Your file - Votre référence

February 25, 2014

Our file - Notre référence

Eli Nasogaluak Environmental Assessment Coordinator Environmental Impact Review Board Joint Secretariat - Inuvialuit Settlement Region Box 2120, Inuvik, NT XOE OTO

Dear Mr. Nasogaluak:

Re: <u>Imperial Oil Resources Ventures – Beaufort Sea Joint Venture</u> <u>Exploration Drilling Program</u>

Thank you for your letter of January 8, 2014 outlining the process that the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) intends to follow in assessing this project.

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) wishes to be a Registered Participant for this Review to ensure the Department is able to participate directly in public hearings and technical sessions, as needed. Please add the following individuals to your distribution list:

Genevieve Carr, A/Manager, Research and Regional Partnerships, Northern Affairs Organization (<u>Genevieve.Carr@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca</u>)

Daniel VanVliet, A/Manager, Environmental Assessment, Conservation and Land Use Planning, Northern Affairs Organization (Daniel.VanVliet@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca)

AANDC has responsibilities pursuant to the *Canada Petroleum Resources Act* and *Canada Oil and Gas Operations Act* for oil and gas exploration and development in the Beaufort Sea and may be able to assist the Board on matters pertaining to this project. The department also administers federal funding supporting the Beaufort Regional Environmental Assessment and research supported by the Environmental Studies Research Funds, both of which generate information which may be of value to the review board. AANDC may also have land and water management responsibilities, post-devolution of the Northwest Territories, for any proposed project activities associated with remaining federal lands.



I look forward to receiving the Terms of Reference and information on the work plan in due course. Please do not hesitate to contact me on any matters related to AANDC input on this project.

Sincerely,

Catherine Conrad, P.Eng.

Senior Director, Environment and Renewable Resources

Northern Affairs Organization

Cc:

Michel Chenier, Director, Northern Petroleum Resources Marie Adams, Northern Projects Management Office