Update: Hibernia response continues

Date: July 19, 2019
Time: 1:15 p.m. (Newfoundland time)

St. John's, Newfoundland: Hibernia Management and Development Company Ltd. (HMDC) is continuing response efforts regarding a release from the platform on July 17.

There are currently five support vessels in the field. The Atlantic Merlin and the Paul A Sacuta have deployed single vessel side sweep (SVSS) systems and are collecting oil from the water.

There are three wildlife observers actively monitoring the area and one individual monitoring air quality. These third party environmental advisors are reporting their findings on an hourly basis and observations from the vessels this morning indicate concentrations of oil have decreased.

There have been reports of wildlife in the area, however there have been no reports of any impacted wildlife or marine animals.

A PAL surveillance flight departed St. John's at ~0715 to gather additional information for the response team regarding the precise location of the sheen and wildlife observation. Infield visibility conditions were favorable for observations.

Based on aerial surveillance on July 17, the estimated volume of oil released from the Hibernia platform was 75 barrels of oil, equivalent to approximately 12,000 litres. The initial surveillance flights were carried out by PAL and included an independent regulatory observer and an experienced response professional from the Eastern Canada Response Corporation (ECRC).

Other response activities have included mechanical dispersion, deploying sorbent boom, and deploying multiple tracking buoys.

All platform personnel are safe.

Production remains shut in. The HMDC team continues their investigation and more information will be released when it becomes available.

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