

October 8, 2021

Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission)  
[submissions@nunavut.ca](mailto:submissions@nunavut.ca)

**RE: Nunavut 2021 Draft Land Use Plan**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on Nunavut's 2021 Draft Land Use Plan. The amount of new lands that are being proposed to be off limits to future oil and gas exploration and industrial activity is of concern to our Association and our members and will impact any future investment plans in Nunavut.

The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) represents companies, large and small, that explore for, develop and produce natural gas and oil throughout Canada. CAPP's member companies produce about 80 per cent of Canada's natural gas and oil. CAPP's associate members provide a wide range of services that support the upstream oil and natural gas industry. Together CAPP's members and associate members are an important part of a national industry with revenues from oil and natural gas production of about \$116 billion a year.

While Nunavut's exact oil and gas reserves are still unknown, industry believes there is much potential in certain areas of the territory for significant oil and natural gas discoveries. The costs of exploring, developing and extracting these resources will be very high given the harsh environment, limited infrastructure and other challenges that exist. Given the current market prices for both oil and gas there is admittedly limited interest in pursuing these reserves in the near term unless the commodity prices increase significantly. It is however likely the territory will experience future interest and growth from our industry as the Arctic becomes increasingly accessible. The significant discoveries made in the high arctic region of Nunavut remain of considerable interest and industry would need access to the lands in those areas to do further exploration and assess future development and investment.

In reviewing the 2021 Draft Land Use plan we have noted that the suggested prohibition of oil and gas activity on various land areas would cover approximately 26% of the Nunavut settlement area, an increase of 11% from the last draft. As we have discussed with the Nunavut government on many occasions and through written submissions, we believe having access to areas of the territory that are highly prospective for oil and gas reserves, developing new infrastructure to support economic development and putting in place clear government policy and regulatory conditions to enable oil and gas development are all critical to allow for internationally competitive resource investment.

---

2100, 350 – 7 Avenue S.W.  
Calgary, Alberta  
Canada T2P 3N9  
Tel 403-267-1100  
Fax 403-261-4622

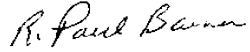
1820, 275 Slater Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada K1P 5H9  
Tel 613-288-2126  
Fax 613- 236-4280

1004, 235 Water Street  
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador  
Canada A1C 1B6  
Tel 709-724-4200  
Fax 709-724-4225

202, 1110 Government St.  
Victoria, British Columbia  
Canada V8W 1Y2  
Tel [778-265-3819](tel:778-265-3819)  
Fax 403-261-4622

I would be pleased to discuss our concerns and the land areas of interest of our industry with the Commission at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Paul Barnes".

R. Paul Barnes  
Director, Atlantic Canada & Arctic

c.c

Jimi Onalik, Deputy Minister, Development of Economic Development and Transportation, Gov. of Nunavut

Kilikvak Karen Kabloona, CEO, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI)

Daniel Watson, Deputy Minister, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada