



Nora Cahill

On behalf of The Advocates for the Responsible Development of Long Pond

Via E-mail: <Email address removed>

Dear Nora Cahill:

Thank you for your letter of January 4, 2021, concerning the Long Pond proposed development (the Project) by Ocean Choice International (the Proponent).

Your letter requests that an environmental assessment on this Project be undertaken to guide and mitigate responsible sustainable economic development.

The *Impact Assessment Act* (the IAA) and its regulations establish the legal framework for federal impact assessments. The *Physical Activities Regulations* (the Regulations) identify the types of projects that are subject to the IAA. These projects are referred to as designated projects. The Regulations focus on projects with the greatest potential for adverse effects that are related to the environment and that are within federal jurisdiction.

Based on information provided by the Proponent, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) has advised that the Regulations do not apply to the Project.

The IAA does allow me to designate a physical activity that is not prescribed in the Regulations. However, this authority is not available if another federal department or agency has issued an authorization that would enable the Project to move forward in whole, or in part. It is my understanding that both Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Transport Canada have already issued authorizations. Therefore, I have concluded that under paragraph 9(7)(b) of the IAA, I cannot use this discretionary authority to require an impact assessment for the Project.

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My response, with reasons, will be available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site: [Canadian Impact Assessment Registry - Registry Home Page - Canada.ca \(ceaa.gc.ca\)](http://Canadian Impact Assessment Registry - Registry Home Page - Canada.ca (ceaa.gc.ca)).

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention. Should you have any further questions please contact Jill Adams, Acting Regional Director of the Agency's Atlantic Office, by E-mail at jill.adams@canada.ca or by telephone at (709) 330-6297.

I trust that you will find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Bernadette Jordan, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

The Honourable Omar Alghabra, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Transport