

Exploring the FUTURE of Offshore Oil and Gas DEVELOPMENT in BC: Lessons from the ATLANTIC

May 17-18, 2000, Simon Fraser University

Exploring the Future of Offshore Oil and Gas Development in BC:
Lessons from the Atlantic
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby BC

PROGRAM

Workshop Moderator: Robert Brown, Director, Institute of Fisheries Analysis, Simon Fraser University

May 17, 2000 West Mall Complex - 3520

Morning

8:30 am Coffee

9:00 am Opening remarks: Dr. John Pierce, Dean of Arts, Professor, Geography Department,
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC

The BC Situation: A look at the past, present and future

Moderator, John Pierce

Lynne Ewing, Senior Policy Advisor, BC Ministry of Energy and Mines, Victoria, BC
Peter Hannigan, Petroleum Geologist/Resource Analyst, Geological Survey of Canada,
Calgary, AB

Edward John, First Nations Summit, North Vancouver, BC

10:30 - 10:45 Coffee

10:45 - 12:15 *The Issues: A review of environmental, economic, social, cultural and
political/administrative considerations*

Moderator, John Pierce

First Nations/cultural –Phillip Hogan, Heiltsuk Nation, Waglisla, BC

Provincial government - John Backhouse, Northern Development Commissioner, Prince
George, BC

Environment –Rob Brown, Sierra Club of BC, Terrace, BC

Economic/community - Steve Smith, businessman, Prince Rupert, BC

12:15-1:00 Lunch West Mall complex lounge

May 17, 2000

Afternoon

- 1:00-2:30 *The 1990's: Changes in the oil and gas industry*
Moderator, Susan Sherk, Senior Human Environment Consultant, AGRA Earth and Environmental, St. John's, NF
Environmental Assessment- Bevin LeDrew, Principal, Environmental Assessment, AGRA Earth and Environmental, St. John's, NF
Risk Assessment – Ben Poblete, Risk Management Specialist, Lloyds Register Engineering Centre, Houston, Texas
Physical Environment - Laurie Davidson, Senior Vice President, Environmental Operations, AGRA Earth and Environmental, Toronto, ON
- 2:30-3:00 *Lessons from Atlantic Canada and the North Sea*
Dr. Doug House, Professor, Sociology, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NF
- 3:00-3:15 Coffee
- 3:15-6:00 Discussion of questions related to social, cultural and economic impacts
Moderator, Doug House
Atlantic, socio-economic impacts - Mark Shrimpton, Principal, Community Resource Services Ltd., St. John's, NF
Atlantic, fisheries impacts - Strat Canning, Canning and Pitt Associates Inc., St. John's, NF
Atlantic, economic impacts - Wade Locke, Department of Economics, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NF
- Break
- Sable Offshore Project - Ralph Gorby, community liaison manager, Sable Offshore Energy Project, Halifax, NS
- BC Tourism - Alison Gill, Chair, Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC
- BC north cultural/economic – Bob Hill, President, Tsimshian Tribal Council, Prince Rupert, BC
- Questions for consideration:
Do oil and gas exploration/development benefits accrue to the communities?
Do socio-economic benefits outweigh social and cultural costs?
What measures could be taken to minimise potential risks and negative impacts on communities, culture and way of life, and established industries (e.g. fisheries, tourism)?
- 6:00-7:30 Reception West Mall complex lounge

May 18, 2000 Halpern Centre

Morning

8:30 Coffee

9:00-12:00 *Discussion of questions related to environmental impacts and management*
Moderator, Craig Orr, Watershed Watch, Coquitlam, BC
Paul Scott, Pacific Region, Canadian Environmental Assessment, Vancouver, BC
Jon Sexter, Sexter, Environmental Resources Consultants, Victoria, BC
Wishart Robson, Canadian Occidental Petroleum, Ltd, International Manager,
Environment, Health and Safety, Calgary, Alberta
Peter Taylor, scientist, Environment Australia
Rob Macdonald, research scientist, Institute of Ocean Sciences, Fisheries and Oceans
Canada, Sidney, BC
Jeep Rice, scientist, Auke Bay Laboratory, NOAA, Juneau, Alaska
Questions for consideration:
*What are the environmental impacts of the process of offshore oil and gas exploration
and development (fish and wildlife habitat, terrestrial, freshwater and marine
ecosystems)?*
How can the impacts best be assessed and monitored?
*What steps could be taken to reduce the risk/prevent impacts (including technology and
risk management)?*

12:00-1:00 Lunch (Halpern Centre)

Afternoon

1:00-2:30 *Discussion of questions regarding the (global) need for oil and gas development -
considering the future?*
Moderator, John Clague, Faculty of Science, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC
Michael Whitticar, Earth and Ocean Sciences, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC
Richard Williams, Manager, Environment, Health and Safety and Sustainable
Development, Westcoast Energy, Vancouver, BC
Rob Macdonald, research scientist, Institute of Ocean Sciences, Fisheries and Oceans
Canada, Sidney, BC
Robert McRae, Department of Economics, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta

Questions for consideration:
*How closely related is the development of oil and gas to global climate change and
greenhouse gas emissions?*
*How great is the current need to develop oil and gas reserves (global consumption vs.
anticipated supply shortages)? What will be the need in the future? Is now the right time
for extraction?*

2:30-2:45 Coffee

2:45-4:30

Discussion of questions regarding the politics, planning and administration of oil and gas development

Moderator, Doug House

Steve Millan, President, Canadian Imperial Venture Corp., first director Newfoundland petroleum directorate, St. John's, NF

John Fitzgerald, Former Chair, Canada-Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board, St. John's, NF

David McGuigan, Prince Rupert, North Coast Oil and Gas Task Force, Prince Rupert, BC

Charlie Bellis, Haida First Nation, member of 1986 federal-provincial environmental assessment panel, Masset, BC

Questions for consideration

What other steps are required to determine if and how offshore oil and gas exploration and/or development should proceed in BC?

What form of administrative structure would ensure that the benefits of development are maximised and risks minimised?

What is the appropriate balance of local, provincial, national and corporate control in offshore oil and gas development?

4:30

Closing Remarks and Discussion

Doug House

Steering Committee:

Patricia Gallagher, Director, Continuing Studies in Science, SFU; John Pierce, Dean of Arts, Department of Geography, SFU; Doug House, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Craig Orr, BC Aboriginal Fisheries Commission and Watershed Watch; Susan Sherk, AGRA Earth Environmental; Kelly Vodden, SFU Community Economic Development Centre; Lynne Ewing, Mines and Energy, Province of BC; Dick Carson, Pacific Region, Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

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