

Environmental Impact Screening Committee

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November 1, 2013

WWF - Canada 30 Metcalfe Street Suite 400 Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5L4

Attention: Martin von Mirbach, Director, Arctic Program

Dear Sir:

Re: WWF - Canada Party Status Request (Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture Drilling Program)

This letter is in response to yours of October 29, 2013, which was received by the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC), via email, at 11:27 AM MDT. We advise that the EISC met on October 31, 2013, and during this meeting considered your request.

At this meeting it was resolved, by committee, to grant your request, with conditions.

This request was received on the day before the 45-day commenting period for EISC file [09/13-01] expired. The EISC notes that the WWF – Canada had over six weeks to make this request, to possibly contribute information to this file, and to advise on this proposed development.

The EISC has resolved (for reasons including this Party Status request) to extend the commenting period on EISC file [09/13-01] to midnight of November 8th, 2013.

The conditions for granting Party status to the WWF – Canada are that:

- 1. The WWF must accept and abide by the roles and responsibilities of a Party to the proceedings as detailed in section 5.2 of the EISC Environmental Impact Screening Guidelines.
- 2. The WWF must provide its comments (if any) on the file by midnight on November 8th, 2013.

Before closing, we note that the WWF letter gives the impression that this request for party status would also apply for the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB). This would be an incorrect assumption on the behalf of the WWF – Canada. Should a decision be made by the EISC to refer the proposed development for an Environmental Impact Review, and should this referral be made to the EIRB, the WWF – Canada would then have to make an application for Party Status directly to the EIRB.

In closing, we invite you to review our <u>Environmental Impact Screening Guidelines</u> in order to become more informed of the processes involved in the decision-making work of the EISC, and how the WWF - Canada may better participate in these said processes.

Sincerely,

Darrell Christie

Coordinator, Environmental Impact Screening Committee