

## TRANSBOUNDARY CREWING GUIDANCE

Offshore oil and gas activities from time to time involve the use of transboundary vessels – vessels that move between Nova Scotia and any other Canadian offshore jurisdiction – for multi-well programs or similar offshore activity. It is recognized that there is a need for policy change to not only ensure that the safety of offshore workers is not compromised but also to provide for the efficient and effective operation of such rigs and vessels. The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board and the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board acknowledged these challenges and in 2002 reached an accommodation on the crewing of the drilling rig Eirik Raude and associated support vessels.

In recognition of the need to move toward a longer-term crewing approach/policy for drilling rigs and support vessels which are planning to work in more than one provincial jurisdiction, the following policy applies:

**“operators/companies responsible for drilling rigs and support vessels that operate transboundary vessels respect the spirit and intent of the Accords over the planned period by crewing such vessels with a proportionate mix of Nova Scotian and other Canadian residents based on the expected time spent working in the respective jurisdictions.”**

This action shall be taken only to the degree that it is achievable recognizing the need for competent and qualified crews as required for the safe operation of these vessels. Any distribution of crewing by residency shall respect an equitable occupational split.

**“For the short-term deployment of support vessels, less than 90 days, vessel owners/operators will be given full flexibility with respect to crewing. Any contract(s) extending beyond 90 days will follow the policy as outlined above for longer-term crewing.”**

Notwithstanding this policy change, it is clearly understood that operators will continue to manage their operations from the offshore area for which an authorization was issued. This guidance will be reviewed for effectiveness on a regular basis.