



Environmental Health Programs
Regulatory Operations and Enforcement Branch
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Halifax, NS B3J 3Y6

February 13, 2020

Leslie Kieley
Project Manager, Newfoundland and Labrador Satellite Office
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)
301-10 Barbers Hill
St. John's, NL A1C 6M1

Subject: Health Canada's response to the Central Ridge Exploration Drilling Project Abridged
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Report Technical Review

Dear Ms. Kieley:

Health Canada (HC) is participating in the environmental assessment review of the Central Ridge Exploration Drilling Project as a Federal Authority under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* (the Act).

As requested on January 22, 2020, Health Canada has undertaken a technical review of the Central Ridge Exploration Drilling Project Abridged EIS related to HC's following areas of expertise:

- human health risk assessment,
- human health impacts from noise,
- contamination of country foods, and
- air quality health effects.

The Abridged EIS Registration provides insufficient information to address Indigenous communities' concerns regarding potential contamination of country food as a result of a spill.

Additional information on Equinor Canada's Oil Spill Response Plan and Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment should include consideration of potential impacts to human health associated with consumption, by Indigenous peoples, of marine species that may be contaminated by spilled oil and/or dispersants.

As dispersants licensed for use in the offshore are proprietary, spill response and mitigation plans should identify contaminants of potential concern associated with their use and outline contaminant sampling and monitoring plans for potentially impacted country foods. The results of this sampling should be analyzed for potential risks to human health.

If you have any additional comments or questions, please contact the undersigned at your convenience.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Sara Rumbolt
Regional Environmental Assessment Specialist
Health Canada, Atlantic Region

CC: Beverly Ramos-Casey, Acting Regional Manager-Environmental Health Program, Health Canada
Gregory Kaminski, Senior Environmental Health Assessment Specialist, Health Canada