

# Statement

GREENPEACE

## **Imperial Oil halt on Arctic drilling plans welcome news for Arctic and world**

**26 June 2015 (Toronto)** – Regarding the Imperial Oil (and joint venture partners ExxonMobil and BP) announcement to defer its Arctic oil drilling plans, Greenpeace Canada Arctic Campaigner Farrah Khan released the following statement:

“Imperial Oil’s decision to defer its Arctic oil drilling plans in the Beaufort Sea is good news for the Arctic and people all around the world. Drilling in icy waters is extremely technically challenging, and if it is permitted to happen an oil spill is all but inevitable. What’s more, the latest scientific research is telling us that most of the world’s fossil fuels, including Arctic oil and gas, need to be left in the ground if we’re to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

“Imperial Oil is requesting the government extend the terms of their license so that they may pursue Arctic drilling again in the future. It’s imperative the government not sacrifice the public good in order to serve the interests of the oil industry. Imperial’s request should be rejected, and an end put to offshore oil projects in the Canadian Arctic.

“Instead of pursuing unburnable Arctic oil, the energy industry should move away from harmful and destructive fossil fuel projects, and transition rapidly towards a green energy future based on renewables and energy efficiency.”

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### **For more information:**

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