



October 3, 2001

Mr. Craig S. Harrison
Vice Chair for Conservation
Pacific Seabird Group
#1801, 4001 North Ninth Street
Arlington, Virginia 22203
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Harrison:

Thank you for your August 1, 2001 letter regarding the offshore oil and gas moratorium.

As I have stated publicly, the Province is committed to lifting the moratorium only if it can be demonstrated that offshore development can be done in an environmentally safe manner. Furthermore, I recognize that there are other issues that also require consideration. As a result, the Ministry of Energy and Mines, in conjunction with other agencies, is working diligently to gather up-to-date information on the scientific, social, economic and environmental aspects of offshore oil and gas development.

Thank you also for your offer of assistance from the Pacific Seabird Group. I have forwarded you letter to Ministry staff for future reference.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Neufeld".

Richard Neufeld
Minister

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