



Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office
Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative

Our Rights. Our Future.

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September 22nd, 2017

Stacy O'Rourke
Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board
8th Floor TD Centre, 1791 Barrington Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Fax: (902) 422-1799

**Re: Notification of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board
Call for Bids NS17-1**

Ms. O'Rourke,

I write in response to your letter dated July 25th, 2017 notifying on the above noted. KMKNO has conducted an internal review of the Call for Bids NS17-1 Area (Parcels 1, 2 and 3) and wish to provide you with the concerns, comments and/or recommendation.

The Mi'kmaq Nation in Nova Scotia has a general interest in all lands and resources in Nova Scotia as the Mi'kmaq Nation has never surrendered, ceded, or sold the Aboriginal title to any of its lands in Nova Scotia. The Mi'kmaq have a title claim to all of Nova Scotia and as co-owners of the land and its resources it is expected that any potential impacts to rights and title shall be addressed. This includes all offshore lands and resources. The treaties signed with the Mi'kmaq were built on friendship and sharing of the natural resources.

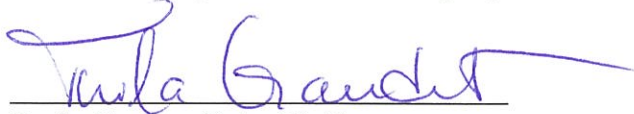
We wish to advise that the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have a number of lucrative fishing licenses in the area for the Call for Bids NS17-1 for the following, but not limited to, lobster, ground fish, snow crab, tuna, and swordfish. The Call for Bids NS17-1 is also along migration routes for Atlantic salmon, and American eel, which are species of concern and culturally significant to the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia. The Call for Bids NS17-1 is also a migration area for cod, lobster, snow crab, swordfish, and tuna.

The Call for Bids NS17-1 have a significant number of commercial communal and Food-Social-Ceremonial licenses in and surrounding the area; therefore, we it is strongly recommended the CNSOPB and developers work closely with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia to address any potential concerns and/or impacts prior to awarding any permits or authorizations.

It is expected that should the CNSOPB permit any exploration activities in Parcels 1-3 it is advised the Crown will consult with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia under the *Terms of Reference for Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Consultation Process*.

We look forward to further discussion on this matter with the CNSOPB.

Yours in Recognition of Mi'kmaq Rights and Title,



Twila Gaudet, B.A., LL.B,
Director of Consultation
Kwilmu'kw Maw-Klusuaqn Negotiation Office

Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs

cc:

Jordan Nikoloyuk, Nova Scotia Department of Energy
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