



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

May 30, 2014

By E-mail

Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd.
237 Fourth Avenue South West
P.O. Box 2480 Station "M"
Calgary AB
Canada, T2P 3M9

Attention: Ms. Sherry Becker
Beaufort/Eastcoast Opportunity Manager
Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture

Dear Ms Becker:

RE: BEAUFORT SEA EXPLORATION JOINT VENTURE DRILLING PROGRAM

In the letter dated December 23, 2013, the Chair of the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) informed you that the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) had referred the Beaufort Sea Exploration Joint Venture Drilling Program (the Development) for environmental impact assessment and review as set out in the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement* (IFA). In this same letter, it was noted that there were certain deficiencies in the Project Description and a preliminary list describing some of those deficiencies was included. Further, the letter also indicated that draft Terms of Reference for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be released by the EIRB and, at that time, a public comment period would commence.

Subsequently, the EIRB informed you, in the letter sent and dated February 28, 2014, that it had released draft Terms of Reference for a sixty-day comment period. A copy of the draft Terms of Reference was provided to you at that time. The comment period concluded on April 30, 2014. Comments were received from Inuvialuit people, communities and organizations as well as from government departments, interested parties and the general public.

Although the EIRB acknowledges that, in your letter of January 15, 2014, you indicated that it is your intention to address information deficiencies in the EIS, the EIRB notes that the EIRB did not receive comments or any additional project details from Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Ltd. (the Developer) during the draft Terms of Reference comment period.

The EIRB has revised the draft Terms of Reference based on the comments and submissions received and this revised version is now being released to stakeholders and

Environmental Impact Review Board

The Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Settlement Region

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the public. A copy of this revised draft Terms of Reference is attached. The revised draft Terms of Reference, as with the first, continues to highlight the point that the 'Scope of the Development' section is still not comprehensive of all potential project components and activities, particularly regarding onshore facilities and activities that may be required or the potential need to dredge Tuktoyaktuk harbour or other potential locations.

The EIRB, accordingly, has concluded that additional information is required from the Developer to finalize the Terms of Reference pursuant to the *IFA* and the EIRB's 'Environmental Impact Review Guidelines' dated April 29, 2011. Once the Developer has identified and adequately described all required project components and activities for the Development, and this information is submitted to the EIRB, additional information requirements may be added to this latest revised draft Terms of Reference.

In order for the EIRB to make decisions regarding the next steps and timing in the EIRB environmental impact assessment and review process, the EIRB requests that the Developer provide, to the EIRB, confirmation on the timing for the Developer to file the required additional information. This includes the information to address the deficiencies outlined in the letter of December 23, 2013, and the identification and description of any project components and activities, not yet identified or adequately described.

The EIRB requests a written reply by noon MDT, June 20, 2014.

As noted in previous correspondence to the Developer and stakeholders, the EIRB will finalize the Terms of Reference, establish next steps and timing for the review process and conduct the environmental impact assessment and review of the Development in a timely and expeditious manner once the EIRB receives from the Developer, the information noted above to address the deficiencies and additional project details required.

Please feel free to contact me at (867) 777-2828, or eirb@jointsec.nt.ca.

Sincerely,



Richard Binder
Environmental Impact Review Coordinator

Attachment