

**On behalf of Chief Mildred Lavers, Mekap'sk Mi'kmaq Band**

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA), along with the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB), Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) and the Department of Natural Resources for Newfoundland and Labrador, have developed a draft agreement for a [Regional Assessment of Offshore Oil and Gas Exploratory Drilling East of Newfoundland and Labrador](#) and have invited comments from the public and Indigenous groups.

In its capacity as an Indigenous group, mandated to represent approximately 1,200 Mi'kmaq rights holders living on the Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland, the Mekap'sk Mi'kmaq Band submits the following comments on the draft agreement, the procedures and timelines for the process, the factors to be considered in the assessment, and the Terms of Reference for the Committee.

The Mekap'sk Mi'kmaq Band notes that no capacity funding of any kind was provided by CEAA for the development of these comments, and as such should not be considered to be comprehensive in nature. We request that prior to the publication of any subsequent drafts of the agreement, the Mekap'sk Mi'kmaq Band receives a written response to each of the comments below.

**Mike VanEgmond, B.A.**

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