Exploring offshore Newfoundland and Labrador

BP Canada Energy Group ULC (“BP”) is proposing to conduct an exploration drilling program within four exploration licences (ELs) in the West and East Orphan Basins located between 270 and 470 kilometres offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. The Newfoundland Orphan Basin Exploration Drilling Program may involve drilling up to 20 wells on ELs 1145, 1146, 1148 and 1149 between 2019 and 2026, pending regulatory approvals. This drilling program will require an Operations Authorization from the Canada-Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) and most likely also require environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012.

BP has decades of experience managing the extraction of oil and natural gas in all types of environments around the world, both onshore and offshore. Exploration is a critical activity to enable continued oil and gas discoveries to maintain production to meet global demand. During exploration drilling, information and samples are collected about the rocks and fluids (water, gas and oil) encountered by the well in order to determine the presence, nature and quantities of the potential hydrocarbon resource.

Exploring offshore Newfoundland and Labrador aligns with BP’s significant experience in the exploration and production of oil and gas offshore and further demonstrates BP’s commitment to exploration in Atlantic Canada. BP will work with regulatory agencies, Indigenous communities, and public stakeholders to understand and mitigate potential adverse environmental effects and increase socio-economic benefits associated with the Newfoundland Orphan Basin Exploration Drilling Program.

In addition to these four BP operated exploration licences, which comprise the Newfoundland Orphan Basin Exploration Drilling Program, BP also holds an interest in five exploration licences in the Flemish Pass Basin and one in the Jeanne d’Arc Basin, which are operated by others.

In Nova Scotia, BP is seeking regulatory approvals for the Scotian Basin Exploration Drilling Project, which involves drilling a deepwater well approximately 230 km offshore Nova Scotia in 2018. More information about the Scotian Basin Exploration Drilling Project can be found here www.bp.com/novascotia.

Project Status

BP recently submitted a Project Description for the Newfoundland Orphan Basin Exploration Drilling Program to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency for review by regulatory agencies, Indigenous peoples, and public stakeholders. The Project Description can be viewed on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry here. If it is determined that an environmental assessment under CEAA 2012 is required, guidelines for the environmental impact statement will also be published on this registry, along with BP’s environmental impact statement and the Agency’s own environmental assessment report.
Indigenous & Stakeholder Engagement

BP recognizes the importance of early and ongoing Indigenous and stakeholder engagement that continues over the life of the project. Listening and responding to Indigenous and stakeholder concerns about BP’s activities is an important part of our project. In late 2017, we initiated discussions with Indigenous communities, fisheries stakeholders, and regulatory agencies to introduce our proposed exploration drilling program and to obtain early feedback on interests and concerns. BP will continue to engage with Indigenous communities and interested stakeholders during project planning and implementation.

Proposed Timeline

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How to Contact Us

We believe communication is key to building and maintaining relationships with the communities within which we operate. If you have questions, comments or concerns, please contact us.

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