



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

Monday, July 7th, 2014

By E-mail

Mr. D.V. Gillman
Chair, Fisheries Joint Management Committee
The Joint Secretariat
Box 2120,
Inuvik, NT
X0E 0T0

RE: IORVL Beaufort Sea Drilling Program Review (the "Review")

Dear Sir:

The Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB or the Board) acknowledges receipt of your letter of June 20, 2014 addressing matters related to the captioned proceeding. We also acknowledge that the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC) subsequently corresponded with the Board indicating that it wished to "recall" that letter. While we appreciate that FJMC initiative, all documents relevant to the Review are placed on the record for the proceeding. In order to maintain clarity in this proceeding, the EIRB has determined that it will retain your June 20th correspondence on the record for the Review. This letter is intended to respond to the procedural and substantive questions and implications arising from the June 20th letter and will also be placed on the record.

One further note concerning procedure, it would be of assistance to the EIRB if all future FJMC correspondence and submissions in relation to the Review were directed to me, Richard Binder, the Board's Environmental Review Coordinator. Given that the EIRB is bound by the rules of fairness, correspondence on matters of substance in relation to the Review cannot be addressed personally by the Chair of the Board.

Your letter offers some comments from the FJMC in relation to requests by Imperial Oil Resources Ventures Limited (IORVL the proponent in the Review) and Chevron Canada Limited to the National Energy Board (NEB) for early determinations of Same Season Relief Well (SSRW) equivalence. Your comments are provided based on your assumption that the EIRB will be in contact with the National Energy Board (NEB) with respect to these matters. As you are aware, SSRW equivalence is a matter within the purview of NEB policy and entirely within that board's jurisdiction.

Although the NEB process and determination on this matter will clearly have an effect on the Review, the EIRB does not plan, and has not to date, had any specific interaction with the NEB in relation to these requests. I can assure you on behalf of the Board that if any such interaction takes place it will be comprehensively documented on the record for the Review.

Environmental Impact Review Board

The Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Settlement Region

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We note as well the FJMC request for an explanation of how the “equivalency” provision in the NEB SSRW Policy could be used to avoid the requirement to drill a relief well. We respectfully suggest that the FJMC direct that question to the NEB since this issue is clearly outside the jurisdiction of the EIRB.

In closing, thank you for your interest and participation in the Review. The EIRB looks forward to the ongoing and important participation of the FJMC.

Yours truly,



Richard Binder
Environmental Impact Review Coordinator

Environmental Impact Review Board

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