

News Release

March 10, 2011

Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry Enters Phase II

The Honourable Robert Wells, Q.C., Inquiry Commissioner, has met with the Phase I participants in the Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry and offered standing to those who wish to participate in Phase II. The completed list of those who have been granted standing in Phase II will be posted on the Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry website as soon as the list is finalized. Commissioner Wells is inviting the Parties with Standing, as well as members of the public, to forward written submissions on Phase II of the Inquiry by April 15, 2011.

Submissions from Parties with Standing may include the following:

- An update of their safety initiatives, ongoing and completed, in the past two years.
- Suggestions as to what matters dealt with by the Transportation Safety Board in its Report should be considered by Commissioner Wells in his review of the Report.
- Submissions as to matters which should be recommended by the Commissioner in Phase II.

“The observations and suggestions which come from the Parties with Standing, and the general public, will be taken into consideration in reviewing the final report of the TSB and preparing findings and recommendations,” said Commissioner Wells.

Shortly after receiving submissions, Commissioner Wells will meet with the Parties with Standing to discuss a timeline for completion of Phase II of the Inquiry. All submissions from Parties with Standing will be posted on the Inquiry website: www.oshsi.nl.ca

The Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry was established by the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) to determine and recommend improvements to the safety regime to ensure the risks of helicopter transportation of offshore workers in the Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Area are as low as reasonably practicable. Commissioner Wells delivered his recommendations from Phase I of the Inquiry to the CNLOPB on November 17, 2010.

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