



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

January 8, 2014

Matthew Spence
Director General
Northern Projects Management Office
Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Nova Plaza, 3rd Floor, 5019 - 52nd Street
PO Box 1500
Yellowknife NT X1A 2R3

Re: Government of the Northwest Territories Identification of Representatives - Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture Drilling Program Review

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).

The developer, Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited (IORVL), is proposing a program and associated support activities that would result in the drilling of one or more exploration wells within EL 476 (Ajurak) and EL 477 (Pokak) in the Beaufort Sea.

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 EIRB will expeditiously review this development and on the basis of the evidence and information before it shall 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.

Draft Terms of Reference for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement will be released by the EIRB in the near future. At that time, a sixty (60) day review period will commence during which time comments from Inuvialuit, Inuvialuit organizations, the developer, parties to the review and the general public will be solicited and considered by the EIRB before finalization of the Terms of Reference.

The Operating Procedures for the Environmental Impact Review Board (OP-EIRB) define Registered Participants as:

Individuals or organizations that formally declare their intention to participate in EIRB public review proceedings within the time limits set by the EIRB.

The Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Settlement Region
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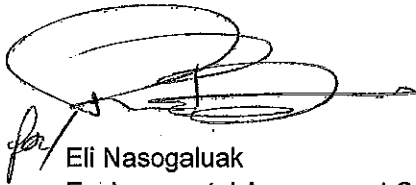
Also, under section 12.5, of the OP-EIRB:

Registered Participants and Representatives of government agencies will be placed on a mailing list, and thereafter will regularly receive all documents designated for distribution to them, including the proponent's EIS (Environmental Impact Statement), subsequent notices and procedural rulings, and other written submissions. Registered Participants can take part in the public review via written submissions or by sending a delegation to the public forum.

I am requesting that you coordinate federal participation in the review and identify in writing directly to the EIRB your selected contact(s) name(s) by February 28, 2010.

Please contact Richard Binder or me at the coordinates below if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



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Environmental Impact Review Board
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CC: Mitch Bloom, Vice President, Policy, Planning, Communications and NPMO Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency