



File OF-Fac-Gas-E086-2018-01 01
28 February 2018

Chief Ross Perley
Tobique First Nation
13100 Route 105
Tobique First Nation, NB E7H 3Y4
Email: rossperley@hotmail.com

Dear Chief Perley:

**ExxonMobil Canada Ltd (ExxonMobil)
Project Description for the Sable Offshore Energy Project - Goldboro Gas Plant and
26" Pipeline Abandonment (the Abandonment)**

The National Energy Board (Board or NEB) is a federal regulator that regulates pipelines across Canada, specifically pipelines that cross provincial boundaries and the border into the United States, and between offshore and onshore. The Board is contacting you regarding a gas plant and pipeline abandonment for which it has received a project description (filed on 8 January 2018). The Board anticipates receiving a full application for this project in the first quarter of 2018.

The Sable Offshore Energy Project (SOEP) consists of offshore and onshore production wells and facilities and interconnecting pipelines operated by ExxonMobil. Its production is now declining and ExxonMobil is preparing to apply to the NEB for Leave to Abandon the 26" (660.4 mm) gathering pipeline and Goldboro Gas Plant portions of the SOEP facilities pursuant to paragraph 74(1)(d) of the *NEB Act*, Section 50 of the *NEB Onshore Pipeline Regulations* and relevant provisions of the *NEB Processing Plant Regulations*.

The Board will schedule a public hearing on the proposed Abandonment. One purpose of the hearing process will be to test the information filed with the Board (referred to as evidence in the hearing), to determine whether the abandonment is in the public interest. The hearing process is designed to allow parties with an interest in the Abandonment to fully participate in the Board's process and express their views about the Abandonment. These views may include information in favour of or against the Abandonment as proposed, and on the impacts the Abandonment may have on Aboriginal communities, the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, and any potential or established Treaty or Aboriginal rights.

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The Board will make funding available for eligible hearing participants through the NEB's Participant Funding Program. Details regarding the hearing process, including participation in the hearing process, will be available after the full application is received.

The information about the Abandonment is publicly available on the Board's website at <http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/> in the *ExxonMobil Canada Ltd.* the *Goldboro Gas Plant and 26" Gathering Pipeline Abandonment* subfolder. The Project Description includes information from ExxonMobil regarding the impacts the Abandonment is expected to have on Aboriginal interests.

The Board will make a decision of whether to approve the Abandonment by weighing both the positive and negative impacts of the Abandonment. Should the Board approve the Abandonment, it may impose conditions to ensure any negative impacts will be mitigated or minimized. The Board is the final decision maker with respect granting leave to abandon the facilities pursuant to paragraph 74(1)(d) of the NEB Act.

If you have any questions about the process or how to participate in the hearing, staff at the Board would be pleased to provide such information over the phone or at a meeting in your community. Carla Osborne, a Board Aboriginal Engagement Specialist, will contact you in the coming weeks to see if you are interested in such information. Alternatively, you may contact Carla directly at 403-389-2523, through the Board's toll free number at 1-800-899-1265 or by e-mail at carla.osborne@neb-one.gc.ca.

If you have specific questions about the NEB's Participant Funding Program, please visit <http://www.neb-one.gc.ca/pfp>, or contact the Participant Funding Coordinator at PPF.PAFP@neb-one.gc.ca or 1-800-899-1265 (toll-free).

Yours truly,

Original signed by L. George

Sheri Young
Secretary of the Board

Attachment

c.c. Mr. Friedrich Krispin, Project Manager, Sable Decommissioning
ExxonMobil Canada Properties
Facsimile: 902-490-9702

**ExxonMobil Canada Ltd. (ExxonMobil)
Sable Offshore Energy Project (SOEP) - Goldboro Gas Plant and 26" Pipeline
Abandonment Project Summary (the Abandonment)**

The proposed Abandonment affects the SOEP facilities comprised of five natural gas fields and 22 wells spread over an area of more than 200 square kilometres and located approximately 224 km off the east coast of Nova Scotia. Through interfield pipelines, the gas and liquids are gathered at the central Thebaud platform for initial processing, then transported via a 26" (660.4 mm) gathering pipeline to landfall in the Country Harbour area of Guysborough County, Nova Scotia and then to the Goldboro Gas Plant where the natural gas liquids and remaining water are removed. The Goldboro Gas Plant produces natural gas and natural gas liquids.

The Leave to Abandon Application will include abandonment activities associated with the SOEP facilities regulated by the NEB, which are the Goldboro Gas Plant and the 26" gathering pipeline. The 26" gathering pipeline is comprised of both onshore and offshore sections for a total length of approximately 200 kilometres. The onshore and offshore sections of the 26" gathering pipeline are described separately in the Project Description, as the abandonment process and mitigation measures are different for each.

If you would like to discuss details or require additional information about the Abandonment, the Board encourages you to contact the applicant, ExxonMobil, directly at:

Mr. Friedrich Krispin
Project Manager, Sable Decommissioning
ExxonMobil Canada Properties
Telephone 902-490-9700
Facsimile 902-490-9702

Project Area Map

