

**Bill #82**  
**Offshore Licensing Policy Act**

CHANGES RECOMMENDED TO THE LAW AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE  
BY THE MINISTER OF ENERGY

**PAGE 1, Clause 1, line 1** - delete "*Licencing*" and substitute "*Licensing*".

**PAGE 2, paragraph 6(b), lines 1 and 2** - delete "no petroleum licensing or commercial seismic activities take place on Georges Bank" and substitute "the moratorium be maintained".

**PAGE 2, Clause 7 -**

(a) **line 1** - delete and substitute:

7 (1) On or before December 31, 2022, the Minister may examine the available environmental and socio-economic evidence related to the impact of exploration and drilling activities on Georges Bank.

(2) Where, based on the examination under subsection (1), the Minister is of the opinion that

(b) **2nd last line** - delete "may" and substitute "shall";

(c) **2nd last line** - add "in accordance with Section 8" immediately after "review";

(d) add the following:

(3) The Minister shall not order a public review before December 31, 2022.

(4) Where, based upon the examination under subsection (1), the Minister does not form the opinion referred to in subsection (2), the Minister shall not order a public review, but shall continue to exercise the Minister's power and discretion in the manner provided in clause 6(a).

(5) Where the moratorium is still in effect in whole or in part, the Minister may conduct an examination under subsection (1) on or before the end of each ten-year period following 2022.

(6) The Minister shall publish notice of the outcome of an examination under subsection (1) in the Royal Gazette.

**PAGE 2, subclause 8(1) -**

(a) **line 1** - delete "Executive Council" and substitute "the Minister";

(b) **lines 1 and 2** - delete "Executive Council" and substitute "review must consider the environmental and socio-economic impact of exploration and drilling for petroleum on Georges Bank and the Minister".