

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
901-10 Barbers Hill
St. John's, NL A1C 6M1

October 27, 2020

SUBJECT: Qalipu First Nation Comments on the Central Ridge, BHP Canada, and West Flemish Pass Exploration Drilling Project's Draft EA Reports and Potential Federal EA Conditions.

To whom it may concern:

The purpose of this letter is to provide comments on the Draft EA report and potential federal EA conditions for the Central Ridge, BHP Canada, and West Flemish Pass Exploration Drilling Project's Draft EA Reports and Potential Federal EA Conditions.

Qalipu First Nation (QFN) represents approximately 24,000 registered members in Newfoundland and abroad and is made up of 67 traditional Mi'kmaq communities across Newfoundland. As a band, we provide core programs and services to our members, including Natural Resources Management. Specific to the Proposed Central Ridge, BHP Canada, and West Flemish Pass Exploration Drilling Project QFN and affiliates maintain fishing licences overlapping the Project area.

Based on our knowledge of the Projects, QFN supports the Draft EA Reports and potential EA conditions provided by the Agency. In doing so, we hope to see continued indigenous engagement as well as safe practice and regulations enforced on the Proponents to maintain and increase environmental protections and reduce the likelihood of adverse effects.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Chief Brendan Mitchell