

**REGIONAL ASSESSMENT OF OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATORY DRILLING
EAST OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Session
Oil Spills, Unauthorized Discharges and Other Unplanned Events
September 12, 2019
QUESTIONS AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
PARTICIPANT INPUT FORM**

Name and Affiliation: Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers

- 1) If a completed Regional Assessment will obviate the need for activity specific assessments, is there a need to move the conduct of spill fate and behavior modeling to the operations authorization application process?**

We understand that once the Regional Assessment is completed the need for a specific federal assessment for exploration activity will not be required and therefore project specific spill fate and behavior modeling should be addressed as part of the operations authorization application process.

The offshore Petroleum Boards require spill modelling for specific projects which is very specific to the types of oil spill response measures.

- 2) Do you have any suggestions or comments on the list of mitigation measures and their implementation for future exploratory drilling activities in the Study Area?**

Classification of spill treating agents must expand beyond dispersants and include chemical herders and in-situ burning. When a spill occurs, an efficient and rapid response is critical. Currently, the operator must apply to the board at the time of the spill to use an ECCC approved spill-treating agent. A pre-approval approach for oil spill response would help expedite this process.

Natural dispersion immediately occurs in sea states that are over 2m and chemical dispersants could be considered seasonally by a pre-approval approach for oil spill response would help expedite this process.

- 3) Are current physical/environment monitoring programs of drilling programs, and the results obtained, transparent and accessible to facilitate continuous improvement of our understanding of the effects of oil?**

The results of individual operator Environmental Effects Monitoring programs annual reporting are transparent and readily available via the offshore Petroleum Board.

Communications with all stakeholders is key. Results of physical/environment monitoring programs of drilling programs, and the results obtained remain transparent and accessible to facilitate continuous improvement of our understanding of the effects of oil.

- 4) Do you have any other input or recommendations that you would like to provide to the Committee on this topic?**

