@jointsec.nt.ca

# ROUTINE OPERATIONS, ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES

The EIRB takes part in other activities, as necessary, to maintain currency in the field of Environmental Assessment. The following is a list of activities, meetings, workshops, and conferences in which various members of the EIRB took part in over the past year:

# EIRB CONFERENCE CALL,

#### APRIL 30, 2013

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Jim Umpherson,

Elizabeth Snider,	Chair	Eli Nasogaluak,	<b>EIRB Coordinator</b>
Roland Kikoak,	Member	John Donihee,	Legal Council
Herbert Felix,	Member	Gordon Stewart,	Support Staff
Bruce Chambers,	Member		
Catherine Cockney,	Member		

#### EIRB BOARD MEETING, INUVIK NT.

Member

#### OCTOBER 8-9, 2013

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Elizabeth Snider,	Chair	Eli Nasogaluak,	<b>EIRB Coordinator</b>
Roland Kikoak,	Member		
Herbert Felix,	Member		
Bruce Chambers,	Member		
Catherine Cockney,	Member		
Jim Umpherson,	Member		

# EIRB BOARD MEETING, EDMONTON, ALTA.

# DECEMBER 18-20, 2013

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Jon Pierce,	Chair	Richard Binder,	Support Staff
Roland Kikoak,	Member	John Donihee,	Legal Council
Herbert Felix,	Member	Norm Snow,	<b>Executive Director JS</b>
Bruce Chambers,	Member	Elizabeth Snider,	Former Chair
Catherine Cockney,	Member		
Jim Umpherson,	Member		
Crystal Lennie,	Member		

# EIRB BOARD TRAINING/CONFERENCE, ARCTIC TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE, HOUSTON, TEXAS

#### FEBRUARY 10-11, 2014

#### **FIELD TRIPS:**

February 12, 2014, AM - Shell Woodcreek Operations Center

PM - Schlumberger Operations Support Center

February 13, 2014, PM – Cameron Iron Works

February 14, 2014, AM – Marine Well Containment Company

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Jon Pierce, Chair Richard Binder, Support Staff Roland Kikoak, Member Marie-Anick Elie, Hearing Manager Herbert Felix, Member Sr. Technical Advisor Bharat Dixit, Bruce Chambers, Member Bruce Young, Sr. Technical Advisor

Jim Umpherson, Member Catherine Cockney, Member

# EIRB BOARD MEETING, HOUSTON, TEXAS.

#### **FEBRUARY 13, 2014**

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Jon Pierce, Chair Richard Binder, Support Staff Roland Kikoak, Member Marie-Anick Elie. Hearing Manager Herbert Felix, Norm Snow, **Executive Director JS** Member Member Bharat Dixit, Bruce Chambers, Sr. Technical Advisor Jim Umpherson, Member Eli Nasogaluak, **EIRB Coordinator** Member Catherine Cockney, (via – Teleconference)

#### EIRB TELECONFERENCE CALL

# **FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

#### PARTICIPANTS:

Jon Pierce, Chair John Donihee, Legal Council Member Roland Kikoak, Richard Binder, Support Staff Herbert Felix, Member Marie-Anick Elie. Hearing Manager Bruce Chambers, Member Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Jim Umpherson, Member Bruce Young, Sr. Technical Advisor Member Eli Nasogaluak, **EIRB** Coordinator Catherine Cockney, Crystal Lennie, Member

#### EIRB PRE-ISR TOUR BOARD MEETING

# MARCH 22, 2014

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Chair Richard Binder, Jon Pierce. **Support Staff** Roland Kikoak, Member Marie-Anick Elie, Hearing Manager Member Herbert Felix, Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Bruce Chambers, Member Norm Snow, **Executive Director JS** Member Jim Umpherson, Eli Nasogaluak, **EIRB Coordinator** Catherine Cockney, Member Dez Loreen, **Support Staff** Crystal Lennie, Member Frank Pokiak, Chair - IGC Camellia Gray, **Travel Coordinator** 

#### EIRB BOARD MEETING, INUVIK, NT

#### MARCH 23, 2014

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Jon Pierce, Chair Richard Binder, **Support Staff** Member Marie-Anick Elie, Roland Kikoak, Hearing Manager Herbert Felix, Member Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Member **Executive Director JS** Bruce Chambers, Norm Snow, Jim Umpherson, Member Eli Nasogaluak, **EIRB** Coordinator Catherine Cockney, Member Dez Loreen, Support Staff Crystal Lennie, Member Frank Pokiak, Chair - IGC

#### EIRB COMMUNITY TOUR, INUVIALUIT SETTLEMENT REGION

School Presentations and Community Information Sessions were carried out in all Inuvialuit communities regarding the EIRB Review Process and Draft Terms Of Reference for the Proposed Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture Drilling Program.

#### MARCH 24, 2014, TUKTOYAKTUK, NT

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Richard Binder, Support Staff Herbert Felix, **Acting Chair** Marie-Anick Elie, Hearing Manager Member Roland Kikoak, Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Bruce Chambers, Member Eli Nasogaluak, **EIRB Coordinator** Jim Umpherson, Member Dez Loreen, **Support Staff** Member Catherine Cockney, Brian Chambers, National Energy Board Member Margaret McQuiston, NEB Crystal Lennie,

Frank Pokiak, IGC Chair
David Alexander, CANNOR-NPMO
Johnny Lennie, ITI-GNWT

**CANNOR-NPMO** 

### MARCH 25, 2014, PAULATUK, NT

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Marie-Anick Elie, Hearing Manager Herbert Felix, **Acting Chair** Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Roland Kikoak, Member Eli Nasogaluak, **EIRB** Coordinator Bruce Chambers, Member Dez Loreen, Support Staff Jim Umpherson, Member Brian Chambers, National Energy Board Member Crystal Lennie, Margaret McQuiston, NEB Frank Pokiak, **IGC Chair** 

David Alexander,

MARCH 26, 2014, ULUKHAKTOK, NT

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Marie-Anick Elie, Hearing Manager Herbert Felix, **Acting Chair** Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Roland Kikoak, Member **EIRB Coordinator** Eli Nasogaluak, Bruce Chambers, Member **Support Staff** Dez Loreen, Jim Umpherson, Member National Energy Board Brian Chambers, Crystal Lennie, Member Margaret McQuiston, NEB Frank Pokiak, IGC Chair David Alexander, **CANNOR-NPMO** 

#### MARCH 27, 2014, SACHS HARBOUR, NT

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Marie-Anick Elie, Hearing Manager Herbert Felix, **Acting Chair** Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Roland Kikoak. Member Eli Nasogaluak, **EIRB** Coordinator Bruce Chambers, Member Dez Loreen, Support Staff Jim Umpherson, Member Brian Chambers, National Energy Board

Crystal Lennie, Member Margaret McQuiston, NEB

Frank Pokiak, IGC Chair
David Alexander, CANNOR-NPMO

#### MARCH 30, 2014, INUVIK, NT

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Chair Jon Pierce, Richard Binder, Support Staff Herbert Felix, Member Marie-Anick Elie, Hearing Manager Member Sr. Technical Advisor Roland Kikoak, Bharat Dixit, Bruce Chambers, Member Dez Loreen, Support Staff Jim Umpherson, Member Brian Chambers, National Energy Board

Crystal Lennie, Member Margaret McQuiston, NEB
Catherine Cockney, Member Frank Pokiak, IGC Chair

David Alexander, CANNOR-NPMO Johnny Lennie, ITI-GNWT

Marie Adams, CANNOR-NPMO

#### MARCH 31, 2014, AKLAVIK, NT

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Jon Pierce, Chair Richard Binder, Support Staff Member Marie-Anick Elie, Herbert Felix, **Hearing Manager** Roland Kikoak, Member Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Bruce Chambers, Member Dez Loreen, Support Staff Jim Umpherson, Member Brian Chambers, National Energy Board Crystal Lennie, Member Margaret McQuiston, NEB

Catherine Cockney, Member Frank Pokiak, IGC Chair
David Alexander, CANNOR-NPMO
Johnny Lennie, ITI-GNWT
Marie Adams, CANNOR-NPMO

#### EIRB BOARD MEETING, INUVIK, NT

#### MARCH 28, 2014

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Jon Pierce. Chair Richard Binder, **Support Staff** Roland Kikoak, Member Marie-Anick Elie, **Hearing Manager** Herbert Felix, Member Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Bruce Chambers, Member **Support Staff** Dez Loreen, Member **Travel Coordinator** Jim Umpherson, Camellia Gray, Catherine Cockney, Member Crystal Lennie, Member

#### EIRB BOARD MEETING, AKLAVIK, NT

#### MARCH 31, 2014

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Crystal Lennie,

Chair Richard Binder, Jon Pierce, Support Staff Roland Kikoak, Member Marie-Anick Elie, **Hearing Manager** Herbert Felix, Member Bharat Dixit, Sr. Technical Advisor Member **Support Staff** Bruce Chambers, Dez Loreen, Member Jim Umpherson, Catherine Cockney, Member

#### **FINANCES**

Funding for the Chair, Canada Member, Yukon Member and the Secretary of the EIRB, and for reviews conducted by the EIRB, is provided by way of Contribution Agreements with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. Funding for the Inuvialuit members is provided by way of a Contribution Agreement with the Government of the Northwest Territories. A summary of the finances is attached as Appendix B.

#### **APPENDICIES**

APPENDIX A ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Member

APPENDIX B FINANCIAL SUMMARY

#### APPENDIX A ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AANDC Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

CBM Community Based Monitoring

CSU Community Support Unit

EIRB Environmental Impact Review Board

EISC Environmental Impact Screening Committee

FJMC Fisheries Joint Management Committee

GIS Geographic Information System

GNWT Government of the Northwest Territories

HTC Hunters and Trappers Committee

IFA Inuvialuit Final Agreement (The Western Arctic Claim)

IGC Inuvialuit Game Council

IORVL Imperial Oil Resources Venture Limited

ISR Inuvialuit Settlement Region

ITI Industry Tourism and Investment

JS Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees

NEB National Energy Board

NPMO Northern Projects Management Office (CANNOR)

RP Resource Person

WMAC (NWT) Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories)

# APPENDIX B FINANCIAL SUMMARY

For full financial details, the audited financial statements of the Joint Secretariat should be consulted. For further information, contact:

Executive Director
Joint Secretariat - Inuvialuit Settlement Region
PO Box 2120/ Suite 204
Inuvik, Northwest Territories
CANADA X0E 0T0