



## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

December 23, 2013

By Email

The Honourable Bernard Valcourt, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
10 Wellington Street  
Gatineau QC K1A 0H4

Dear Minister:

**RE: Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture Drilling Program**

On December 11, 2013, the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) received a decision letter from the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) referring the Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture Drilling Program for environmental impact assessment and review as set out in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited (IORVL) submitted this project description on behalf of the Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture.

This development is entirely within the boundaries of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The EIRB has reviewed the project description and the provisions set out in Section 11(23) of the IFA (as amended) and has concluded that, at this time, there is no other Aboriginal organization whose interests are affected and which should be able to name a member to sit on the Review Panel.

The EIRB has initiated discussion regarding this project 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.

Sincerely,

Jon Pierce  
Chair

cc Nellie Cournoyea  
Chair, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation  
Frank Pokiak  
Chair, Inuvialuit Game Council

