

# BP in Nova Scotia



UPDATE: November 2017

## Scotian Basin Exploration Project

BP is planning to drill a single exploration well commencing in the Spring of 2018, pending regulatory approval. The well will be drilled within BP's exploration licences (ELs) on the Scotian Slope, approximately 300 kilometres offshore Nova Scotia. Exploration drilling will be undertaken to determine the presence, nature and quantities of any potential hydrocarbon resources and follows BP's seismic exploration program on the ELs completed in 2014. BP's exploration well is expected to take approximately 120 days to drill.

BP has contracted the West Aquarius, operated by Seadrill, as the mobile offshore drilling unit (MODU) to drill the initial exploration well. Built in 2009, the West Aquarius is a sixth generation ultra-deepwater semi-submersible rig capable of drilling in harsh water environments and in over 3,000 metres water depth. The West Aquarius can accommodate up to 180 persons on board and has been used extensively for drilling on the Grand Banks and Flemish Pass offshore Newfoundland and Labrador.

Logistical support will be provided by supply vessels operated from an established shorebase in Halifax Harbour and helicopters from the Halifax Stanfield International Airport. During drilling, it is estimated that support vessels will make approximately two to three round trips per week between the West Aquarius and the shorebase and one helicopter trip per day may be required to transport personnel and additional supplies as necessary.

## Project Status

In October 2016, BP's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was posted on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency's online registry for public review. Since then, BP has been responding to information requests and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency) has been preparing their own Environmental Assessment (EA) Report. The Agency's draft EA Report is expected to be posted for public review in November 2017. BP's EIS, information requests and responses, and the Agency's draft EA Report can be accessed online at [ceaa-acee.gc.ca](http://ceaa-acee.gc.ca). Following a public comment period, the Agency will finalize their EA Report and submit it to the Minister of Environment.

Parallel to the EA process under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012, BP has been preparing application documentation required for an Operations Authorization from the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (CNSOPB). The Accord Acts and accompanying regulations specify requirements for an Operations Authorization application. BP's submissions to the CNSOPB will build on the EIS and involve the development of project-specific plans including, but not limited to, an Environmental Protection Plan, Oil Spill Response Plan, and a Spill Impact Mitigation Assessment.



## Consultation & Engagement

Since the submission of the EIS in October 2016, BP has been meeting with fisheries stakeholders and Indigenous communities to present the findings of the EIS and obtain feedback that may be incorporated into project planning and reporting going forward. Listening and responding to concerns about BP's activities is an important part of our project.

In the Fall of 2017, the focus of engagement has been on addressing questions and concerns related to accidental events and response planning so that communities can obtain a better understanding of BP's approach to spill prevention and response, and BP can obtain feedback that can be incorporated into response planning documents. BP has also been soliciting input on fisheries communication plans to help facilitate project communications around planned and unplanned activities.

## In the Community

BP's goal is to play an active and dedicated role in communities where we live and work. We invest in people and programs in key areas of education, environment and community.



Helped 80 Mi'kmaq youth better understand skilled trades, apprenticeship and coding through Skills Trade Fair.



**15,000** Meals

The approximate number of meals provided to Food Banks in Cape Breton in response to the storms that impacted the region in October 2016.

**39** Scholarships



BP and Nova Scotia Community College formed a partnership where \$1,500 scholarships are awarded to students who qualify.



Supported cultural events including powwows and Indigenous Games.

### Visit our website

To learn more about BP's exploration activities in Nova Scotia, visit [bp.com/novascotia](http://bp.com/novascotia) or email [nsinfo@bp.com](mailto:nsinfo@bp.com)

*Our values are anchored in our global code of conduct – bp.com*

**Safety    Respect    Excellence    Courage    One Team**

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