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***Explanation Of Panel Review Process And  
Summary Of The Panel's Guidelines For The  
Preparation Of An Environmental Impact  
Statement For Community Use  
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EXPLANATION OF PANEL REVIEW PROCESS  
AND SUMMARY OF THE PANEL'S GUIDELINES  
FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN  
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and  
Summary of Panel's Guidelines  
For the Preparation of an  
Environmental Impact Statement  
For Community Use

**BEAUFORT SEA  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PANEL**

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THE BEAUFORT SEA HYDROCARBON  
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BEAUFORT SEA  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PANEL

FEBRUARY 1982

## INTRODUCTION

The following is an explanation of how the Beaufort Sea Environmental Assessment Panel plans to carry out its review of a proposal by Dome Petroleum Limited, Esso Resources Canada Limited and Gulf Canada Resources Inc. to produce oil and gas **from** the Beaufort Sea - Mackenzie Delta area and transport it to markets. Also included in this booklet is a summary of the Guidelines that have been prepared by the Panel for use by Dome, Esso and Gulf in preparing their Environmental Impact Statement.

## THE PANEL AND THE REVIEW

The Beaufort Sea Environmental Assessment Panel is a group of seven private citizens appointed by the Government of Canada. Four members are currently living in the North. The other three either have extensive knowledge of the northern regions or of the oil and gas industry. The seven Panel members know the life-style of the northern peoples and know many northern residents on a personal basis. The seven members on the Panel are:

### Dr. John Tener (Chairman)

Dr. Tener has considerable experience in the North and is particularly **knowledgeable** about Arctic wildlife. He is a former Assistant Deputy Minister with Environment **Canada** and former Executive **Director** of the Arctic Institute of North America. Dr. Tener retired **from** government service in 1980 and is currently living in Ottawa. He is also teaching at the University of Calgary.

### Fred Carmichael

Mr. Carmichael, a commercial pilot, has lived and worked in the Northwest Territories all his life. From 1971-76 he operated Reindeer Air Service of **Inuvik** and is now a pilot for Kenn **Borek** Air. His home is in **Inuvik**.

### Douglas Craig

Mr. Craig, an engineer, was Vice Chairman of the Energy Resources Conservation Board of Alberta from 1971 until his retirement in 1977. He also held various positions with the Board's predecessor, the Oil and Gas Conservation Board, giving him considerable understanding of the oil and gas industry in Canada. His home is in Carbon, **Alberta**.

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### Lucasi Ivvalu

Mr. **Ivvalu** recently resigned as the Speaker of the Baffin Regional Council, a position he held since 1978. Prior to that he was Settlement Secretary and Settlement Manager of the Hamlet of Igloolik. Mr. **Ivvalu** currently lives in Igloolik, N.W.T.

### Allen Lueck

Mr. **Lueck** is involved in mining exploration and development in the Yukon. He is a lawyer and helped set up the Yukon Native Brotherhood and the Council for Yukon Indians and from 1969 to 1977 he served as the Council's legal advisor. Mr. Lueck currently lives in Whitehorse.

### Dr. Ross Mackay

Dr. Mackay is a professor of geography at the University of British Columbia and is widely known and well respected for his studies of permafrost and post-glacial history of the western Arctic coast. He has spent more than 25 seasons on that coast conducting research. Dr. Mackay's home is in Vancouver.

### Michael Stutter

Mr. Stutter is engaged in gold mining in the Dawson City, Yukon area. He was a member of the Yukon Territorial Council from 1970-74. From 1961-71 he operated a river barge service to Old Crow. He is a former member of the Yukon Water Board. Mr. Stutter's home is in Whitehorse.

The job of the Panel is to conduct a review of future oil and gas production and transportation from the Beaufort Sea - Mackenzie Delta area. This review will look at all aspects of oil and gas production and transportation and, if development proceeds, how it will affect the people, the land and the animals. The Panel will review possible production facilities, such as base camps and artificial islands. The Panel will also review possible transportation facilities, e.g., tankers and pipelines. The main job of the Panel will be to study how these production and transportation facilities will affect the people, the land and the animals. It is possible that the review could be completed by the summer of 1983. Upon completion of the review, the Panel will submit its final report to the Government of Canada.

## THE PROPOSAL

The oil companies have now found enough oil and gas in the Beaufort Sea - Mackenzie Delta area to decide that they want to produce and transport it to market. The companies know they will need workers, production platforms, base camps, trucks, tractors, loaders, planes, helicopters, etc. to assist production of oil and gas from the Beaufort Sea area. The oil companies also know they want to transport oil and gas to markets either by pipelines or tankers, or both. Plans for producing and transporting the oil and gas are known as the proposal and are contained in the Dome, Esso and Gulf document called "Hydrocarbon Development in **the** Beaufort Sea - Mackenzie Delta Region".

## BACKGROUND

For about 20 years, oil companies have been searching for oil and gas in the Mackenzie Delta region and later in the Beaufort Sea. Since major quantities of oil and gas have been found, the companies now want to produce this **oil** and gas and transport it to markets. How will all this possible activity affect the people, animals, land and the sea?

To find out, the Government of Canada has appointed a Panel of seven private citizens. This group of seven is called the Beaufort Sea Environmental Assessment Panel. All seven members are independent of the Government and of the oil companies.

The Panel's first job was to write a set of Guidelines or questions which the oil **companies will** be required to answer in an Environmental Impact Statement. Preliminary Guidelines were issued in June 1981. Since the Panel recognized the great importance of input from northern people and organizations as well as those in the south, the Panel held public meetings in November and December of 1981 to discuss the draft Guidelines. These meetings were held in northern communities and also in Calgary. The Panel has considered all the presentations made to it during these meetings in its preparation of the final Guidelines.

These final Guidelines *or* questions have been given to the oil companies and made public. The companies must answer the Guidelines to the best of their ability in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). If there are certain questions that cannot be properly answered, the companies must say so. The-three main companies writing the Environmental Impact Statement are Dome, Esso and Gulf. These three are the major companies interested in producing and transporting the oil and gas from the Beaufort Sea to markets.

When the oil companies have completed their Environmental Impact Statement, copies will be sent to each community which will have at least three months to study the document and find out if Dome, Esso and Gulf have properly answered all of your concerns. If the Panel feels the companies have not properly answered your concerns, Dome, Esso and Gulf will have to do more work on their answers. Once the Panel is satisfied the Environmental Impact Statement is acceptable, it will hold public meetings in those northern communities possibly affected by the proposal to get the people's views on the Dome, Esso and Gulf plans. This final set of public meetings is very important because the Panel must understand what the people's concerns are before it writes its final report.

In addition to these public meetings, the Panel will also be in regular contact with the people to tell them how the Review is going. As well as the Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines for Dome, Esso and Gulf, the Panel has also drawn up a set of Guidelines for government to answer. These Guidelines ask various federal departments and the two Territorial Governments to explain how their plans may affect oil and gas activity in the Beaufort Sea area. These Guidelines also ask how the various levels of government may be affected by oil and gas development. Once the final public meetings are held and all interested people have had a chance to talk to the Panel, the Panel will prepare its final report and send it to the Government of Canada through the Minister of the Environment. It is possible that the review could be completed by the summer of 1983. The Government will then make the final decision as to what Dome, Esso and Gulf can or cannot do in the Beaufort Sea area. The Panel report will have a major influence on the government's decision.

### FINAL GUIDELINES FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The following is a summary of the Guidelines the Panel has given to Dome, Esso and Gulf for the preparation of their Environmental Impact Statement. (A copy of the full Guidelines can be obtained by contacting the Panel Secretariat at the address given at the back of this booklet.) In preparing the final Guidelines, the Panel has considered and discussed all comments presented to it during the public meetings that were held in the North during November and December of 1981. It is hoped that the following summary of the final Guidelines will enable community residents to more easily understand what the Panel wants Dome, Esso and Gulf to include in their Environmental Impact Statement.

In the Guidelines, the Panel is asking what effects (impacts) production and transportation of oil and gas from the Beaufort Sea may have on the land, animals, and sea and on the people in the communities. This

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includes any changes, good or bad, that may affect your way of life and that of your children. The Environmental Impact Statement by Dome, Esso and Gulf should explain how they plan to take out the oil and gas and how they plan to transport it to markets. They should describe possible pipelines and tanker routes and tell what routes they prefer to use. They should also describe how they plan to involve northerners in their activities and how they plan to develop platforms and islands in the sea, drill sites, camps and servicing areas on land so that you will have a good idea how these things may affect you in the future. The Environmental Impact Statement should help you understand the Dome, Esso and Gulf plans and assist you to express your views on these plans to the Panel.

Dome, Esso and Gulf should explain the way the land, animals, sea and people are today, including all matters such as weather, numbers and habits of animals, birds and fish, number of people, cultural background, work habits, businesses, social life and so on. This description will give everyone a history of the people and the area. Dome, Esso and Gulf should describe how they believe the development of the oil and gas might change the land, animals, sea and the way the people live now. They should say clearly what they plan to do to lessen bad effects and how to make the good effects better.

Dome, Esso and Gulf have been asked to look 20 years into the future to try to figure out what changes they see taking place to the land, animals, sea, and the people in the Beaufort Sea area if Dome, Esso and Gulf are allowed to develop the oil and gas fields. You should also try to look 20 years into the future when considering the effects of this development upon you and your community. This should be done so that the Panel will be able to find out if **you are** satisfied with what Dome, Esso and Gulf are planning. It is this kind of information that the Panel requires in order to make proper recommendations to the Government of Canada.

The following summarizes in more **detail** what it is that the Panel is asking Dome, Esso and Gulf to include in their Environmental Impact Statement.

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Panel has asked Dome, Esso and Gulf to write about the areas they are planning to develop, in at least three zones:

Zone 1 - The Beaufort Sea and nearby coastal areas, including Amundsen Gulf to the east and extending west to the Alaska/Yukon border.

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Zone 2 - Land in the Yukon and Northwest Territories that could be used for transportation routes (for example, pipelines and highways)

Zone 3 - Tanker routes in Canadian northern waters.

The Panel believes this division would help the people in the different **zones** see more easily how the development might affect them.

In the final Guidelines, the Panel has suggested that Dome, Esso and Gulf include in their Environmental Impact Statement five parts for easier understanding and so that you will be able to find a particular piece of information quickly.

These five parts are to contain certain information which is described below:

### 1. Overview

The Overview should be a separate document written to be understood by people without scientific training.

It should describe the several ways Dome, Esso and Gulf might produce and transport oil and gas to market and the major changes to the land, animals, sea and people they see taking **place because of their** activities.

It should also describe how they hope to avoid or lessen any bad effects and increase the good effects of their activities.

### 2. Background

This part should explain how the plans of Dome, Esso and Gulf to develop oil and gas and transport it to market can be done under present Federal and Territorial Government rules and regulations. The oil companies should discuss their plans in relation to government, regional and **community** plans.

They should advise on what benefits others will get if their plans are carried out and how their development activities will affect plans and activities of other people in the area.

They should describe **all** future **plans** for producing **oil** and gas from the Beaufort Sea area and transporting it to market. This description

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should use maps. Construction and operation activities should be described as well as a plan for the shutting down and abandoning of all facilities if that becomes necessary in the future.

They should describe the effects that have occurred as a result of past exploration in the Beaufort Sea area.

### 3. Present Environment

In this section, Dome, Esso and Gulf are expected to describe the environment (people, animals, land and sea) as it is now. The description should include separate sections on the physical environment (which means the land, sea, and the air), biological environment (which means the birds, other animals, fish and plants), and the socio-economic environment (which means all things affecting people, including their way of living, working, playing and the problems they are having today). This description of the existing environment is to be provided so that possible effects of Dome, Esso and Gulf's development plans can be more easily seen.

Where it is clear that some part of the environment is already changing, Dome, Esso and Gulf should try to predict what the future condition might be if development is not carried out.

Those parts of the environment that are likely to be affected the most should be described in the greatest detail. Maps, charts and graphs should be used to help these descriptions.

### 4. Impact Analysis, and Enhancement, Mitigation and Compensatory Measures and Monitoring\*

This part of the Dome, Esso and Gulf Statement is very important and should be given much attention. It will be quite detailed and will repeat some of the other parts but in much greater depth. For example, all important physical, biological and socio-economic effects will be discussed thoroughly. As much as possible, the effects will be looked at separately for each zone. All estimates of effects will be based on the best available information. Dome, Esso and Gulf should clearly indicate where they do not have sufficient information to determine all effects.

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\* The above words mean stating the impact of the plan, how good effects can occur, how bad effects can be lessened, and how solutions may be found for those people who are affected.

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Besides identifying the possible effects of development, Dome, Esso and Gulf are asked to explain the steps they will take to avoid or soften harmful effects. They should explain how they will make the benefits of the proposal as good as possible.

#### 4.1 Impacts

Dome, Esso and Gulf are requested to show the effect of their development plans on the physical environment, such as on ice, water and air. They should also talk about the effects that such things as ice, climate and permafrost may have on the plans.

The section on biological effects should talk about possible major changes to the life cycles of birds, fish, other animals and plants resulting from such actions as oil and gas spills, pipeline construction, tanker traffic, dredging and ice-breaking operations.

Because the possibility of a major oil or gas spill on land or at sea is of great concern to everyone, Dome, Esso and Gulf should provide a detailed study of the risks of spills. This should be done for all the different possible kinds of production and transportation. They should describe what means would be taken to contain and clean up a spill. They should include the steps used to control other pollutants from getting into the environment.

The section on socio-economics (people and communities) should deal with effects in each community for each zone. Social changes with and without development should be described. In general, the sort of effects that should be shown are those that could change population growth and distribution, community life and services, jobs, growth of local businesses, and demands for energy such as heat, light and fuel.

#### 4.2 Impact Management

Dome, Esso and Gulf should state the technical and social steps needed to avoid, lessen or solve important bad effects and those needed to strengthen the good effects. The usefulness of each step should be mentioned.

They should also talk about who should carry out the different steps to lessen the bad effects of any development.

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### 4.3 Monitoring

Dome, Esso and Gulf should set up a program to watch for and record possible environmental and socio-economic changes due to production and transportation of oil and gas. Dome, Esso and Gulf should also have a plan to add future information which they have gained from watching and recording their operations, as time goes on. This information should help them correct a bad environmental effect as fast as possible. They should also discuss the types of information that might be important as a starting point to watch and record the effects of their development on the environment. They should also point out the usefulness and possible limitations of this information.

### 5. Summary of Effects

This summary will provide the people in the communities most likely to be affected, with a plain, clear summary of the Environmental Impact Statement on a regional basis. It is to be written in clear, non-technical language, and is to be published as a separate report.

This summary should describe the development plan, the existing environmental and socio-economic conditions, the major future good and bad effects of the development plan, the ways to lessen the bad effects and increase the good effects. The parts of the development of greatest interest to the communities in each region should be made clear. By having a separate report, the people in the communities will be able to read what changes might occur in their areas without having to read the entire Environmental Impact Statement.

The summary should also state how the people may take part in the different activities that would come about because of the development and transportation of oil and gas.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

This report very briefly summarizes the final version of the Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. Anyone wishing to have more information should also read the complete version of the Guidelines.

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For copies of the complete Guidelines and additional information, write to:

David W. I. Marshall  
Executive Secretary\*  
Beaufort Sea Environmental  
Assessment Panel  
700-789 West Pender Street  
Vancouver, B. C.  
V6C 1H2

Telephone: (604) 666-2431.

The Panel will soon be holding workshops in the communities to talk about the final Guidelines and the Panel review process. Final details of the workshops will be sent to the Community Councils and the Hunters and Trappers Associations.

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\* An office has been set up by the Federal Government to assist the seven member Panel to carry out its duties.

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