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20 April 2016

Dear Joanna

Thank you for your recent letter to Simon Thomson to which I am happy to respond. Firstly, I am sorry that you did not receive the response to your previous letter of 19 February 2014. For information, I have enclosed the original response which was sent on 21 February to Sara Eyckmans.

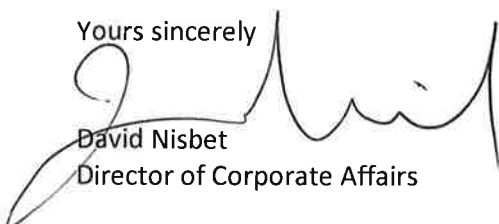
In response to your most recent letter, I would like to confirm that we do not currently have any 'oil extraction activities off the coast of Western Sahara.' One well has been drilled unsuccessfully and at this stage no plans have been agreed or put in place for further operations but discussions are ongoing with Office National des Hydrocarbures et des Mines (ONHYM) for the Boujdour Maritime contract area offshore Western Sahara.

With regards to your question on engagement. Cairn's joint venture partner and Operator, Kosmos Energy, has been involved in extensive outreach with local people in Western Sahara. In addition to negotiating the Joint Declaration of Principles and commitments that any production would benefit the people of the territory and that they would be consulted in the process. Kosmos has engaged extensively to better understand the views of local people. A voluntary Social Impact Assessment was completed to present the offshore exploration project to local stakeholders primarily in Dakhla, as well as Layoune and Boujdour. During field research, the company met with elected officials, business leaders, tribal leaders and representatives from civil society organisations, the tourism industry, the fishing community and other sectors to better understand direct social and environmental impacts. Separate to this process, the Operator met other local stakeholders both before and after drilling the exploration well. Engagement with local people in Western Sahara continues with the resident community relations coordinator who lives and works in Dakhla, frequent visits to the region by senior management to meet local residents and social investment projects providing a range of benefits for people in the territory.

Kosmos have also met with a number of elected representatives, tribal leaders, civil society members, returnees from the Tindouf camps, and others where their feedback has been supportive of activities; provided the local population benefits from any future production and there is no harm to fisheries or environment.

Thank you for your interest in Cairn Energy and please let me know if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely



David Nisbet
Director of Corporate Affairs

Executive Directors

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