

File: 30050-20/GPOI-10

Ref: 104603

October 9, 2014

## **SENT VIA EMAIL**

Ron Hallman
President
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Ron.Hallman@ceaa-acee.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Hallman:

I am writing to you to request substitution pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012* (CEA Act 2012) and our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Substitution of Environmental Assessments (2013).

Woodside Energy Holdings Pty Ltd. (Proponent) is proposing to construct and operate a liquefied natural gas export facility and associated marine terminal at Grassy Point near Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

In accordance with section 3 of the MOU, British Columbia requests substitution for the environmental assessment of the proposed Grassy Point LNG Project (proposed Project) under CEA Act 2012. If substitution is approved by Minister Aglukkaq, British Columbia commits to fulfil the conditions for substitution under CEA Act 2012 in accordance with section 4 of the MOU.

In addition, should Minister Aglukkaq request that British Columbia undertake procedural delegation of Aboriginal consultation for the proposed Project, British Columbia would be prepared to undertake that responsibility in accordance with section 5 and the Annex of the MOU.

The proposed Project is reviewable under the British Columbia Reviewable Projects Regulation (BC Reg. 720/02) and a section 10 Order has been issued requiring the Proponent to undergo provincial environmental assessment.

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I understand that a Project Description was submitted to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and I am aware that the Agency must first accept the Project Description and determine whether a federal EA is required before it can respond to this request for substitution.

British Columbia recognizes that the proposed Project is located within 16.4 kilometres of the border with Alaska State. I confirm that British Columbia is committed to notifying and providing opportunities for US government agencies to participate in the British Columbia environmental assessment process in the event that substitution is granted.

British Columbia will explore with US federal and Alaska state agencies specific opportunities for their involvement in the environmental assessment, including: participation in the Technical Working Group; review of environmental assessment documents; and direct dialogue with British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Office.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible regarding Minister Aglukkaq's decision on this request for substitution.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Doug Caul Associate Deputy Minister

cc: Michelle Carr, Assistant Deputy Minister Environmental Assessment Office Michelle.Carr@gov.bc.ca

Lisa Walls, Regional Director, Pacific and Yukon Region Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency <u>Lisa.Walls@ceaa-acee.gc.ca</u>

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