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April 10, 2015

Your file *Votre référence*
EA1415-02

Our file *Notre référence*
14-HCAA-02137

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre
5102-50th Avenue
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
X1A 2N7

Attention: Simon Toogood

Dear Mr. Toogood:

Subject: Husky Oil Operations Ltd - Chedabucto Mineral Exploration Project Environmental Assessment (EA1415-02).

Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO)- Fisheries Protection Program would like to thank the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) for providing an opportunity to participate in the Environmental Assessment (EA) process for the Husky Oil Operations Ltd. Chedabucto Mineral Exploration project located on the western shore of the north arm of Great Slave Lake.

DFO has reviewed the *Proposed Scoping Document* for the Chedabucto Mineral Exploration program and provides responses to the following questions as requested by the MVIRB.

- Are the issues identified in the Scoping Document the ones that you want the EA to focus on?
 - DFO has no comments on the scope of the EA as the project predominantly involves land based activities that are outside of DFO's Fisheries Protection Program mandate.
- Are there other issues or concerns that are not identified?
 - There are no other issues or concerns within DFO's mandate which have not been identified.

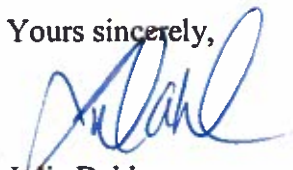
- Does the Proposed EA process work for your timelines?
 - DFO has no comments on the proposed EA process and the timelines.

DFO would also like to note that on Jan 21, 2015, comments were submitted to the Wek'èezhii Land and Water Board (WLWB) for the **Husky Oil Operations Ltd. Application for Type A Land Use Permit, Chedabucto Mineral Exploration Program**, seeking clarity on Husky Oil's potential water usage. Husky Oil's response provided on Jan 28, 2015 indicated that the proposed daily water usage will be up to a maximum of 45 cubic meters per day during diamond drilling operations. With the implementation of standard mitigation measures, impacts to fish and fish habitat can be fully mitigated.

Therefore based on the nature of the project, the scope of the EA and the proponent's response to DFO's comments during the Type 'A' LUP application review process, DFO does not require any further information through submission of Information Requests. DFO also does not anticipate providing a written intervention or participating in the pre-hearing conference and the final hearing.

DFO looks forward to continuing to work with the MVEIRB, and should an issue arise that requires DFO input, please contact Mark D'Aguiar at our Yellowknife office at 867-669-4934, or by email at Mark.D'Aguiar@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,



Julie Dahl
Regional Manager, Regulatory Reviews
Fisheries Protection Program

cc. Mark D'Aguiar - DFO