

Statement

GREENPEACE

Critical oil spill response equipment should be available immediately in the event of a spill: Greenpeace

6 August 2015 (Toronto) – Following Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq’s approval of an Environmental Assessment of Shell’s plans for oil drilling off Nova Scotia that would allow the company to keep critical oil spill response equipment, the capping stack, in Norway, Greenpeace Arctic campaigner Alex Speers-Roesch said:

“Oil spills are a serious threat to ecosystems and their fisheries. Canada should be holding the oil industry to the highest standards of safety, not letting them cut corners. Shell has a long track record of sacrificing safety in the blind pursuit of profit, as we have seen countless times during their failed attempts to drill in the Arctic. In 2012 Shell moved the drill rig Kulluk out of Alaska in order to avoid paying taxes, despite stormy conditions. The rig ended up breaking loose in a storm and running ashore in southern Alaska.

“The Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia have also expressed concern about how long Shell has said it would take them to stop a blowout, and asked that the capping stack be kept in Halifax. The Canadian government should be listening to the calls from Indigenous Peoples for stronger environmental protections, not ignoring them.”

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For more information:

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