



Government of Yukon

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FOR RELEASE #10-166
August 31, 2010

Federal funding for Beaufort Sea research supports Yukon's interests

WHITEHORSE – The Government of Canada's recently announced new funding of the Beaufort Regional Environmental Assessment (BREA) supports the interests of Yukon, Premier Dennis Fentie said today.

"We are pleased about the Government of Canada's commitment to environmental and socio-economic research in the Beaufort Sea in support of sustainable oil and gas exploration and development in the offshore," Fentie said. "This research will help support the development of a vibrant offshore oil and gas industry that provides benefits to Yukoners and other northerners, while ensuring environmental integrity."

The federal government announced \$21.8 million funding over five years for BREA on August 20. The funding will support the delivery of a targeted science program to address spill preparedness and response, geotechnical and biophysical priorities, engineering requirements for safe operations, cumulative effects monitoring and assessment, climate change, waste management, and information management.

The BREA research, coupled with the National Energy Board's review of arctic safety and drilling requirements, will enable proactive regulatory management in the region.

Consistent with the 1993 Canada Yukon Oil and Gas Accord and 2008 Memorandum of Understanding with Canada on oil and gas management in the Beaufort Sea, the Government of Yukon will continue to actively participate with federal regulators, the Government of Northwest Territories, the Inuvialuit, oil and gas industry and other stakeholders as this initiative is implemented.

To find out more about the Government of Yukon's role in managing offshore oil and gas resources, visit www.yukonoilandgas.com.

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