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Hon. Dan Vandal
Minister, Northern Affairs Canada

Hon. Carolyn Bennett
Minister, Crown-Indigenous Relations Canada

2020-11-03

RE: Review of the Federal Moratorium on Offshore Arctic Oil and Gas Development

Min. Vandal and Min Bennett,

I am writing to you today to request information about the federal moratorium on offshore oil and gas in the Arctic. As you are aware, oil and gas development remains very controversial in my community. I would therefore like detailed information about how the federal government intends to review the moratorium in 2021.

During the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for oil and gas development in Baffin Bay, our community's position was that the moratorium should be extended for *at least* ten years (i.e. until 2031). The final report from the SEA similarly recommended a minimum ten-year extension on the moratorium.

It is our position that the moratorium should not be lifted without the explicit consent of Inuit. It is important that future decisions about oil and gas in our region are democratic with the full participation of the affected communities. The review of the moratorium should be public, transparent, and consultative. Sufficient financial resources should be provided to communities for travel costs, technical support, and community engagement.

Regards,

Jerry Natanine,
Mayor, Clyde River Nunavut

cc:

Alukie Kotierk
President, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

P.J Akeagok
President, Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Joe Savikataaq
Premier, Government of Nunavut

Marjorie Kaviq Kalurak
Chairperson, Nunavut Impact Review Board