



JUN 0 2 2020

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada  
c/o Robin Boychuk, Senior Consultation Analyst  
Atlantic Region  
1801 Hollis Street, Suite 200  
Halifax, NS B3J 3N4

Email: [robin.boychuk@canada.ca](mailto:robin.boychuk@canada.ca) (original by mail)

Dear Robin Boychuk,

**Re: Review of the Environmental Impact Statement Summary for the BHP Canada Exploration Drilling Project**

This letter is to acknowledge the following correspondence:

Letter dated March 5, 2020, originally acknowledged by email April 27, 2020, with purpose to invite review and comment on the Environmental Impact Statement Summary for the BHP Canada Exploration Project and to provide notice that the project includes drilling, testing, and abandonment of exploration wells within exploration licenses 1157 and 1158. Views are requested by April 6, 2020 outlining details of 1. Potential environmental effects by changes to the environment as described under section 5 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*; 2. Potential impacts to potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights, and 3. the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation measures and/or follow-up programs related to potential adverse environmental impacts on potential or established and Aboriginal or treaty rights; and an

Email dated March 31, 2020, originally acknowledged by email April 27, 2020, with purpose to provide notice that the comment period has been extended to May 4, 2020.

Due to capacity reasons, Sipekne'katik has been unable to participate in consultation activities for this and other projects. We are working to secure federal core capacity to participate in consultation with the federal government.

Our current capacity to address consultation is limited. To enable meaningful consultation, capacity is required to participate in formal on the record consultation. Specifically, adequate funding is required to engage staff, undertake studies, undertake meetings, review documents, etc. to address on-going federal government consultation requests.

The above noted activity may impact Aboriginal and Treaty rights and has a cumulative impact. Please note, this does not preclude present and future use and may be subject to outstanding Aboriginal Title.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Chief Michael P. Sack

cc. (email)

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada ([iaac.bhpcanada.aeic@canada.ca](mailto:iaac.bhpcanada.aeic@canada.ca))  
Sipekne'katik Consultation ([consultation@sipeknekatik.ca](mailto:consultation@sipeknekatik.ca))