



Responses to Information Requirements and Clarifications – Round 2

For

**Eastern Newfoundland Offshore Exploration Drilling Project
(CEAR 80132)**

pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*

ExxonMobil Canada Ltd.

October 2018

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INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

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INFORMATION REQUIREMENT – IR-68-2

The Agency required additional information related to the capping stack mobilization, as well as information on the availability and mobilization timeline of a secondary capping stack.

The proponent indicated that the estimated 30-day timeline for capping stack installation is considered worst case, inclusive of weather and logistics, and that mobilization would begin immediately following an event, with mobilization to the site taking an anticipated 14-21 days. With respect to a secondary capping stack, the proponent noted that its member agreement with Oil Spill Response Limited provides access to up to two capping stack systems, and that, based on transit times, the Norway system would be expected to arrive ahead of any other systems. However, information on the location of other available capping stack systems and timelines for their mobilization was not provided.

Specific Follow-Up Question/Information Requirement

Provide information on the locations of the other available capping stack systems, the anticipated travel time associated with their mobilization and arrival on site, and how the additional transit time required would affect the estimated worst case 30 day timeline for capping stack installation.

Response

A capping stack system (CSS) and the associated ancillary equipment are highly specialized tools, which are prepared and maintained by a third party (i.e., Oil Spill Response Limited [OSRL]) at four strategic locations around the world – Norway, Brazil, South Africa and Singapore. OSRL selects locations for CSSs based on their own internal requirements and processes, and proximity to global offshore drilling activities. The Operators would immediately commence the mobilization of the primary capping stack from Stavanger and secondary from Brazil, in the event of a blowout incident. The capping stack would be mobilized by vessel to offshore Newfoundland after preparation and testing in Stavanger. Regardless of where the CSS is mobilized from, it is estimated to be between 14-21 days, inclusive of weather and logistics for arrival.

References

N/A