

Equinor Canada Ltd.

**Canadian Environmental Assessment Act,
2012 Conditions
Closure Report for EL 1156 Exploration Drilling
Program
Operations Authorization No. 25020-0202-0A04**

Feb 2, 2023



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction	5
1.1	Project Description.....	6
2.0	General Conditions	8
2.1	General	8
2.2	Consultation.....	9
2.3	Consultation.....	10
2.4	Follow-up and adaptive management.....	10
2.5	Follow up and adaptative management.....	11
2.6	Follow up and adaptative management.....	11
2.7	Executive Summary	12
2.8	Report Posting	12
2.9	Reporting Submission Timeline	13
2.10	Change of Proponent.....	13
2.11	Change to the Designated Project.....	13
3.0	Fish and fish habitat.....	14
3.1	Discharges.....	14
3.2	Drilling Mud Discharge.....	14
3.3	Chemical Selection	15
3.4	Fish and Fish Habitat.....	15
3.5	Pre-Drill Survey.....	16
3.6	Coral and Sponge Survey.....	16
3.7	Location of Well	17
3.8	Vertical Seismic Profiling VSP	17
3.9	Vertical Seismic Survey Plan.....	17
3.10	Collisions During Operations	18
3.11	Collision Reporting.....	19
3.12	Verification and Follow up.....	19
3.13	Research and Development	20
4.0	Migratory birds	21
4.1	Migratory bird avoidance	21
4.2	Mitigation Required.....	21
4.3	Verification of Environmental Assessment	22
5.0	Indigenous and commercial fisheries.....	23
5.1	Indigenous and Commercial Fisheries Communication Plan	23
5.2	Well and Wellhead Abandonment Plan	25



5.3	Safety Exclusion Zone	25
5.4	Damage to Fishing Gear	25
6.0	Accidents and malfunctions	26
6.1	Emergency and Contingency Plan	26
6.2	Physical Environment Monitoring Plan	26
6.3	Collision Avoidance Plan	26
6.4	Ice Management Plan	27
6.5	Well Control	27
6.6	Spill Response Plan	27
6.7	Spill Response Plan Exercise	28
6.8	Spill Response Plan Review	28
6.9	Notification of Spill	29
6.10	Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment	29
6.11	30	
6.12	Communication of Spill Exercise Results	30
6.13	Sub-sea Hydrocarbon Release	30
6.14	Capping Stack	30
6.15	Compensation	31
6.16	Safe Operating Procedure	31
7.0	Implementation Schedule	31
7.1	Schedule Posting	31
7.2	Schedule Activities	32
7.3	Schedule Updates	32
7.4	Schedule Revision	32
8.0	Record keeping	33
8.1	Record Keeping	33
8.2	Record Retention	33
8.3	Contact Information	33
9.0	Additional Information	33
9.1	Abbreviations	33



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1-1 Project Area and Corner Point Coordinates 6

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1 Project Area – Northern Section Coordinates..... 7
Table 1.2 Project Area – Southern Section Coordinates 7

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The following document has been prepared to verify accordance to subsection 53(2) of Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) 2012, the Decision Statement established 119 conditions in relation to the environmental effects referred to in subsection 5(2) of CEAA 2012, with which Equinor must have complied to during the 2022 exploration drilling program, Flemish Pass, Newfoundland and Labrador (NL).

The conditions cover a broad range of activities including the development and implementation of programs, plans and procedures, conducting Indigenous and stakeholder engagement, implementing monitoring and mitigation measures, and document control. Each of the 119 conditions applies to all wells, unless otherwise specified. Each of the conditions are to be implemented either pre-drill, during drilling, during well testing, post drilling or over all phases of well activity.

Equinor had an Accord Acts Environmental Assessment (EA) filed with the Canada Newfoundland-Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) that covered a temporal scope of 2008 to 2019. The C-NLOPB indicated through letter correspondence in January 2019 (file #: 7705 N54-3/07) that the CEAA 2012 Flemish Pass EA meets the Accord Acts EA requirements within the project area defined in the Flemish Pass Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (figure 2-1 in Statoil 2017), provided conditions in the Decision Statement issued by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC 2019) are implemented. This approval therefore applies to Exploration Licence (EL) 1156 and was used for the 2022 drilling program.

This document will meet the requirement of condition 2.7:

“The Proponent shall, within 90 days of the completion of the drilling program for a single year program, or annually within 90 days of the end of each calendar year of a multi-year drilling program, submit to the Board and the Agency a report, including an executive summary of the report in both official languages. The Proponent shall document in the report:

- 2.7.1: the activities undertaken by the Proponent in the reporting year to comply with each of the conditions set out in this Decision Statement;
- 2.7.2: how the Proponent complied with condition 2.1;
- 2.7.3: for conditions set out in this Decision Statement for which consultation is a requirement, how the Proponent considered any views and information that the Proponent received during or as a result of the consultation;
- 2.7.4: the information referred to in conditions 2.4 and 2.5 for each follow-up program;
- 2.7.5: the results of the follow-up program requirements identified in conditions 3.12 and 4.3; and

- 2.7.6: any modified or additional mitigation measures implemented or proposed to be implemented by the Proponent, as determined under condition 2.6."

1.1 Project Description

The Project Area, as defined in a previously accepted EA (Statoil 2017) is illustrated in Figure 1-1 and coordinates are provided in Tables 1.1 and 1.2 for the Northern and Southern Sections of the Project Area, respectively.

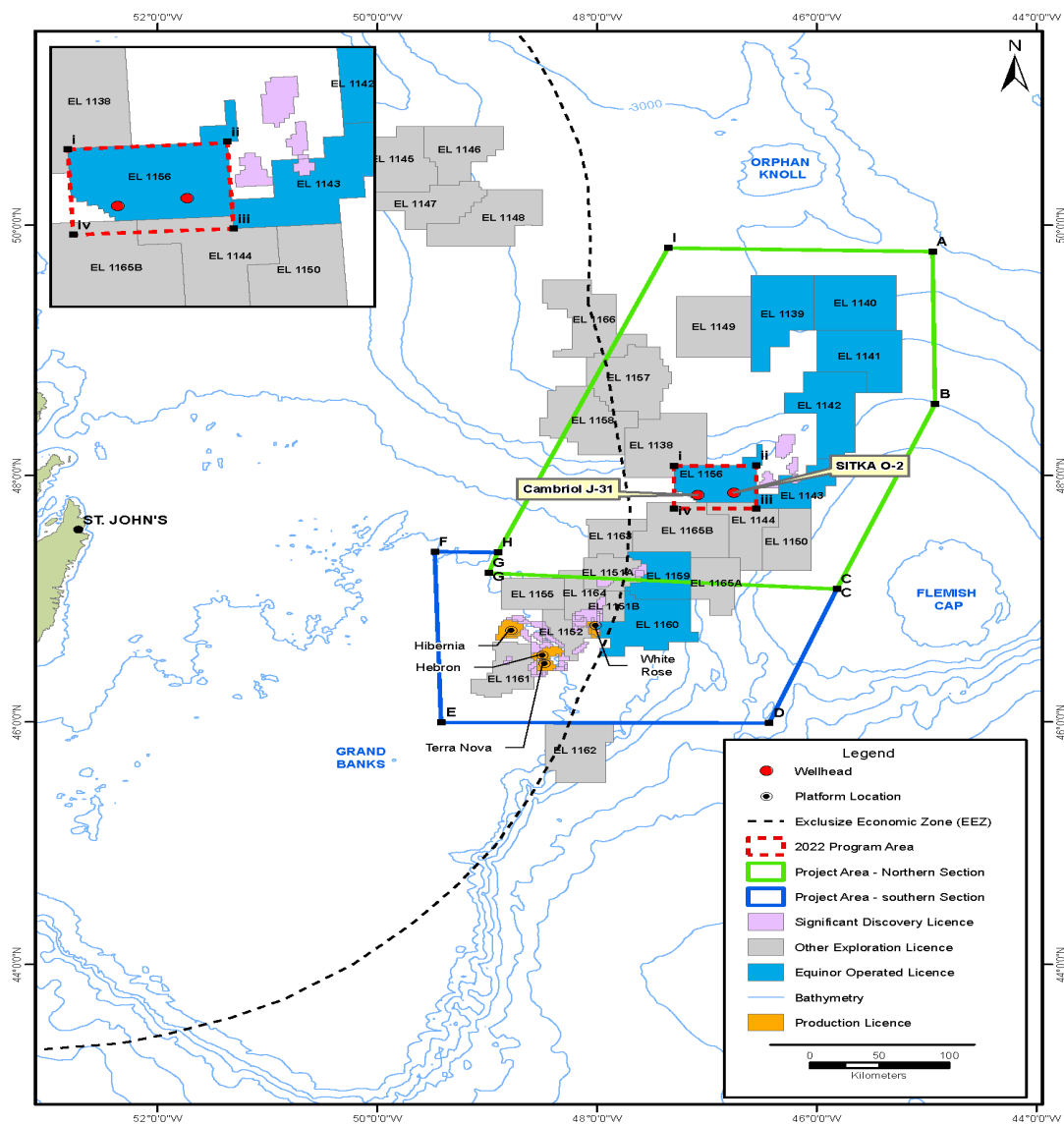


Figure 1-1 Project Area and Corner Point Coordinates



Table 1.1 Project Area – Northern Section Coordinates

Project Area Vertices	Coordinates – NAD83 UTM ZONE 22N			
	Longitude (DMS)	Latitude (DMS)	Easting (m)	Northing (m)
A	44° 56' 48" W	49° 47' 31" N	935562	5533101
B	44° 55' 21" W	48° 34' 30" N	948190	5398059
C	45° 49' 04" W	47° 04' 57" N	893344	5227380
G	48° 59' 13" W	47° 12' 49" N	652421	5230868
I	47° 21' 04" W	49° 49' 18" N	762440	5525202

Table 1.2 Project Area – Southern Section Coordinates

Project Area Vertices	Coordinates – NAD83 UTM ZONE 22N			
	Longitude (DMS)	Latitude (DMS)	Easting (m)	Northing (m)
C	45° 49' 04" W	47° 04' 57" N	893344	5227380
D	46° 26' 02" W	45° 59' 28" N	853605	5103218
E	49° 25' 01" W	45° 59' 42" N	622584	5094695
F	49° 28' 29" W	47° 23' 03" N	615122	5248990
G	48° 59' 13" W	47° 12' 49" N	652421	5230868
H	48° 54' 10" W	47° 22' 44" N	658314	5249404

Table 1.3 2022 Program Area Coordinates

Longitude (DMS)	Latitude (DMS)	Easting U23 (NAD 83, CM 45°W)	Northing U23 (NAD 83, CM 45°W)
46° 32' 55.907" W	48° 4' 59.627" N	831465	5335141
47° 17' 52.356" W	47° 44' 4.708" N	777556.7	5293448
47° 17' 55.939" W	48° 4' 44.662" N	775644.9	5331718
46° 32' 55.929" W	47° 43' 59.687" N	833710.6	5296254

Table 1.4 Well Location Coordinates

Well Location	Longitude (DMS)	Latitude (DMS)	Easting U23 (NAD 83, CM 45°W)	Northing U23 (NAD 83, CM 45°W)
Sitka O-2	46° 45' 25.3943" W	47° 51' 44.7407" N	368585.62	5302504.27
Cambriol J-31	47° 5' 4.951" W	47° 50' 34.667" N	344022.14	5300950.46

Equinor Canada completed an exploration drilling program approximately 430 km offshore NL under the CNLOPB accepted amended operations authorization (OA) No. 25020-0202-0A04. Equinor's 2022 drilling plans included the following (locations are shown in Figure 1-1):

- Two exploration wells in exploration license EL 1156, drill site Cambriol and Sitka);
- One sidetrack at Cambriol drill site EL 1156;
- One sidetrack at Sitka drill site EL1156; and
- One wellhead retrieval at Chappahayden drill site.

Water depths at well locations range from approximately 450 metres to 974 metres. Due to water depths in the well locations, the mobile offshore drilling unit (MODU) the Seadrill West Hercules maintained position using a dynamic positioning (DP) system rather than anchoring / mooring systems.

The following activities were completed under the CNLOPB issued OA:

- Vessel and helicopter support for supply and servicing;
- Acceptance Test Program activity as per rig intake requirements- Dynamic Positioning (DP) system test, Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), test, and cement unit testing where cement slurry would be discharged overboard.
- ROV placement of transponders on the seafloor;
- Deployment of metocean equipment;
- Wellsite surveys (may include shallow hazard survey, as-found and as-left surveys using ROV, geotechnical surveys and environmental surveys);
- Vertical Seismic Profile (VSP) surveys; and
- Well testing using formation testing while tripping, or a similar method that does not require flaring and is deemed acceptable by the C-NLOPB.

2.0 GENERAL CONDITIONS

2.1 General

The Proponent shall ensure that its actions in meeting the conditions set out in this Decision Statement during all phases of the Designated Project are considered in a careful and precautionary manner, promote sustainable development, are informed by the best information and knowledge available at the time the Proponent takes action, including community and Indigenous traditional knowledge, are based on methods and models that are recognized by standard-setting bodies, are undertaken by qualified individuals, and have applied the best available economically and technically feasible technologies.

RESPONSE

Equinor, by developing and implement compliance plans, has met all the conditions outlined in the Decision Statement. These plans were guided by the Equinor vision of zero harm as well as our values - open, collaborative, courageous, and caring. Our values in conjunction with our management systems provided guidance which has been derived from experience gained from our global operations. Continuous improvement provides the analysis and oversight to allow for best practices to be implemented wherever possible.

Documents utilized to execute the drilling program such as the Environmental Protection and Compliance Monitoring Plan (EPCMP) assist in that regard. The EPCMP is one of numerous documents developed, reviewed and accepted by the C-NLOPB during the regulatory approval process. Engagement with regulatory departments and agencies, Indigenous groups, and other stakeholders has provided valuable feedback to assist in the continuous improvement process.

2.2 Consultation

The Proponent shall, where consultation is a requirement of a condition set out in this Decision Statement:

- 2.2.1 provide a written notice of the opportunity for the party or parties being consulted to present their views and information on the subject of the consultation;
- 2.2.2 provide sufficient information on the scope and the subject matter of the consultation in a period of time that allows the party or parties being consulted, to prepare their views and information;
- 2.2.3 undertake an impartial consideration of all views and information presented by the party or parties being consulted on the subject matter of the consultation; and
- 2.2.4 advise in a timely manner the party or parties being consulted on how the views and information received have been considered by the Proponent.

RESPONSE

Where consultation was a requirement of a condition set out in the Decision Statement:

Equinor has been engaging with Indigenous groups in Atlantic Canada since 2017. Through ongoing engagement activities, Equinor provided opportunity for face-to-face or virtual meetings, as well as information to support capacity building on a wide range of subject matter associated with the project. Equinor has maintained an ongoing information exchange with Indigenous groups, including monthly operational updates, updates on proposed and ongoing exploration,, and regular outreach.

Fisheries and related fishing industry groups were provided with project details and work scope details prior the start of the drilling program. Fishery groups were engaged for both review and input during the development of both the project compensation plan and the 2022 communication plans. Throughout the 2022 exploration drilling program Equinor provided fisheries and related fishing industry groups with monthly

operational and logistical updates. This included providing navigational warnings (NAVWARN) associated with MODU mobilization/demobilization.

Equinor did meet with and engage federal, provincial and local regulatory agencies during the development of project plans, documents, reports and submissions as described in these conditions. Regulatory agencies included ECCC, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) and CNLOPB.

See Condition 5.1 for a description of the application of this process.

2.3 Consultation

The Proponent shall, where consultation with Indigenous groups is a requirement of a condition set out in this Decision Statement, communicate with each Indigenous group with respect to the manner by which to satisfy the consultation requirements referred to in condition 2.2, including methods of notification, the type of information and the period of time to be provided when seeking input, the process to be used by the Proponent to undertake impartial consideration of all views and information presented on the subject of the consultation, the period of time to advise Indigenous groups of how their views and information were considered by the Proponent and the means by which Indigenous groups will be advised.

RESPONSE

Where consultation has been a requirement of a condition, Equinor provided written notice of the opportunity to present their views; appropriate information and a period of time for review; considered and discussed the views and information arising from engagement; and, advised Indigenous groups how their views were considered and addressed.

2.4 Follow-up and adaptive management

The Proponent shall, where a follow-up program is a requirement of a condition set out in this Decision Statement, determine the following information, for each follow-up program:

2.4.1 the methodology, location, frequency, timing and duration of monitoring associated with the follow-up program as necessary to verify the accuracy of the environmental assessment predictions as they pertain to the particular condition and to determine the effectiveness of any mitigation measure(s);

2.4.2 the scope, content and frequency of reporting of the results of the follow-up program;

2.4.3 the levels of environmental change relative to baseline conditions and predicted effects as described in the Environmental Impact Statement, that would require the Proponent to implement modified or additional mitigation measure(s), including instances where the Proponent may be required to stop Designated Project activities; and

2.4.4 the technically and economically feasible mitigation measures to be implemented by the Proponent if monitoring conducted as part of the follow-up program shows that the levels of environmental change have reached or exceeded the limits referred to in condition 2.4.3.

RESPONSE

Follow up programs consisted of 1) Synthetic Based Mud (SBM) on cuttings, 2) Marine Mammal Observation Protocols, and 3) Seabird Monitoring protocols. These programs provided real-time data which provided the opportunity to adjust practices to reduce environmental impacts, where appropriate. More detail can be found in the specific condition within this document – 3.9 for Marine Mammals, 4.3 for Seabirds, and 3.12 for SBM on cuttings.

2.5 Follow up and adaptative management

The Proponent shall submit the information referred to in condition 2.4 to the Board prior to the implementation of each follow-up program. The Proponent shall update that information in consultation with relevant authorities during the implementation of each follow-up program and shall provide the updated information to the Board within 30 days of the information being updated.

RESPONSE

For the programs above this occurred, reference the specific condition for more detail.

2.6 Follow up and adaptative management

The Proponent shall, where a follow-up program is a requirement of a condition set out in this Decision Statement:

2.6.1.1 conduct the follow-up program according to the information determined pursuant to condition 2.4;

2.6.1.2 undertake monitoring and analysis to verify the accuracy of the environmental assessment as it pertains to the particular condition and/or to determine the effectiveness of any mitigation measure(s);

2.6.1.3 determine whether modified or additional mitigation measures are required based on the monitoring and analysis undertaken pursuant to condition 2.6.2; and

2.6.1.4 if modified or additional mitigation measures are required pursuant to condition 2.6.3, develop and implement these mitigation measures in a timely manner and monitor them pursuant to condition 2.6.2.

RESPONSE

See condition 2.5 above.

2.7 Executive Summary

The Proponent shall, within 90 days of the completion of the drilling program for a single year program, or annually within 90 days of the end of each calendar year of a multi-year drilling program, submit to the Board and the Agency a report, including an executive summary of the report in both official languages. The Proponent shall document in the report:

- 2.7.1 the activities undertaken by the Proponent in the reporting year to comply with each of the conditions set out in this Decision Statement;
- 2.7.2 how the Proponent complied with condition 2.1;
- 2.7.3 for conditions set out in this Decision Statement for which consultation is a requirement, how the Proponent considered any views and information that the Proponent received during or as a result of the consultation;
- 2.7.4 the information referred to in conditions 2.4 and 2.5 for each follow-up program;
- 2.7.5 the results of the follow-up program requirements identified in conditions 3.12 and 4.3; and
- 2.7.6 any modified or additional mitigation measures implemented or proposed to be implemented by the Proponent, as determined under condition 2.6.

RESPONSE

This report addresses this condition.

2.8 Report Posting

The Proponent shall cause to be published on the Internet the reports and the executive summaries referred to in condition 2.7, the coral and sponge survey results referred to in condition 3.6, the communication plan referred to in condition 5.1, the well and wellhead abandonment plan referred to in condition 5.2, the well control strategies referred to in condition 6.5, the spill response plan referred to in condition 6.6, the Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment referred to in condition 6.10, the implementation schedule referred to in condition 7.1, monitoring and follow-up results for marine mammals, fish and fish habitat, and migratory birds and any update(s) or revision(s) to the above documents, upon submission of these documents to the parties referenced in the respective conditions. The Proponent shall notify Indigenous groups of the availability of these documents within 48 hours of their publication.

RESPONSE

Indigenous groups were notified on Feb 11, 2022 of the Equinor internet project site posting required by Condition 2.8. Continuing throughout the duration of planning, conducting, and concluding of the 2022 exploration drilling program all notifications we provided as condition 2.8 requires.

Any outstanding reports will be posted to the Internet site, once available, and Indigenous groups were notified within 48 hours. Follow up reports will be provided in Q1 2023 and communicated to the Indigenous groups via posting on the website.

2.9 Reporting Submission Timeline

When the development of a plan is a requirement of a condition set out in this Decision Statement, the Proponent shall submit the plan to the Board prior to the start of the drilling program, unless otherwise required through the condition.

Response

This has occurred for the appropriate plans.

2.10 Change of Proponent

The Proponent shall notify the Agency and Indigenous groups in writing no later than 60 days after the day on which there is a change of operator for the Designated Project.

RESPONSE

No operator changes have occurred.

2.11 Change to the Designated Project

The Proponent shall consult with Indigenous groups prior to initiating any material changes to the Designated Project that may result in adverse environmental effects and shall notify the Board and the Agency in writing no later than 60 days prior to initiating the change(s).

RESPONSE

Not applicable as no material changes were made.

2.12 In notifying the Board and the Agency pursuant to condition 2.11, the Proponent shall provide the Board and the Agency with a description of the potential adverse environmental effects of the change(s) to the Designated Project, the proposed mitigation measures and follow-up requirements to be implemented by the Proponent and the results of the consultation with Indigenous groups.

RESPONSE

This condition is not applicable as no material changes were made to the project that would require notification for 2.11, and therefore this condition as well.

3.0 FISH AND FISH HABITAT

3.1 Discharges

The Proponent shall treat all discharges from offshore drilling into the marine environment which, at a minimum, will meet the volumes and concentration limits identified in the Offshore Waste Treatment Guidelines, issued jointly by the National Energy Board, the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board, and any other legislative requirements, where applicable.

RESPONSE:

As required to obtain the operating OA for the 2022 exploration drilling program, Equinor developed and implemented procedures and processes to demonstrate compliance to all regulations, guidelines and acts pertaining to environmental protection and conservation. This included developing an EPCMP to demonstrate how Equinor would ensure compliance to the environmental commitments, guidelines, regulations and acts. As part of the EPCMP and the OA application approval process Equinor developed and implemented supporting documents to further ensure compliance and monitoring of chemical applications and discharges associated with the 2022 exploration drilling program.

3.2 Drilling Mud Discharge

The Proponent shall dispose of spent or excess synthetic-based drilling muds that are not re-used at an approved on-shore facility.

Response:

As per the contractual agreement between Equinor and the mud supplier all non consumed volumes of water-based muds or synthetic based muds were returned to the Mount Pearl location via vessel transfer at the end of the 2022 drilling program.

3.3 Chemical Selection

The Proponent shall apply, at a minimum, the standards identified in the Offshore Chemical Selection Guidelines for Drilling & Production Activities on Frontier Lands (OCSG), issued jointly by the National Energy Board, the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board and the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board, to select lower toxicity chemicals for use and discharge into the marine environment, including drilling fluid constituents, and shall submit any necessary risk justification pursuant to the Guidelines to the Board for acceptance prior to use.

Response:

During the project development Equinor worked with chemical suppliers and associated contractors to ensure all chemicals were selected based on the OCSG. All contractors provide a complete list of chemicals to be used prior to program commencement. Equinor completed an internal screening of the chemicals against all regulatory requirements and standards to ensure acceptability. A complete list of acceptable chemicals was provided to the Equinor drilling team, MODU operator and all associated contractors to ensure compliance to OCSG and Equinor company standard. No chemicals selected required a dispensation/approval within Equinor or from the CNLOPB.

3.4 Fish and Fish Habitat

The Proponent shall treat all discharges from supply vessels into the marine environment in accordance with the International Maritime Organization's International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships and any other legislative requirements, where applicable.

Response:

All vessels that supported Equinor drilling operations were MARPOL compliant and had segregated ballast, therefore the routine discharge of ballast water did not pose a risk of discharge of hydrocarbons. Bilge discharges, if required at sea, were done in compliance with MARPOL.

Throughout the drilling program Equinor SSU team conducted a management assessment of all supply vessel companies, within that scope a review of existing certifications and management tools were reviewed to ensure compliance to regulatory and Equinor standards. Daily reports were also provided to Equinor to ensure full visibility on vessel operations, including record of any discharge and offloading operations.

3.5 Pre-Drill Survey

The Proponent shall conduct a pre-drill survey with qualified individual(s) at each well site to confirm the presence or absence of any unexploded ordnance or other seabed hazards. If any such ordnance or seabed hazard is detected, it shall not be disturbed, and the Proponent shall contact the Canadian Coast Guard's Joint Rescue Coordination Centre in Halifax and the Board to determine an appropriate course of action, prior to commencing drilling.

Response:

Pre-Drill Surveys conducted included:

- Full 200x200m clearance survey completed in June to August 2021 - No corals or anything of concern found.
- Transponder & Marker Buoy Deployment prior to spud. No hazards found while placing either.
- ROV visual of seabed when spudding the well, confirming no hazards in place.

3.6 Coral and Sponge Survey

The Proponent shall develop and conduct, in consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Board, a coral and sponge survey to confirm the presence or absence of any aggregations of habitat-forming corals or sponges or any other environmentally sensitive features. The equipment used to conduct the surveys shall be operated by a qualified individual. Survey transect length and pattern around well sites shall be based on applicable drill cutting dispersion model results.

Transects around anchor sites should extend at least 50 metres from the extent of the anchor pattern.

Response:

Equinor completed pre-drill coral and sponge surveys at the proposed well locations in June to August 2021 to obtain all the required data. This work scope was included in the 2021 EA Update (Equinor 2021) and completed under a C-NLOPB authorization. Equinor developed a Coral and Sponge Survey Plan which was submitted to C-NLOPB and DFO for review and acceptance prior to commencing the survey. Equinor submitted the Coral and Sponge Results Report (Equinor 2021 Survey Coral and Sponge Determination and Fish Habitat Characterization Report 2022) which included a coral and sponge risk assessment report within the required 60 days before drilling activities.

The survey was carried out by Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions, Wood Canada Ltd. and Fugro Canada, Ltd. All persons working on the survey program were qualified and certified individuals. The surveys did not find any habitat forming corals or sponges or any other environmentally sensitive features, and the chosen locations were within the guidance provided by the C-NLOPB in terms of quantities of corals

above the height threshold. The reports are on the website <https://www.equinor.com/en/where-we-are/canada-offshore-exploration-drilling-program.html>

There were no anchors used during the 2022 Exploration Drilling Program.

3.7 Location of Well

If the survey(s) conducted in accordance with condition 3.6 confirm(s) the presence of aggregations of habitat-forming corals or sponges, or if other environmentally sensitive features are identified by a qualified individual, the Proponent shall change the location of the well on the seafloor or redirect drill cuttings discharges to avoid affecting the aggregations of habitat-forming corals or sponges, unless not technically feasible, as determined in consultation with the Board. If not technically feasible, the Proponent shall consult with the Board and Fisheries and Oceans Canada prior to commencing drilling to determine an appropriate course of action, subject to the approval of the Board, including any additional mitigation measures.

Response:

All final wellsite locations did meet condition 3.6. When an infield location change was determined the alternate location was confirmed by biologist to meet condition 3.6 and was communicated to the CNLOPB.

3.8 Vertical Seismic Profiling VSP

The Proponent shall apply Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Statement of Canadian Practice with Respect to the Mitigation of Seismic Sound in the Marine Environment during the planning and the conduct of vertical seismic surveys. In doing so, the Proponent shall establish a safety zone of a minimum radius of 500 metres from the seismic sound source.

Response:

During drilling operations of the Cambriol Wellsite locations VSP operations were conducted using the Statement of Canadian Practice with Respect to the Mitigation of Seismic Sound in the Marine Environment as guidance. VSP operations were conducted from the Seadrill West Hercules, therefore the established 500m safety zone was in place.

3.9 Vertical Seismic Survey Plan

The Proponent shall develop, in consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Board, a marine mammal monitoring plan that shall be submitted to the Board at least 30 days prior to the commencement of

any vertical seismic survey. The Proponent shall implement the plan during the conduct of vertical seismic surveys. As part of the plan, the Proponent shall:

- 3.9.1 develop and implement marine mammal observation requirements, including the use of passive acoustic monitoring, or equivalent technology, and visual monitoring by marine mammal observers throughout vertical seismic surveys;
- 3.9.2 ensure that observation requirements specify the requirement for shut down of the seismic sound source if any marine mammal or sea turtle is observed within the 500-metre safety zone; and
- 3.9.3 submit the results of the activities undertaken as part of the marine mammal observation requirements to the Board within 60 days of the end of the vertical seismic surveys.

Response:

3.9.1 Equinor and its contractor developed and implemented a Marine Mammal Monitoring Plan which was submitted to the CNLOPB and associated federal agency (DFO) prior to the commencement of any VSP operations. All comments were satisfied in the final version of the plan submitted on April 5, 2022 to the CNLOPB.

Document reference: EL 1156 Equinor Canada Ltd, Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Mitigation Plan for Vertical Seismic Profile Programs (final), April 5, 2022. (MMSTP)

3.9.2 All aspects of the Statement of Canadian Practice with Respect to the Mitigation of Seismic Sound in the Marine Environment and the MMSTP were implemented. There were no sightings of marine mammals or sea turtles which required the implementation of shut down/start up procedures.

3.9.3 Results from the VSP operation were submitted to the CNLOPB within the required 60 days post VSP operations.

3.10 Collisions During Operations

The Proponent shall implement measures to prevent or reduce the risks of collisions between supply vessels and marine mammals and sea turtles, including:

- 3.10.1 requiring supply vessels to use established shipping lanes, where they exist; and
- 3.10.2 requiring supply vessels to reduce speed to a maximum of 7 knots when a marine mammal or sea turtle is observed or reported within 400 metres of a supply vessel, except if not feasible for safety reasons.

Response:

There were no encounters with marine mammals or sea turtles which required the above procedure to be implemented. Marine traffic was conducted using established shipping lanes where applicable

3.11 Collision Reporting

The Proponent shall report any collisions of a supply vessel with marine mammals or sea turtles to the Board, Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Canadian Coast Guard Regional Operations Centre, and any other relevant authorities as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 24 hours following the collision, and notify Indigenous groups within three days.

Response:

There were no collisions with marine mammals or sea turtles during the EL 1156 exploration drilling program.

3.12 Verification and Follow up

The Proponent shall develop and implement follow-up requirements, pursuant to condition 2.4, to verify the accuracy of the predictions made during the environmental assessment as it pertains to fish and fish habitat, including marine mammals and sea turtles, and to determine the effectiveness of mitigation measures identified under conditions 3.1 to 3.11. As part of these follow-up requirements, for the duration of the drilling program, the Proponent shall:

3.12.1 for every well, measure the concentration of synthetic-based drilling fluids retained on discharged drill cuttings as described in the Offshore Waste Treatment Guidelines to verify that the discharge meets, at a minimum, the performance targets set out in the Guidelines and any applicable legislative requirements, and report the results to the Board;

Response:

All discharges were processed and discharged within the OWTG. Monthly compliance reports were submitted to the CNLOPB Compliance Officer as verification of parameters. Drill cuttings from synthetic-based mud (SBM) drilling operations to conform to the target of < 6.9% synthetic oil on cuttings (SOC), wet weight; deck drainage discharges meet the oil in water discharge limit of less than 15 mg/L.

3.12.2 for the first well in each exploration licence, and for any well where drilling is undertaken in an area determined by coral and sponge surveys to be sensitive benthic habitat, and for any well located within a special area designated as such due to the presence of sensitive coral and sponge species, or a location near a special area where drill cuttings dispersion modelling predicts that drill cuttings deposition may have adverse effects, develop and implement, in consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Board, follow-up requirements to verify the accuracy of the environmental assessment and effectiveness of mitigation measures as they pertain to the effects of cuttings discharges on benthic habitat. Follow-up shall include:

3.12.2.1 measurement of sediment deposition extent and thickness post-drilling to verify the drill waste deposition modeling predictions;

3.12.2.2 benthic fauna surveys to verify the effectiveness of mitigation measures; and

3.12.2.3 The Proponent shall report the information collected, as identified in conditions 3.12.2.1 and 3.12.2.2, including a comparison of modelling results to in situ results, to the Board within 60 days following the drilling of the first well in each exploration licence; and

Response: Drilling operations in EL 1156 have been completed in previous exploration drilling programs therefore this condition does not apply to the 2022 Drilling Program as it was not the first well to be drilled in EL 1156.

3.12.3 for the first well in each exploration licence, develop and implement, in consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Board, follow-up requirements to verify the accuracy of the environmental assessment as it pertains to underwater noise levels. As part of the development of these follow-up requirements, the Proponent shall determine how underwater noise levels shall be monitored through field measurement by the Proponent during the drilling program and shall provide that information to the Board prior to the start of the drilling program.

Response: Drilling operations in EL 1156 have been completed in previous exploration drilling programs therefore this condition does not apply to the 2022 Exploration Drilling Program as it was not the first well to be drilled in EL 1156.

3.13 Research and Development

The Proponent shall submit to the Board a letter, prior to drilling, confirming its intent to participate in research pertaining to the presence of Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) in the Jeanne d'Arc Basin and the Flemish Pass and update the Board and Indigenous groups annually on related research activities.

Response:

Letter submitted to the CNLOPB April 2, 2022.

4.0 MIGRATORY BIRDS

4.1 Migratory bird avoidance

The Proponent shall carry out the Designated Project in a manner that protects migratory birds and avoids harming, killing or disturbing migratory birds or destroying, disturbing or taking their nests or eggs. In this regard, the Proponent shall be in compliance, where applicable, with the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994, the Migratory Birds Regulations and with the Species at Risk Act and shall take into account Environment and Climate Change Canada's Avoidance Guidelines.

Response:

Equinor and associated marine support vessels (MODU and supply vessels) did avoid established bird colonies. Helicopters did avoid known coastal seabird colonies per requirements of the NL Seabird Ecological Reserve Regulations, 2015.

Equinor Canada Ltd. obtained a Handling and salvage of Seabirds Permit (Number LS 2677), issued for April 15, 2022 to Nov 30, 2022. This permit was issued under Section 4 (1) of the Migratory Birds Regulations in Accordance with Section 19.

Following the Canadian Wildlife Services (CWS) protocols .routine searches for stranded birds were conducted on the MODU supply vessels. Appropriate programs and protocols for the collection and release of marine and migratory birds were implemented for migratory birds which become stranded (i.e., "ECCC-CWS's Oiled Birds Protocol and Protocol for Collecting Dead Birds from Platforms. Best Practices for Stranded Birds Encountered Offshore Atlantic Canada (Draft 2)" and Williams and Chardine (n.d.): The Leach's storm petrel: General Information and Handling Instructions).

In addition to the above Equinor developed, with review and input from ECCC-CWS a Seabird Survey, Handling, and Observation Protocol to be implemented throughout the 2022 Exploration Drilling Program. This report provided guidance and requirements for the onboard Seabird Observer to adhere to during the roles and duties associated with document. A Seabird Handling Orientation video was provided to the Seadrill West Hercules and support vessel crew during onboarding to bring further awareness of seabird encounters and procedures onboard. Both the designated Seabird Observer and the Equinor onboard SSU Coach we provided with a Seabird Handling Procedure video to ensure all requirements of infield responsibilities were being performed.

4.2 Mitigation Required

The Proponent shall implement measures to avoid harming, killing or disturbing migratory birds, including:

- 4.2.1 using formation testing while tripping, or similar technology, rather than formation testing with flaring, where acceptable by the Board;

- 4.2.2 limiting flaring to the length of time required to characterize the wells' hydrocarbon potential and as necessary for the safety of the operation;
- 4.2.3 flaring as early as practicable during daylight hours to limit flaring that occurs during nighttime;
- 4.2.4 operating a water curtain barrier around the flare during flaring;
- 4.2.5 notifying the Board at least 30 days in advance of planned flaring to determine whether the flaring would occur during a period of migratory bird vulnerability and to determine how the Proponent plans to avoid adverse environmental effects on migratory birds;
- 4.2.6 requiring supply and other support vessels to maintain a minimum lateral distance of 300 metres from Cape St. Francis and Witless Bay Islands Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas, unless there is an emergency situation; and
- 4.2.7 requiring supply helicopters to fly at altitudes greater than 300 metres above sea level from active bird colonies and at a lateral distance of 1000 metres from Cape St. Francis and Witless Bay Islands Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas except for approach, take-off and landing maneuvers, as required under the Canadian Civil Aviation Regulations or if not feasible for safety reasons.

Response:

Formation Testing While Tripping (FTWT) was performed as part of the process to confirm the presence of hydrocarbons. There were no flaring operations completed during the 2022 exploration drilling program therefore items 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.4, 4.2.5 were not applicable.

Marine and air traffic were provided with migratory bird awareness and documentation. The Environmental Protection Compliance and Monitoring Plan for the 2022 exploration drilling program provided information pertaining to all mitigations required to reduce and prevent harm or impact to migratory birds. In addition, the mitigation requirements were incorporated into the Equinor Canada Ltd.

Reference Document: Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Area 2022 Environmental Assessment Update – Exploration Drilling Program, March 14, 2022. These documents and its conditions including both marine traffic and aviation requirements.

4.3 Verification of Environmental Assessment

The Proponent shall develop, prior to the start of the drilling program and in consultation with Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Board, follow-up requirements, pursuant to condition 2.4, to verify the accuracy of the environmental assessment as it pertains to migratory birds and to determine the effectiveness of the mitigation measures implemented by the Proponent to avoid harm to migratory birds, their eggs and nests, including the mitigation measures used to comply with conditions 4.1 and 4.2. The Proponent shall implement these follow-up requirements for the duration of the drilling program. As part of the follow-up, the Proponent shall:

4.3.1 monitor daily for the presence of marine birds from the drilling installation using a trained observer following Environment and Climate Change Canada's Eastern Canada Seabirds at Sea Standardized Protocol for Pelagic Seabird Surveys from Moving and Stationary Platforms; and

4.3.2 monitor the drilling installation and supply vessels daily for the presence of stranded birds and follow Environment and Climate Change Canada's Procedures for Handling and Documenting Stranded Birds Encountered on Infrastructure Offshore Atlantic Canada.

Response:

See response details from condition 4.1. In addition, throughout the exploration drilling program onboard Seabird Observers performed the roles and duties associated with seabird observations, surveying, stranding and handling of all marine birds. Daily reports were completed and provided to the onboard Safety Security Sustainability (SSU) coach in addition to providing copies to the onshore Environmental Advisor.

Included in the reporting requirements were the daily survey of the MODU to search for stranded marine birds. Encounters were reported and handlings conducted only by the designated, trained and certified marine seabird handlers. When/if marine birds were discovered contact with ECCC-CWS was conducted to obtain further instruction (if applicable).

During drilling activity at the Cambriol-J31 wellsite during the May 12, 2022 to July 25, 2022 time period there were 2464 seabird observations recorded a total of 26,243 individual seabirds and a total of 85 migratory seabird stranding searches conducted. .

During transit from Cambriol G-92 (post wellhead removal activity) July 25, 2022 there were a total of 10 seabird observations recorded resulting in 27 seabirds identified.

Drilling activities commenced at the second wellsite Sitka O-02 from July 25, 2022 to Sept 15, 2022 1991 seabird observations recorded a total 19, 604 individual seabirds, and a total of 68 migratory seabird strandings searches were conducted.

During the drilling of Sitka O-02A 1342 seabird observations were recorded, with a total of 13,087 individual recordings. There were a total of 120 stranded migratory seabirds searches were conducted. during which time there were 2 seabird observations recorded, 9 migratory seabird recordings and 0 migratory seabird stranding's.

5.0 INDIGENOUS AND COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

5.1 Indigenous and Commercial Fisheries Communication Plan

The Proponent shall develop and implement a Fisheries Communication Plan in consultation with the Board, Indigenous groups and commercial fishers. The Proponent shall develop the Fisheries Communication Plan

prior to drilling and implement it for the duration of the drilling program. The Proponent shall include in the Fisheries Communications Plan:

- 5.1.1 procedures to notify Indigenous groups and commercial fishers of planned drilling activity, a minimum of two weeks prior to the start of drilling of each well;
- 5.1.2 procedures to determine the requirement for a Fisheries Liaison Officer and/or fisheries guide vessel during drilling installation movement and geophysical programs;
- 5.1.3 procedures to communicate with Indigenous groups and commercial fishers, in the event of an accident or malfunction, the results of the monitoring and any associated potential health risks referred to in condition 6.9; and
- 5.1.4 the type of information that will be communicated to Indigenous groups and commercial fishers, and the timing of distribution of this information, that will include but not be limited to:
 - 5.1.4.1 a description of planned Designated Project activities;
 - 5.1.4.2 location(s) of safety exclusion zones;
 - 5.1.4.3 anticipated vessel traffic schedule;
 - 5.1.4.4 anticipated vessel routes; and
 - 5.1.4.5 locations of suspended or abandoned wellheads.

Response

Equinor participated in the drafting, consultation and implementation of an Indigenous Fisheries Communication Plan together with four other operators in May 2019. This plan was adapted and implemented during previous exploration and field operations in EL 1156.

Equinor contacted One Ocean, Food Fishery Allied Workers (FFAW), Seafood Producers Org, Ocean Choice International (OCI) and the Atlantic Groundfish Council (AGC) with requested feedback in the development of the *Equinor Canada Ltd. Indigenous Fisheries Communication Plan: Operations and Emergency Response Offshore Exploration: Eastern Canada* communication plan. One Ocean provided both comment and feedback which was incorporated and accepted on Feb 7, 2022.

On March 1, 2022, Equinor shared the *Equinor Canada Ltd. Indigenous Fisheries Communication Plan: Operations and Emergency Response Offshore Exploration: Eastern Canada, Mar 2022* with Indigenous groups to seek their views on how the communication protocol could be improved by requesting feedback on the document. The final plan was shared with Indigenous groups on March 15, 2022.

From the months of May to Nov 2022 monthly program updates were sent to each Indigenous Group and Fishing Industry. Updates included the scope of work complete in the previous month, expected scope of work to be completed in the near term, details and routes of support vessels, schedule updates, and contact information for feedback. In addition, any navigational warnings (NAVWARN) of rig location and transit details (within or outside the project area) were communicated to Indigenous Groups and Fishing Industry.

5.2 Well and Wellhead Abandonment Plan

The Proponent shall develop and implement a well and wellhead abandonment plan and submit it to the Board for acceptance at least 30 days prior to abandonment of each well. If the Proponent proposes to abandon a wellhead on the seafloor in a manner that may interfere with Indigenous or commercial fisheries, the Proponent shall develop the wellhead abandonment strategy in consultation with commercial fishers and potentially affected Indigenous groups with fishing licences that overlap with the Designated Project Area, identified in consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Response

Equinor has been engaging with 41 Indigenous groups in Atlantic Canada since 2017. Equinor, together with other operators, held a series of workshops with Indigenous groups in 2018-2019 to discuss several technical topics, including well and wellhead abandonment. Equinor shared its well and wellhead abandonment strategy with Indigenous groups at those workshops, and prior to finalizing and submitting the plan to regulators. Note that the ADW (Authority to Drill Well) application included this plan, and the ADW is part of an OA application.

5.3 Safety Exclusion Zone

The Proponent shall provide the details of its operation, including the safety exclusion zones during drilling and testing, and the location information of abandoned wellheads if left on the seafloor, to the Marine Communications and Traffic Services for broadcasting and publishing in the Notices to Shipping, to the North Atlantic Fisheries Organization Secretariat, and to the Canadian Hydrographic Services for future nautical charts and planning.

Response

Throughout the 2022 exploration drilling programs safety exclusions zones were implemented as per regulatory requirements. All navigational warnings were communicated to associated regulatory agencies, marine broadcasting networks, commercial fisheries and indigenous groups. There were no updates to the Canadian Hydrographic Services required.

5.4 Damage to Fishing Gear

The Proponent shall report annually to the Board on known incidents of lost or damaged fishing gear attributed to the Designated Project.

Response

There have been no known incidents of lost or damaged fishing gear attributed to the Designated Project.

6.0 ACCIDENTS AND MALFUNCTIONS

6.1 Emergency and Contingency Plan

The Proponent shall take all reasonable measures to prevent accidents and malfunctions that may result in adverse environmental effects and shall implement emergency response procedures and contingency plans developed in relation to the Designated Project in the event of an accident or malfunction. This shall include the development and implementation of operating procedures including thresholds for cessation of a work or activity, with respect to meteorological and oceanographic conditions experienced at the project location, and which reflect the facility's design limits and limits at which any work or activity may be conducted safely and without causing adverse environmental effects. These conditions include poor weather, high sea state, and presence of sea ice or icebergs.

Response

The Seadrill West Hercuels Adverse Weather Plan submitted with the 2022 ammended OA application in Oct, 2021.. This plan addressed the conditions above and includes a down manning component.

6.2 Physical Environment Monitoring Plan

The Proponent shall develop, in consultation with the Board and Environment and Climate Change Canada, and implement for the duration of the drilling program, a physical environment monitoring program, in accordance with the Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Drilling and Production Regulations that meets or exceeds the requirements of the Offshore Physical Environmental Guidelines (September 2008). The physical environment monitoring program shall be submitted to the Board for approval prior to commencing drilling.

Response

The *Equinor Physical Environmental Monitoring Program Description 2022* was submitted andand accepted to the CNLOPB and ECCC prior to drilling operations.

6.3 Collision Avoidance Plan

The Proponent shall prepare a plan for avoidance of drilling installation collisions with vessels and other hazards that may reasonably be expected in the Designated Project Area and submit the plan to the Board for acceptance prior to drilling.

Response

Equinor provided reference to Collision Avoidance Plan in the HSE Management Plan, submitted on Oct 2021 as part of the OA application.

6.4 Ice Management Plan

The Proponent shall prepare an Ice Management Plan that will include measures for avoidance of collisions with icebergs and submit the plan to the Board for acceptance prior to drilling.

Response

The Equinor Canada Ice Management Plan was submitted with the OA application October 2021.

6.5 Well Control

The Proponent shall prepare and submit to the Board well control strategies that include:

6.5.1 measures for well control and containment and the drilling of a relief well, as well as options to reduce overall response timeline; and

6.5.2 measures to quickly disconnect the marine drilling riser from the well in the event of an emergency or extreme weather conditions.

Response

A Source Control ERP document was finalized and accepted as part of the 2022 OA.

6.6 Spill Response Plan

After considering the views of Indigenous groups, the Proponent shall prepare and submit a Spill Response Plan to the Board for acceptance prior to drilling. The Spill Response Plan will include the following:

6.6.1 procedures to respond to and mitigate the potential environmental effects of a spill of any substance that may cause adverse environmental effects, including spill containment and recovery procedures;

6.6.2 reporting thresholds and notification procedures;

6.6.3 measures for wildlife response, protection and rehabilitation, including procedures for the collection and cleaning of marine mammals, migratory birds, sea turtles and species at risk, and measures for shoreline protection and clean-up; and

6.6.4 roles and responsibilities for offshore operations and onshore responders.

Response

The Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) was submitted with the OA Application in Oct 2021, and captures the items indicated in the decision statement conditions. (The Wildlife Response Plan also addresses 6.6.3) The OSRP contains an overview of views of Indigenous groups communicated in the three workshops in October 2018 (Section 8.4) below:

Refer the Indigenous Fisheries Communication Plan: Operations and Emergency Response Offshore Exploration Eastern Canada. [LINK](#)

As per the conditions in the EA Decision Statement (CEA Registry 2019), Equinor provided Indigenous groups a copy of the final OSRP. Equinor also provided Indigenous groups with results of the 2022 spill response exercise prior to commencement of exploration drilling operations.

6.7 Spill Response Plan Exercise

The Proponent shall conduct an exercise of the Spill Response Plan prior to drilling activities as recommended in the Newfoundland Offshore Drilling and Production Guidelines, document any deficiencies observed during this exercise and provide these deficiencies to the Board for review, and adjust the plan to the satisfaction of the Board to address any deficiencies identified during the exercise.

Response

A tabletop exercise was conducted, a final report was submitted and accepted by the CNLOPB on May 5, 2022

6.8 Spill Response Plan Review

The Proponent shall review the Spill Response Plan prior to the drilling of each well to verify that it continues to be appropriate and shall update the plan as necessary and, in a manner, acceptable to the Board.

Response

Prior to drilling activity at each wellsite location Equinor drilling supervisors, Seadrilling drilling representatives and associated contractors reviewed and verified their knowledge of the Spill Response Plan. In addition, prior

to commencing drilling activity at each wellsite location Equinors drilling team would conduct procedural and operations review. During this review process the OSRP would be used as a procedural reference in case of spill scenario.

6.9 Notification of Spill

In the event of a spill or unplanned release of oil or any other substance that may cause adverse environmental effects, the Proponent shall notify the Board and any other relevant authorities as soon as possible, and implement its Spill Response Plan, including procedures for notification of Indigenous groups and commercial fishers. As required by and in consultation with the Board, this may include monitoring the environmental effects of a spill on components of the marine environment until specific endpoints identified in consultation with relevant authorities are achieved. As applicable, this may include:

- 6.9.1 sensory testing of seafood for taint, and chemical analysis for oil concentrations and any other contaminants, as applicable;
- 6.9.2 measuring levels of contamination in recreational, commercial and traditionally harvested fish species with results integrated into a human health risk assessment, to be submitted to relevant authorities, to determine the fishing area closure status;
- 6.9.3 monitoring for marine mammals, sea turtles and birds for signs of contamination or oiling and reporting results to the Board; and
- 6.9.4 monitoring benthic organisms and habitats in the event of a spill or other event that could result in smothering or localized effects to the benthic environment.

Response

This condition is not applicable as there were no spills as described in this condition during the Equinor 2022 exploration drilling program.

6.10 Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment

The Proponent shall undertake a Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment (SIMA) to identify spill response options that will be implemented in the case of a spill to provide for the best opportunities to minimize environmental consequences, and provide it to the Board for review prior to drilling.

Response

A SIMA was developed and accepted by the Board. It is posted on the website. [link](#)

6.11

6.12 Communication of Spill Exercise Results

The Proponent shall provide Indigenous groups with the results of the exercise conducted pursuant to condition 6.7, following its review by the Board. The Proponent shall provide the final Spill Response Plan to Indigenous groups prior to drilling and any updates to the Spill Response Plan pursuant to condition 6.8.

Response

Equinor has been engaging with 41 Indigenous groups in Atlantic Canada since 2017. Equinor, together with other operators, held a series of workshops with Indigenous groups in 2018-2019 to discuss several technical topics, including oil spill preparedness and response, and their draft Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP). Equinor shared its draft OSRP content with Indigenous groups at those workshops, and prior to finalizing and submitting the plan to regulators.

Equinor shared the final OSRP and the Oil Spill Exercise Report with Indigenous groups on May 5, 2022.

6.13 Sub-sea Hydrocarbon Release

In the event of a sub-sea well blowout, the Proponent shall begin the immediate mobilization of subsea containment and capping equipment to the blowout location. Simultaneously, the Proponent shall commence mobilization of a relief well drilling installation.

Response

This condition is not applicable as control was maintained for both wells throughout the drilling program.

6.14 Capping Stack

If drilling is anticipated in water depths in excess of 2 500 m, the Proponent shall undertake further analysis to confirm the capping stack technology selected can be operated safely at the proposed depth and submit this analysis to the Board for approval.

Response

This condition is not applicable.

6.15 Compensation

In the event of an accident or malfunction, the Proponent shall comply with the requirements of the Accord Acts and the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Financial Requirement Regulations and the requirements described in the Compensation Guidelines Respecting Damages Relating to Offshore Petroleum Activity.

Response

This condition was not triggered.

6.16 Safe Operating Procedure

The Proponent shall report annually to the Board on the effectiveness of operating procedures and cessation of a work or activity thresholds, established for operating in poor weather, high sea state, and sea ice or iceberg conditions. The report shall include a description of any modifications to operations implemented in response to adverse environmental conditions, in accordance with the Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Drilling and Production Regulations.

Response

There were no incidents of disconnect due to operating in poor weather, high sea state, and sea ice or iceberg conditions.

7.0 IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

7.1 Schedule Posting

The Proponent shall submit to the Board a schedule for each condition set out in this Decision Statement at least 30 days prior to the start of a drilling program. This schedule shall detail all activities planned to fulfill each condition set out in this Decision Statement and the commencement and estimated completion month(s) and year(s) for each of these activities.

Response

The Implementation Schedule was reviewed prior to posting to the website and was regularly updated.

7.2 Schedule Activities

The Proponent shall submit to the Board a schedule outlining all activities required to carry out all phases of the Designated Project no later than 30 days prior to the start of the drilling program. The schedule shall indicate the commencement and estimated completion month(s) and year(s) and duration of each of these activities.

Response

The schedule was presented to the C-NLOPB January 25, 2022 as part of the regular meetings updating the OA.

7.3 Schedule Updates

The Proponent shall submit to the Board in writing an update to schedules referred to in conditions 7.1 and 7.2 every year no later than June 30, until completion of all activities referred to in each schedule.

Response

This occurred throughout the duration of the 2022 exploration drilling program and will continue into 2023.

7.4 Schedule Revision

The Proponent shall provide to the Board revised schedules if any change is made to the initial schedules referred to in condition 7.1 and 7.2 or to any subsequent update(s) referred to in condition 7.3, upon revision of the schedules.

Response

Agreed.

8.0 RECORD KEEPING

8.1 Record Keeping

The Proponent shall maintain all records required to demonstrate compliance with the conditions set out in this Decision Statement. The Proponent shall provide the records to the Board or the Agency upon demand within a timeframe specified by the Board or the Agency.

Response

Equinor will retain all required documentation and will provide to regulatory agencies upon request.

8.2 Record Retention

The Proponent shall retain all records referred to in condition 8.1 at a facility in Canada. The records shall be retained and made available for a minimum of five years after completion of the Designated Project, unless otherwise specified by the Board. The Proponent shall inform the Board of the location of the facility where records are retained and notify the Board and the Agency at least 30 days prior to any change to the location of the facility.

Response

Equinor will retain all documentation and records for the required timeframe and will comply with the above process of notification if/when applicable.

8.3 Contact Information

The Proponent shall notify the Board and the Agency of any change to the contact information of the Proponent included in the Decision Statement.

Response

Equinor will comply with the above condition.

9.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

9.1 Abbreviations

ADW	Authority to Drill Well
-----	-------------------------



AGC	Atlantic Groundfish Council
ASP	Association of Seafood Producers
CEAA 2012	<i>Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012</i>
CEAR	Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry
CIAR	Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (formerly the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry)
C-NLOPB	Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board
CWS	Canadian Wildlife Service
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
DP	Dynamic Positioning
EA	Environmental Assessment
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EL	Exploration License
Equinor	Equinor Canada Ltd.
FCA	Fishery Closure Area
FFAW	Fish, Food and Allied Workers Union
IAAC	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (formerly the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency)
MODU	Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit
NAFO	North Atlantic Fisheries Organization
NAVWARN	Navigational Warning
NL	Newfoundland and Labrador
NM	Nautical Mile
OA	Operations Authorization
OCSG	Offshore Chemical Selection Guidelines for Drilling & Production Activities on Frontier Lands
OSRP	Oil Spill Response Plan
PP&A	Permanent Plug and Abandon
ROV	Remotely Operated Vehicle
SDL	Significant Discovery License
Statoil	Statoil Canada Ltd.
VSP	Vertical Seismic Profile