

3.0 CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

3.1 CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Shell works with neighbouring communities, Aboriginal groups, governments, and other interested members of the public to enhance their understanding of the Project, reduce environmental and social effects, and develop appropriate ways to provide benefits from their operations. Consultation and engagement for the Project focuses on the following objectives:

- Provision of current and relevant Project information and regular updates of the proposed activities
- Identification of stakeholder key areas of interest and concern
- Establishment and implementation of a preferred process and method of consultation and engagement
- Discussions about the potential environmental and socio-economic effects of the Shelburne Basin Venture Project, and the opportunities to reduce and mitigate these effects
- Identification of existing activities in the Project Area, particularly as it relates to commercial and traditional use
- Establishment of feedback mechanisms to provide input into the Project design

3.2 IDENTIFICATION OF ORGANIZATIONS FOR CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Identification of organizations with whom to engage was initially formulated in consultation with the following regulatory agencies:

- CEA Agency
- CNSOPB
- DFO
- Nova Scotia Office of Aboriginal Affairs
- NSDOE

The group of organizations engaged included those initially contacted by Shell in regards to the Project, or those who had contacted Shell regarding interest or concern about the Project. Shell considers the focus of consultation and engagement activities to be those individuals or groups that may be affected by the Project and/or those that express an interest or concern regarding the Project. The primary focus in support of the Project has been “ocean users” within and surrounding the Shelburne Basin Project Area. Table 3.2.1 lists the organizations that were

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identified in association with the Project and who have participated in the EA process to-date. Details on Aboriginal engagement are provided in Section 4.

Table 3.2.1 Organizations Identified for Project Consultation and Engagement

Organization Type	Organization
Commercial Fisheries Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries Advisory Committee • Large Pelagic Advisory Committee • Atlantic Herring and Full Bay Scallop Associations • Nova Scotia Sword Fisherman's Association • Clearwater Fisheries Limited • Seafood Producers Association of Nova Scotia • Eastern Shore Fish Packers Association • Nova Scotia Fish Packers Association • Scotia Harvest Seafoods • Southwest Nova Tuna Association • Halifax West Commercial Fisherman's Association • Swordfish Harpoon Association • Nova Scotia Fixed Gear 45–65 Society • LFA 34 • Ground Fish Enterprise Allocation Council • Shelburne County Gillnet Fisherman's Association • J Fraelic and Sons Fisheries • Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia • Various Aboriginal fishing interests (refer to Section 4.2)
Regulatory Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency • Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board • Nova Scotia Department of Energy • Environment Canada • Fisheries and Oceans Canada • Transport Canada- Navigable Waters • Nova Scotia Office of Aboriginal Affairs
Regional and Municipal Governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipality of the District of Shelburne • Town of Shelburne • Halifax Regional Municipality • Municipality of the District of Yarmouth • Region of Queens Municipality • Municipality of the District of Barrington • Municipality of the District of Lunenburg • Municipality of the District of Guysborough

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Table 3.2.1 Organizations Identified for Project Consultation and Engagement

Organization Type	Organization
Special Interest Groups/Individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecology Action Centre• World Wildlife Federation• Sierra Club• Canadian Parks and Wilderness• Black Business Initiative• Centre for Women in Business• Entrepreneurs With Disabilities
Industry Associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers• Maritime Energy Association

3.3 ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Engagement activities in association with the Shelburne Basin Venture have been ongoing since 2012. Initially focused on engaging organizations interested in or potentially affected by the Shelburne Basin 3D Seismic Survey, Shell has expanded the scope of consultation and engagement activities to include others that have been identified or expressed interest during the Project planning phase. Focused engagement on the Project began in August 2013 and has involved a variety of methods of engagement including, but not limited to:

- Project information packages
- supplier information sessions
- face-to-face meetings
- public Project presentations (including speaking engagements at industry associations)

A log of engagement activities is provided in Appendix D. Identified organizations and individuals will continue to be engaged throughout the planning process and operational stages of the Project.

As part of the EA process under CEAA, 2012, the public has also been engaged through invitation to review various EA-related documents prepared by Shell and by the CEA Agency including the Project Description (Shell and Stantec 2013), and Draft EIS Guidelines (CEA Agency 2014) prior to completion of this EIS report. Following submission of this EIS, the document summary will be posted on the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry website; the public and interested stakeholders will be invited to review and comment on the EIS as well as an EA Report prepared by the CEA Agency. Shell will also engage with key organizations to discuss the information included in the EIS.

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3.3.1 Project Information Packages

Project information packages that included information on the proposed Project inclusive of Project components, activities and associated timelines were distributed to organizations in September 2013 and April 2014. Following distribution of the information package, follow-up phone calls and emails were conducted with recipients to seek feedback and address any comments and concerns.

3.3.2 Supplier Information Sessions

Shell hosted a number of supplier information sessions in August 2013. These sessions were conducted to provide a Project overview and to engage interested regional suppliers. The general public was informed of these sessions through advertisements in local newspapers including the Halifax Chronicle Herald, Port Hawkesbury Reporter, and Yarmouth Vanguard, as well as advance news articles in the Halifax Chronicle Herald and Allnovascotia.com. Invitations were also sent to interested parties (including municipal representatives) via email and/or telephone.

Table 3.3.1 lists the supplier information sessions held in August 2013.

Table 3.3.1 Supplier Information Sessions (August 2013)

Date	Location and Audience
August 19, 2013	Halifax (General public)
August 20, 2013	Port Hawkesbury (General public)
August 21, 2013	Truro (Mi'kmaq)
August 21, 2013	Halifax (Other underrepresented groups)
August 22, 2013	Yarmouth (General public)

Over 400 attendees took part in these sessions across the Province. Presentations were made at these sessions to outline Project details and associated needs; opportunities for discussion with Shell representatives followed. Attendees expressed interest in the economic benefits that the Project could provide to local businesses and individuals. Information was provided on employment and contracting opportunities, and on how interested businesses and individuals can participate. Attendees also inquired about longer term work opportunities and capacity building. Shell anticipates hosting another supplier information session in Q3/Q4 2014.

In addition to the supplier information sessions, Shell actively engaged potential suppliers since 2012. This engagement has included one-on-one meetings with many local businesses in Nova Scotia to understand their capabilities and explain how to qualify for work on the Project. Shell also delivered a speech and presentation to Nova Scotia's supply community at a Maritimes Energy Association luncheon in August 2012 as well as the Maritimes Energy Association Core Conference in October 2013, and attended the Nova Scotia Pavilion at the annual Offshore Technology Conference in May 2013. To allow for continued engagement, Shell has developed

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a supplier brochure and established an email address to receive ongoing inquiries related to employment or other matters (SEPCO-Shell-Nova-Scotia-Inquiries@shell.com).

3.3.3 Face-to-Face Meetings

In an effort to share Project information and obtain feedback on stakeholder issues and concerns, as well as community knowledge where applicable, face-to-face meetings were held with various Mi'kmaq and Maliseet First Nation representatives and affiliated organizations (refer to Section 4.4), fishing organizations, regulatory agencies, municipalities, special interest groups, industry associations, and interested members of the public. Project presentations, including details on Project components and activities as well as supporting maps, were used to help facilitate discussion and information sharing during these meetings. A log of meeting dates is provided in Appendix D. Ongoing Project updates, outreach and timely responses to questions or concerns will continue throughout the Project. A toll-free phone number and email address have been established to facilitate continued public access to Shell and communications with the public regarding the Project. The toll free number is 1-877-337-4121, and the email address is SEPCO-Shell-Nova-Scotia-Inquiries@shell.com.

3.3.4 Public Project Presentations

Since 2012, Shell has participated in various industry engagements, presenting plans for seismic and drilling exploration programs in the Shelburne Basin. These speaking engagements have allowed Shell to provide Project updates to potential suppliers and other interested members of the public (see Table 3.3.2).

Table 3.3.2 Public Presentations/Speaking Engagements (2012 to April 2013)

Date	Venue/Purpose	Audience
May, 2012	Halifax, Nova Scotia Energy and Research Development Forum	Offshore Energy Research Association
August 23, 2012	Halifax (Maritimes Energy Association Luncheon	Prospective Suppliers, Community, and Media
May 18 and 19, 2013	Halifax, Seismic Ship Tours	Over 70 people from government, media, First Nations, fisheries, and academics.
August 19 to 22, 2013	Supplier Information Sessions	See Section 3.3.2
October 2, 2013	Halifax, Maritimes Energy Association Core Conference	Association members

3.4 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS RAISED DURING CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Questions and comments raised during engagement activities for the Project have been tracked and managed since August 2013 and have been considered in the preparation of the EIS. As issues are identified and documented, individuals within the Shell Project team with the appropriate expertise are identified to develop a timely response to issues. Where appropriate,

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responses (including, in some cases, potential mitigation strategies) are developed and discussed directly with individuals and groups.

Key environmental and socio-economic issues identified during the consultation and engagement process can be summarized by the following themes:

- general queries on operational details of the Project
- general concerns on Project effects on the marine ecosystem (flora and fauna)
- potential effects on fisheries activities
- questions and concerns regarding emergency response in the event of a blowout
- questions about the different types of drilling mud used and disposal methods

In response to questions and concerns regarding emergency response, Shell presented information on Well Process Safety, general safety policies, and spill response (including Shell's compensation hotline in emergency circumstances).

Table 3.4.1 lists specific questions and concerns raised as well as the associated responses. Issues and concerns raised during Aboriginal engagement are discussed in Section 4.5.

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Table 3.4.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Consultation and Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
Project Details		
Request for further information on the purpose and methods used for Vertical Seismic Profiling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VSP activities, if determined to be necessary, would occur in coordination with exploratory drilling activities. • VSP is used to calibrate surface seismic data and provide a more accurate depth measurement of geological features. This survey technique provides insight into the geological formations and features in and around the wellbore. This survey technique employs similar technology to that used during a typical seismic survey (source and receiver) recording and analyzing reflected seismic waves. • Shell will likely utilize a Zero-offset VSP survey configuration for their first exploration well. Although VSP surveys employ similar technology to that used in a seismic survey, the size and volume of the source array are typically smaller (<i>i.e.</i>, less sound pressure released). VSP surveys also occur over a much smaller spatial (stationary source over borehole) and temporal (one day) extent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2.4.2
Biological Considerations		
How is Shell incorporating knowledge of marine mammal migration routes into its drilling program planning?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EIS has used existing scientific information and knowledge related to marine mammal distribution and migration in association with the Project to consider and support the characterization of potential effects of the Project on marine mammals. • As part of the Shelburne Basin 3D Seismic Survey conducted in 2013, Shell collected marine mammal observational information. This collected information has been included in Section 5 for consideration in the effects assessment. • Shell will collect further marine mammal observational information during their 2014 Shelburne Basin Venture Seabed Survey and consider along with previously collected information in planning and implementing the Project. • Marine mammal migration is considered as part of the EIS in association with any changes in habitat quality. Further information on this assessment is provided in Section 7.3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 5.2.4 • Section 7.3

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Table 3.4.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Consultation and Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
<p>What are the effects of drilling mud disposal on marine habitat?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A combination of WBM and SBM will be used for the Project exploration wells. WBM will be used during riserless drilling for the conductor and surface hole sections. SBM will be utilized for the intermediate and final sections of the well following the installation of the riser and BOP on the seabed. WBM and cuttings returned to the seabed during riserless drilling will be left in place on the seafloor in accordance with the OWTG. • SBM and cuttings will be returned to the MODU via the riser system for treatment during the intermediate and final sections of drilling. Returned SBM will be removed from cuttings through a staged separation process and reconditioned for reuse as much as possible. Where the SBM cannot be re-used, it will be returned to land for appropriate disposal. Some SBM will remain on cuttings that have been separated from the SBM mud, but the cuttings will be treated in accordance with the OWTG (6.9 g of SBM mud or less/100 g of cuttings) prior to being discharged to the sea. • As discussed in Section 7.1.2, measurable adverse environmental effects associated with the discharge of drilling wastes are primarily related to the physical disturbance of the water column and benthic environment, particularly within close proximity of the well where larger amounts of solids can accumulate on the seafloor, causing burial and suffocation of benthic species. • Sediment dispersion modelling conducted for the Project (refer to Appendix C) predicts the extent of deposition from WBM and SBM cuttings; effects on benthic habitats are presented in Section 7.1.2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2.7.1.1 • Section 7.1.2 • Appendix C
<p>What are the effects of a drilling program on the surrounding marine habitat?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The primary effects on the marine environment from drilling result from noise and disposal of wastes. However, effects on the surrounding marine environment are localized around the MODU and temporary in nature. Drilling programs involve various interactions with the marine habitat which have the potential to affect the quality and/or use of the habitat by marine fish, marine mammals, sea turtles, and marine birds. A discussion of these interactions and available literature on effects is provided in Section 7.1. Effects on individual Valued Components are assessed in the remainder of Section 7. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7

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Table 3.4.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Consultation and Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
<p>Concern and questions regarding the effects of an accidental event on the marine ecosystem in and around the Shelburne Basin Project Area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell's process safety program and policies are focused on preventing accidental spills or releases in association with their activities. In association with this objective, Shell is committed to safe and reliable operations and will design and operate the Project using industry best practices to meet the high safety standards designed to prevent an accidental event from occurring. • In the unlikely event that an accidental event was to occur as part of the Project, Shell will have an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) in place that will be immediately activated. This plan will be reviewed by the CNSOPB and tested through a mock-exercise prior to the commencement of Project activities. In an emergency, Shell will activate their tiered emergency response plan and procedures which will provide access to global resources, response tools and equipment to effectively and efficiently respond to the incident. • A Spill Response Plan will also be in place in of the unlikely event of an accidental spill. As part of this EIS, Shell has assessed the probability of number of accidental spill events occurring, and has determined that the likelihood is extremely low (refer to Section 8.4). • Effects from accidental spills can vary in severity depending on the nature and volume of the spill, seasonal conditions and ecological sensitivities, and spill response. In general, environmental effects can include mortality or physical injury, change in habitat quality and use, and socio-economic effects for fisheries. Section 8 of the EIS discusses potential accidental scenarios that, although unlikely to occur, could potentially have adverse environmental effects. Section 8.5 assesses effects of accidental events on Valued Components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 8
<p>How are effects on the seabed habitat mitigated?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In association with the Shelburne Basin Venture Seabed Survey being conducted in 2014, Shell will be collecting baseline environmental information regarding the seabed habitat associated with the potential drilling locations. Shell will use this information in determining final drilling locations. Effects of the Project on seabed habitat are expected to be temporary and localized around the wellsite. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2.4 • Section 7.1 • Section 7.2 • Section 7.5
Effects on Fisheries		
<p>What will be the effect of Project activities and components on commercial fisheries?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine Project activities are not expected to affect commercial fisheries given the localized nature of the operations and potential effects around the MODU. A detailed analysis of the potential effects of Project activities and components on commercial fisheries is provided in Section 7.6. Consideration has been given to potential effects on fisheries resources (direct effects on fished species affecting fisheries success) and/or fishing activity (displacement from fishing areas, gear loss or damage). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.6

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Table 3.4.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Consultation and Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
What would be the effect of an accidental event on commercial fisheries?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accidental events could have an effect on fisheries resources and/or fishing activity potentially resulting in economic impacts for commercial fishers. Section 8 of the EIS discusses measures that will be taken to prevent an incident, potential accidental scenarios, and spill response measures to reduce risk of adverse environmental effects. Effects of accidental spills on commercial fisheries are assessed in Section 8.5.5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 8.5.5
What compensation process if any would be in place if damage to fish habitat occurs due to the drilling program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project activities and components are not expected to result in "serious harm to fish" which is defined as the death of fish or any permanent alteration to, or destruction of, fish habitat for species that are part of or support commercial, recreational or Aboriginal (CRA) fisheries. If DFO determines the Project is likely to result in serious harm to fish species that are part of or support CRA fisheries, Shell will prepare a Fish Habitat Offsetting Strategy and seek the appropriate authorization under the <i>Fisheries Act</i> to carry out Project activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7.2
What compensation process if any would be in place if impeded access to locations by fisheries occurs in the drilling program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shell will continue to engage with commercial fisheries representatives to understand the location and timing of fishing activities to avoid/reduce access concerns that may occur as a result of the Project. During Project operations, Shell does not expect to impede access to fisheries locations, with the exception of the 500-m radius safety zone around the MODU. Shell will comply with direction provided under the CNSOPB and C-NLOPB <i>Compensation Guidelines Respecting Damages Relating to Offshore Petroleum Activity</i> (March 2002) in the event that any damage to fishing gear takes place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7.6.8
How is Shell incorporating knowledge of fisheries activity, areas of interest and timings into its drilling program planning?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar to the Shelburne Basin 3D Seismic Survey conducted in 2013, Shell will consider information provided by fisheries representatives on spatial and temporal sensitivities (i.e., sensitive/special zones, fish migrations, and high activity times) in the planning and operation of the Project. Species of interest and importance identified by fisheries representatives have been included for consideration in the EIS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 5.3.3

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Table 3.4.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Consultation and Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
<p>Will Shell be implementing a 500-m radius safety zone around the MODU during drilling operations? How will this safety zone Shell account for long line drift?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In accordance with the <i>Nova Scotia Offshore Drilling and Production Regulations</i>, a safety zone will be established around the MODU within which non-Project related vessels (e.g., fishing vessels) are prohibited entry. This safety zone is anticipated to be a 500-m radius. • Shell will implement a Fisheries Communication Plan that will coordinate communication both prior to and during Project activities to coordinate activities and identify appropriate measures to reduce potential disruption to fisheries activities or interference with fishing gear. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.6
<p>How is Shell going to communicate with fisheries during its drilling program?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell will continue to engage on a regular basis with key fisheries representatives, attend relevant meetings, and provide regular and relevant updates in the form of correspondence or newsletters to inform ocean users of upcoming activities and allow opportunity for feedback. • Shell will use a Fisheries Communications Plan to communicate with fisheries representatives during Project activities for all Project phases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.6
<p>Employment and Business Opportunities</p>		
<p>How can businesses and individuals participate in employment and contracting opportunities, and how can work opportunities be sustainable beyond the peak of Project activity?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell will work to provide full and fair opportunity for Canadians with first consideration for Nova Scotians, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ opportunities for direct employment as well as direct and indirect contracting ○ advertisement of contracts available for supplier bid posted publicly on bids.ca ○ supplier training and capacity development for opportunities with the Project and other offshore ventures • Once a supplier is a qualified vendor with Shell, they are then eligible to bid on Shell projects worldwide allowing for continued opportunities beyond the Project. • The training, capacity building and experience provided to individuals working on the Shell Project will increase opportunities for these individuals with other offshore projects in Nova Scotia and elsewhere. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 11

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Table 3.4.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Consultation and Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
How will the local communities benefit from the Shelburne Basin Project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell has committed over \$1 billion dollars to be spent over the duration of its six year exploration phase for its exploration licences, resulting in hundreds of jobs and tens of millions of dollars spent in the Province. • Shell anticipates that up to 70 contracts and hundreds of subcontracts will be established in association with the Project. Many of these contracts will be filled by Nova Scotian and/or Canadian contractors. • Shell investments in community development, education, training, conferences, research and development, will amount to over \$1M over the life of the exploration Project. • Indirect and induced economic benefits to Nova Scotia resulting from expenditures by employees/contractors working on the Project. • Technology transfer/capacity building from Shell presentations at academic institutions around the Province. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 11
Offshore Safety and Emergency Preparedness		
Request for a Fisheries Communication Plan during drilling operations and in the case of an accidental event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell has developed a Fisheries Communications Plan with inputs and feedback from fisheries representatives for all Project phases. • This plan will be updated as necessary during Project planning prior to commencement of Project activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.6 • Section 7.7 • Section 8.5.5 • Section 8.5.6
Request for a detailed Emergency Response Plan including logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell provided interested parties with information and the anticipated timeline for the development of the ERP, including the highlights and commitments that will be contained within the ERP. • The ERP will be submitted to and reviewed by CNSOPB as part of their approvals process. Shell advised interested parties that following government submission, the ERP would be posted on the CNSOPB website. Shell will advise stakeholders when the ERP has been posted. • Shell will continue to provide information regarding the ERP and respond to questions from interested parties both prior to and following submission. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 8.1

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Table 3.4.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Consultation and Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
Concerns regarding offshore process safety following Deepwater Horizon incident in the Gulf of Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell's well process safety program and policies include information gained from and lessons learned from past incidents. Shell is committed to safe and reliable operations and will design and operate the Project to meet the high safety standards necessary to prevent an accidental event. • Shell's well design and construction procedures are based on maintaining an independent dual barrier policy to contain any reservoir fluid. Such barriers include high pressure wellhead housings, multiple casing strings cemented in place, blowout preventers, and weighted drilling fluids. These wellbore barriers are designed to prevent any hydrocarbon release. • In the unlikely event that an accidental spill or release occurs as part of the Project, Shell will activate a tiered ERP and procedures which will provide access to global response tools, equipment and personnel to effectively and efficiently respond to the incident. A Spill Response Plan will also be in place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 8.1
Why does Shell not have a capping stack located in Nova Scotia as part of their spill response capabilities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capping stacks are large pieces of equipment that require substantial associated support infrastructure to facilitate their maintenance, use and deployment. This associated infrastructure, which is necessary for loading and immediate deployment as well as storing and maintaining the capping stacks, is not currently available in Nova Scotia or Canada. The capping stacks identified to support the Project, in the unlikely event of a spill, are positioned in locations around the world with existing support facilities and staff through Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL)/Subsea Well Intervention Service (SWIS), global organizations sponsored through membership of major oil and gas companies, to facilitate immediate deployment. These capping stacks are readily available for deployment from their point of origin and would reach Nova Scotia within a short timeframe following an incident (12 to 21 days). As such, developing the infrastructure required to locate a capping stack in Nova Scotia is considered unnecessary and impracticable, particularly as it may not materially affect deployment times to the wellsite. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 8.1
Would Shell consider having a capping stack available in Nova Scotia as part of their spill response plan?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As provided above, the associated infrastructure, which is necessary for storing, maintaining, loading and immediate deployment of the capping stacks, is not currently available in Nova Scotia or Canada. The capping stacks identified to support the Project, in the unlikely event of a spill, are positioned in locations around the world with existing support facilities and staff through OSRL/SWIS, global organizations sponsored through membership of major oil and gas companies, to facilitate immediate deployment. These capping stacks are readily available for deployment and would reach Nova Scotia and be deployed within an estimated timeframe following an incident (12 to 21 days). As such, developing the infrastructure required to locate a capping stack in Nova Scotia is considered unnecessary and impracticable, particularly as it may not materially affect deployment times to the wellsite. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 8.1

4.0 ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT

4.1 ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Shell is committed to meaningful and productive engagement with Aboriginal groups during Project planning and implementation. The goal of Shell's Aboriginal engagement for the Project is to ensure that Shell, and the appropriate Crown agencies and decision makers, are aware of and informed on the potential for Project effects on the exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty rights, and potential opportunities mitigate those effects. Both the Crown and First Nations have noted that Project-related consultation is occurring between the Crown and the Nations directly as part of pre-Confederation Peace and Friendship Treaties. As Project proponent, Shell has taken a role of Project information sharing and relationship building in support of Crown consultation efforts.

4.2 ABORIGINAL ORGANIZATIONS

The 2011 National Household Survey (Statistics Canada 2011) reports there are 33 850 individuals of Aboriginal identity living in Nova Scotia, of which 14 960 have "registered or Treaty Indian" status. The majority of the First Nation people in Nova Scotia are from the Mi'kmaq nation (NSOAA 2011).

There are 13 Mi'kmaq First Nations in Nova Scotia. Table 4.2.1 provides a summary of demographic information on each First Nation and locations of band councils for each community are shown on Figure 4.1.1. The General Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs (General Assembly) currently comprises the Chiefs from 12 of the 13 First Nations in Nova Scotia (Shubenacadie/Indian Brook First Nation operates separately) and represents the governance for the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia. The Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office (KMKNO) supports and represents the Nova Scotia Assembly with respect to consultation regarding how projects may impact Mi'kmaq Aboriginal or Treaty rights, and directions regarding such matters are obtained through the KMKNO. The Shubenacadie/Indian Brook Mi'kmaq Nation currently conducts its administrative affairs outside of the KMKNO.

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Table 4.2.1 First Nations in Nova Scotia

Band	Census Subdivision/Designated Place ¹	Contact Information	Chief	Registered Population (2012) ²		
				Total	On Reserve	Off Reserve
Acadia	Gold River 21 (IRI), Ponhook Lake 10 (IRI), Wildcat 12 (IRI), Yarmouth 33 (IRI)	RR#4, P.O. Box 5914-C, Yarmouth, NS, B5A 4A8 Tel: (902) 742-0257	Deborah Robinson	1423	228	1195
Annapolis Valley	Cambridge 32 (IRI)	P.O. Box 89, Cambridge Station, Kings County, NS, B0P 1G0 Tel: (902) 538-7149	Janette Peterson	267	112	155
Bear River	Bear River (Part) 6 (IRI), Bear River (Part) 6 (IRI), Bear River 6B (IRI)	P.O. Box 210, Bear River, NS, B0S 1B0 Tel: 467-3802	Carol Thompson	322	105	217
Eskasoni	Eskasoni 3 (IRI)	P.O. Box 7040, Eskasoni, NS, B1W 1A1 Tel: (902) 379-2800	Leroy D.C. Denny	4151	3549	602
Glooscap	Glooscap 35 (IRI)	P.O. Box 449, Hantsport, NS, B0P 1P0 Tel: (902) 684-9788	Sydney Peters	338	88	250
Membertou	Membertou 28B (IRI)	111 Membertou St., Sydney, NS, B1S 2M9 Tel: (902) 564-6466	Terrance Paul	1369	874	495
Millbrook	Beaver Lake 17 (IRI), Cole Harbour 30 (IRI), Millbrook 27 (IRI), Sheet Harbour 36 (IRI)	P.O. Box 634, Truro, NS, B2N 5E5 Tel: (902) 897-9199	Robert Gloade	1723	856	867
Paqtnek (Afton)	Pomquet and Afton 23 (IRI)	R.R. #1, Afton, Antigonish County, NS, B0H 1A0 Tel: (902) 386-2781	Paul Prosper	552	413	139
Pictou Landing	Fisher's Grant 24 (IRI), Merigomish Harbour 31 (IRI)	RR#2, Site #6, Box 55, Trenton, NS, B0K 1X0 Tel: (902) 752-4912	Andrea Paul	635	487	148
Pottlokek	Chapel Island 5 (IRI)	P.O. Box 538, Chapel Island, NS,	Wilbert Marshall	690	560	130

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Table 4.2.1 First Nations in Nova Scotia

Band	Census Subdivision/Designated Place ¹	Contact Information	Chief	Registered Population (2012) ²		
				Total	On Reserve	Off Reserve
(Chapel Island)		BOE 3B0 Tel: (902) 535-3317				
Shubenacadie/ Indian Brook	Indian Brook 14 (IRI), New Ross 20 (IRI), Pennal 19 (IRI), Shubenacadie 13 (IRI)	Indian Brook Post Office, 522 Church St., Indian Brook, NS, B0N 1W0 Tel: (902) 758-2049	Rufus Copage	2495	1283	1212
Wagmatcook	Wagmatcook 1 (IRI)	P.O. Box 30001, Wagmatcook, NS, B0E 1B0 Tel: (902) 295-2598	Norman Bernard	776	605	171
We'koqma'q (Whycocomagh)	Whycocomagh 2 (IRI)	P.O. Box 149, Whycocomagh, NS, B0E 3M0 Tel: (902) 756-2337	Rod Googoo	954	869	85

¹ Statistics Canada 2013 National Household Survey Aboriginal Population Profile (Statistics Canada 2013)
² Population estimates based on Indian Register Population (AANDC 2012)

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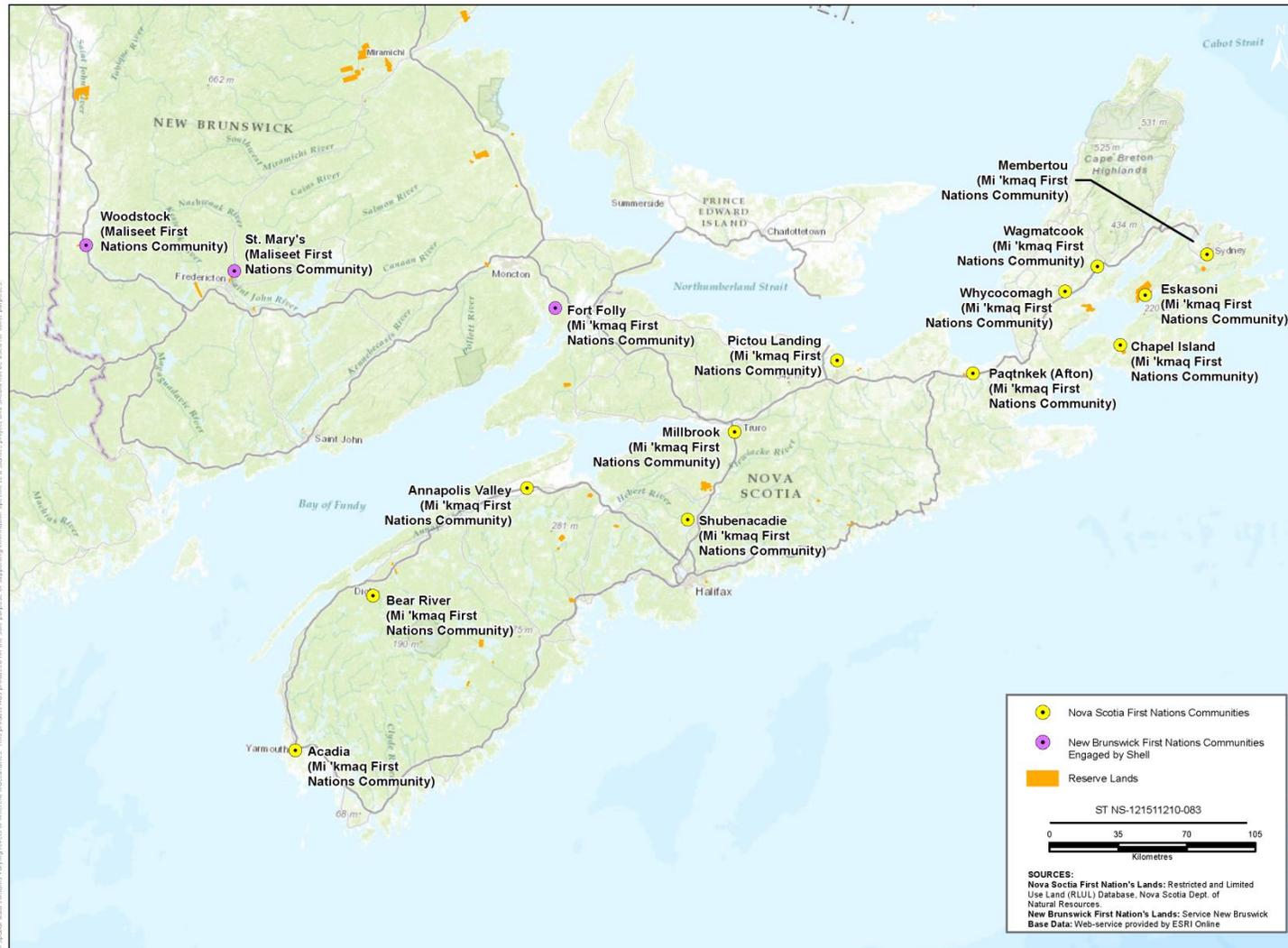


Figure 4.2.1 Location of First Nation Communities

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The Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council (MAPC) is a regional Aboriginal Peoples Leaders Institution established by the Native Council of Nova Scotia (NCNS), the Native Council of Prince Edward Island, and the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council. MAPC represents the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, and Passamaquoddy Aboriginal Peoples of Canada who continue to live on their traditional ancestral homelands (off-reserve). In Nova Scotia, the NCNS advocates for all off-reserve Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal people throughout traditional Mi'kmaq territory (NCNS 2013) and has established thirteen geographic "Community Zones" encompassing the province of Nova Scotia to administer their affairs. These zones for the Province of Nova Scotia include (NCNS 2009):

- (1) Colchester, Cumberland and Pictou Counties
- (2) Hants County
- (3) Halifax County, excepting that portion of Halifax County as covered by Number 11 herein and Number 12 herein
- (4) Digby and Annapolis Counties
- (5) Lunenburg County
- (6) Cape Breton, Victoria, Richmond and Inverness Counties
- (7) Antigonish and Guysborough Counties
- (8) Yarmouth County
- (9) Queens County
- (10) Kings County
- (11) Sheet Harbour which includes the localities between and including Ship Harbour to the west and Ecum Secum to the east
- (12) Dartmouth, which includes the City of Dartmouth, and that area not covered by zone 11 to the east, zone 2 to the north, and zone 3 to the west delineated as the areas westward from the apex of Bedford Basin northerly along the roadway to the Highway 101 and 102 therefrom continuing northerly on Highway 102
- (13) Shelburne County

Table 4.2.2 lists the Nova Scotia Aboriginal organizations directly engaged by Shell for this Project. As noted above, the KMKNO represents the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs for twelve of the thirteen First Nation Bands in the province.

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Table 4.2.2 Nova Scotia Aboriginal Organizations Engaged by Shell

Organization	Mandate	Contact Information	Key Contact
Mi'kmaq Kwilmu'kw Maw-Klusuaqn Negotiation Office (KMKNO)	Referred to as the Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative, the KMKNO facilitates treaty right negotiations between the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, the Province of Nova Scotia, and the Government. The KMKNO represents 12 of the 13 First Nation Bands in Nova Scotia.	Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office 851 Willow Street, Truro, NS B2N 6N8 Tel (902) 843 3880	Janice Maloney, Executive Director Twila Gaudet, Consultation Liaison Melissa Nevin, Consultation Researcher Allison Bernard, Fisheries Coordinator Jennifer MacGillivray, Benefits Officer
Shubenacadie/Indian Brook First Nation	First Nation community which has chosen to represent itself outside of the KMKNO.	Indian Brook Post Office, 522 Church St., Indian Brook, NS B0N 1W0 Tel: (902) 758-2049	Chief Rufus Copage Jim Michaels Jennifer Copage Michael Stevens
Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council/Native Council of Nova Scotia	Advocates for all off-reserve Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal people throughout traditional Mi'kmaq territory.	129 Truro Heights Rd, Truro, NS B6L 1X2 Tel: (902) 895-1738	Grace Conrad, NCNS Chief and President Roger Hunka, Director or Intergovernmental Affairs
Netukulimkewe'l Commission and Mime'j Seafoods Ltd.	Resource management authority administering harvest guidelines and processes in traditional Mi'kmaq territory in Nova Scotia lands and waters.	172 Truro Heights Road P.O. Box 1320 Truro, NS B2N 5N2 Tel: (902) 895-7050	Tim Martin, Commissioner
Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources (UINR)	Represents Cape Breton's Mi'kmaq regarding natural resource and environmental concerns.	PO Box 8096 Eskasoni, NS B1W 1C2 Tel: (902) 379-2163	John Couture, Commercial Fisheries Liaison Coordinator

In addition to the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, the Project has the potential to interact with other Aboriginal users of resources in the vicinity of the Project. There are 15 First Nation Bands in New Brunswick, three of which have been identified by the CEA Agency for engagement based on fisheries interests in and around the Project Area as shown in Table 4.2.3 and Figure 4.2.1.

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Table 4.2.3 New Brunswick First Nations Engaged by Shell

Band	Census Subdivision/ Designated Place	Contact Information	Chief and other Contacts	Registered Population ¹		
				Total Registered Population	On Reserve	Off Reserve
Fort Folly (Mi'kmaq)	Fort Folly 1 (IRI)	PO Box 1007, Dorchester, NB E4K 3V5 Tel: (506) 379-3400	Rebecca Knockwood Brad Sappier	126	35	91
St. Mary's (Maliseet)	Devon 30 (IRI)	150 Cliffe Street, Fredericton, NB E3A 0A1 Tel: (506) 458-9511	Candace Paul Shyla O'Donnell Jeremy Paul	1781	817	962 ²
Woodstock (Maliseet)	Woodstock 23 (IRI)	3 Wulastook Court, Woodstock First Nation, NB E7M 4K6 Tel: (506) 328-3303	Paul Tomah Mathiew Tomah Eric Paul	973	287	686 ³

¹Statistics sourced from AANDC 2008
² Includes 35 individuals living on other reserves.
³ Includes 5 individuals living on other reserves.

4.3 POTENTIAL OR ESTABLISHED RIGHTS AND RELATED INTERESTS

Under the federal *Constitution Act, 1982*, existing Aboriginal and Treaty rights are recognized as constitutionally protected rights. Between 1725 and 1779, various Peace and Friendship Treaties were established between the Mi'kmaq, the Maliseet, and British settlers, the terms of which were intended to help establish peace and commercial relations (AANDC 2013). As affirmed by various recent Supreme Court decisions, these treaties guarantee Aboriginal rights to hunt and fish throughout the region and to maintain a moderate livelihood; these rights are protected by section 35(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

In 1990, the Supreme Court of Canada issued the Sparrow Decision which found the Musqueam First Nation had an Aboriginal right to fish for food, social and ceremonial (FSC) purposes. This decision indicated the importance of consulting with Aboriginal groups when their fishing right may be affected (DFO 2008b). The Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia continue to work with First Nations to negotiate outstanding treaty, title and Aboriginal rights questions in Nova Scotia.

A "Made-in-Nova Scotia Process" has been established as a rights-based process to ensure that the interests of Aboriginal groups in land, resource management and environmental protection are realized and that claimants share in the benefits of development. On February 23, 2007, a Framework Agreement was signed between the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada to set out the process to promote efficient, effective,

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orderly and timely negotiations towards a resolution of issues respecting Mi'kmaq rights and title (KMKNO n.d.).

In addition to the engagement efforts by Shell, the provincial and federal governments are consulting with Aboriginal organizations in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to understand potential Project effects on Aboriginal and Treaty rights and to take any adverse effects into consideration before reaching a regulatory decision on the Project. To facilitate this engagement and consultation process, a Traditional Use Study has been conducted for this Project (refer to Appendix B) to characterize Aboriginal use of marine waters in the vicinity of the Project for commercial and/or FSC purposes.

4.4 ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Shell's Aboriginal engagement approach has included:

- Project information packages
- face-to-face meetings
- conduct of Traditional Use Study (TUS)
- phone calls and emails seeking input and feedback
- development and participation by First Nations in Supplier Information Sessions in Nova Scotia
- input to the development of Fisheries Communication and Emergency Response Plans, as requested

A log of meeting dates is provided in Appendix D. Ongoing project updates, check-ins and timely responses to questions or concerns will take place throughout the Project.

In an effort to better understand traditional use of marine areas and resources by Aboriginal peoples and potential Project-related effects on Aboriginal and Treaty rights, MGS and UINR were commissioned to undertake a TUS. The following First Nation communities were targeted for interviews based on knowledge of fishing interests and/or through consultation with the CEA Agency: Millbrook, Shubenacadie, Acadia, Eskasoni, Bear River, and Glooscap First Nations in Nova Scotia; and Fort Folly, St. Mary's, and Woodstock First Nations in New Brunswick. The Native Council of Nova Scotia was also included in the list of organizations to be contacted. Interviews with fisheries managers, captains, and fishers, along with literature reviews and a review of DFO licences, were used to help characterize traditional and/or communal commercial fisheries activities for each group. In particular, species of commercial and cultural significance, general fishing areas, and fishing seasons were discussed, along with any additional information pertaining to fish or sensitive areas, or issues or concerns regarding potential Project interactions. Nations that were interested and available to participate up until the time of EIS submission are included in the study results.

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The TUS report has been appended to the EIS (Appendix B) and is not intended to represent an exhaustive inventory of Aboriginal fisheries occurring offshore Nova Scotia, but provides a representative snapshot of activity to help characterize potential interactions with the Project. Shell will continue to engage Aboriginal organizations in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick as applicable to share information on the Project and identify potential issues and concerns that it will seek to address.

4.5 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS RAISED DURING ABORIGINAL ENGAGEMENT

Key questions and comments raised during meetings with NS and NB Aboriginal organizations focused on the following themes:

- Well Process Safety
- environmental effects of oil/gas activity on commercial and FSC fishery resources
- drilling program exclusions zones
- socio-economic effects of an accidental spill on commercial and FSC fishing activity
- potential socio-economic benefits of the Shelburne Basin Project
- compensation for damages in the event of an accidental event

In response to these questions and concerns, Shell hosted meetings where it presented information on Well Process Safety, general safety policies, and spill response.

Specific questions and concerns and Shell's response are summarized in Table 4.5.1.

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Table 4.5.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Aboriginal Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
Environmental Effects		
<p>What are the effects of the proposed drilling program on fisheries species, including snow crab, swordfish, Atlantic salmon, American lobster, sea urchin, American eel, and striped bass?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine drilling activities are not expected to have significant adverse effects on these species. Potential effects from Project activities and components are expected to be temporary and localized around the MODU and wellsite. • Adult and juvenile snow crab would not likely be encountered in the deep waters of the Project Area and therefore are not anticipated to be affected by Project activities or components. • Marine fish, including swordfish, Atlantic salmon, sea urchin, and American eel, which could potentially be transient species in relation to the Project Area, may demonstrate temporary behavioural changes (for example avoidance of affected areas) as a result of underwater noise and marine discharges. These effects are predicted to be temporary, reversible and limited to a maximum radius of 26 km (for potential behavioural effects from VSP) or less (marine discharges). • Environmental effects from the Project on fish and fish habitat are evaluated in Section 7.2. • Environmental effects from the Project on current Aboriginal use of lands and resources for traditional purposes are provided in Section 7.6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.2 • Section 7.6
<p>Request for information on how varying levels of light, heat and noise will affect marine species as well as Aboriginal Communal Commercial Fisheries?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of light, heat and noise associated with the presence and operation of the MODU may result in localized and temporary behavioural changes and habitat use by marine species, primarily around the MODU and wellsite. VSP surveys are very short in duration (up to 1 day per wellsite) and would only occur at the proposed wellsites. • Any behavioural changes exhibited by marine fish species is expected to be temporary and not at the level that would result in measureable changes to Aboriginal Communal Commercial Fisheries. • Section 7 assesses Project effects on marine species, commercial fisheries, and Aboriginal communal commercial fisheries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7 (various)
<p>How is Shell incorporating knowledge of fisheries activity, areas of interest and timings into its drilling program planning?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to the Shelburne Basin 3D Seismic Survey conducted in 2013, Shell will consider information provided by fisheries representatives on spatial and temporal sensitivities (i.e., sensitive/special zones, fish migrations, high activity times) in the planning and operation of the Project. • Species of interest identified by fisheries representatives either directly to Shell or via the TUS have been considered in this EIS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.7 • Appendix B

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Table 4.5.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Aboriginal Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
Project Details		
<p>Request for further information on drilling mud disposal (e.g., quantities and disposal method, including consideration of re-injection)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A combination of WBM and SBM will be used for the Project exploration wells. WBM will be used during the initial stages of riserless drilling (for the conductor and surface hole sections). SBM will be used for intermediate sections following the installation of the riser and BOP. • WBM and cuttings returned to the seabed during riserless drilling will be left in place on the seafloor. • SBM and cuttings will be returned to the MODU via the riser system for treatment. Returned SBM will be removed from cuttings through a staged separation process and reconditioned for reuse as much as possible. SBM that cannot be re-used will be returned to land for appropriate disposal. Some SBM will remain on the returned cuttings, but the cuttings will be treated in accordance with the OWTG (6.9 g of mud or less/100 g of cuttings) prior to being discharged to the sea. • Section 2.7.1 discusses types and volumes of drilling wastes to be discharged in the marine environment as well as a summary of the predicted fate and behaviour of these discharges. Appendix C contains sediment dispersion modelling methods and results. • Section 2.8.4 discusses alternatives for drill waste disposal. Re-injection of drill waste is not a feasible option for disposal as this option requires drilling a dedicated well with costs in the order of \$200 million. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2.7.1.1 • Appendix C • Section 2.8.4
<p>Request for further information regarding the chosen drilling unit (MODU)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a result of the water depth in the Project Area, a semi-submersible and drill ship are the only two MODU options identified to feasibly support the Project (refer to Section 2.8.2 for an evaluation of alternatives). • A final decision on the MODU to be used to support the Project has not been determined at this time, but Shell's preference is to use a drill ship based on ease of mobilization as well as global rig availability. • Shell will formally announce the chosen MODU once the contract has been awarded. Following formal announcement, Shell will include the information in any future engagement activities and provide opportunity for interested parties to ask any additional questions regarding the specific MODU chosen. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2.3.1 • Section 2.8.2

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Table 4.5.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Aboriginal Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
<p>Will Shell be implementing a 500-m radius safety zone around the MODU during drilling operations?</p> <p>How will this safety zone account for long line drift?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In accordance with the <i>Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Drilling and Production Regulations</i>, Shell will implement a 500-m radius safety around the MODU during drilling operations. • Shell will work with fisheries representatives on a location by location basis to determine appropriate measures to reduce disruptions to fisheries activities. • Shell will continue to engage with fisheries representatives prior to drilling activity to understand the location and timing of fishing activities. • Shell will implement a Fisheries Communication Plan that will coordinate communication both prior to and during Project activities to coordinate activities and identify appropriate measures to reduce disruption to any fisheries activity (inclusive of long-line fisheries) or interference with fishing gear. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7.7.8
<p>Additional detail requested on the scheduling of Project activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project activities are anticipated to commence in Q2 2015 following receipt of all necessary regulatory approvals. • Project activities will commence with mobilization of the MODU on-site and the commencement of drilling activities. • The initial drilling campaign could include up to three wells drilled sequentially. • Shell will continue to engage Aboriginal groups throughout the planning process and will provide relevant information and Project updates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2.6
Aboriginal Engagement Process		
<p>Request for inclusion of Mi'kmaq demographics and population distributions for Nova Scotia in the EIS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 4.2 of the EIS contains location and demographic information for First Nation communities and off-reserve Aboriginals in Nova Scotia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 4.2
<p>Request for a Mi'kmaq Fisheries Communication Plan during drilling operations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell has developed a Fisheries Communications Plan that has been compiled in consideration of input from KMKNO and Maliseet Nation representatives, as well as other fisheries representatives gathered during engagement for the Project. • This plan will be used during operational activities currently anticipated to commence in 2015. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 4.4 • Section 7.7

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Table 4.5.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Aboriginal Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
Accidental Events and Emergency Response		
<p>Concern about the effects of an accidental event on the marine ecosystem in and around the Shelburne Basin Project Area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell is committed to safe and reliable operations and will design and operate the Project to meet high safety standards designed to prevent an accidental event. Shell's well process safety program and policies include information gained and lessons learned from past incidents in order to ensure that such incidents don't happen again. • Shell's well design and construction procedures are designed to have multiple safeguards in order prevent an incident from occurring. They are based on maintaining an independent dual barrier policy to contain any reservoir fluid. Such barriers include high pressure wellhead housings, multiple casing strings cemented in place, blowout preventers and weighted drilling fluids. These wellbore barriers are designed to prevent any hydrocarbon release. • In the unlikely event that an accidental spill or release occurs as part of the Project, Shell will activate a tiered ERP and procedures which will provide access to global response tools, equipment and personnel to effectively and efficiently respond to the incident. A Spill Response Plan may also be activated. • A discussion of potential effects from accidental events is provided in Section 8.5 of this EIS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 8.1 • Section 8.5
<p>Request for an explanation of prevailing currents in and around the Project Area, and how an accidental event may impact Aboriginal fisheries as a result</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix G contains a detailed account of prevailing currents and the predicted fate and behaviour of spilled diesel or oil from a batch spill or blowout. This information is summarized in Section 8.4 and potential effects on Aboriginal fisheries are assessed in Section 8.5. As noted in Table 3.4.1, effects of accidental events could have an effect on fisheries resources and/or fishing activity, thereby potentially resulting in a temporary loss of access to traditional fishing grounds, or a change in availability of fisheries resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix G • Section 8.4 • Section 8.5.6

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Table 4.5.1 Summary of Key Issues Raised During Aboriginal Engagement

Question or Comment	Summary of Response	EIS Reference
<p>Request for more information on the type of dispersants that would be used in an emergency response scenario, effects of these dispersants on neighbouring ecosystems, and the regulations that manage dispersant use under the <i>Canada Chemicals Management Plan</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shell is committed to responding to an offshore oil spill, which may include use of dispersants where appropriate. The appropriate application of dispersants, either at the ocean's surface or subsea, may provide the means of removing significant quantities of oil from the surface quickly, thereby reducing overall environmental impacts. • Dispersants work by moving the oil into the water column where it can rapidly dilute and biodegrade, thereby reducing the impacts of oil left on the water surface or oil stranding on shoreline if mechanical containment and recovery efforts are ineffective or inefficient. • Use of dispersants requires prior regulatory approval. • To facilitate regulatory approval, Shell will work together with the appropriate government agencies and undertake a Net Environmental Benefit Analysis (NEBA) to consider the risks and benefits of using dispersants. A detailed Project-specific NEBA will be submitted to the CNSOPB in support of Shell's Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP). The NEBA will contain details on types of dispersants proposed for use as well as the associated environmental effects of dispersant use. • If need arises, to supplement mechanical recovery resources, Shell will provide surface (from vessels and planes) and subsea dispersant injection capabilities and will work with CNSOPB to secure required regulatory approvals to deploy these techniques. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 8.1.2

During the course of the TUS, interviews with participants revealed some additional issues and concerns. Key issues raised within the TUS include: the ecological significance and biodiversity of the RAA; use of the RAA by commercial or other important fish species during various life stages; the importance of the RAA as migration routes and spawning areas for many species; and the presence or use of the RAA by species that represent the primary food source for commercially or culturally important species. The inter-connectedness of the ecosystem was emphasized. Concerns raised during the TUS include the effects on habitats and species that could result from any development in the area, ecological impacts if there is a spill, and potential limitations to current fishing practices and/or locations of fishing. Important fisheries areas were identified, including the inner shelf, outer shelf and slope/channel areas. Refer to the TUS in Appendix B for additional information on issues and concerns raised during TUS interviews. These issues and concerns have been taken into account in the EIS as applicable in Section 5 (Existing Environment), Section 7.7 (Current Aboriginal Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes), and Section 8.5 (Accidental Events Effects Assessment).