



Response from Tamboran Resources Pty Ltd to the consultation on the 'Proposed Terms of Reference for the EPA/DCENR/NIEA Research Programme on Environmental Impacts of Unconventional Gas Exploration and Extraction (UGEE)'

Tamboran Resources welcomes the proposed research programme on environmental impacts of Shale Gas exploration and extraction. It expects the research to give confidence that any perceived risks can be effectively managed. The Company points, in particular, to the final report of The Royal Society and the Royal Academy of Engineering on Shale Gas Extraction (June 2012) which has led to exploration in Britain moving ahead. The same report also stated that policymaking would benefit from further research, so the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) work will inform the policy adopted by regulators in Ireland.

Tamboran will not comment on specific items in the terms of reference as this is deemed inappropriate as an industry partner. It is dedicated to meeting or exceeding any of the requirements eventually specified as a result of the research programme. The Company knows that it can only work in Ireland at the invitation of the government through the granting of a licence and has to hold to any terms that are imposed.

Tamboran would encourage that a firm and more expeditious timetable is established for the various projects (A1, A2, B & C) within the research programme. The scoping document, "Hydraulic Fracturing or 'Fracking': a Short Summary of Current Knowledge and Potential Environmental Impacts" conducted by the University of Aberdeen was published by the EPA on May 11th 2012. It was then said the 'more comprehensive study is expected to be commissioned in 2012', however a delay of at least 6 months has extended the deadline for research results.

The potential benefits of natural gas from shale are immense. Successful results cannot be properly quantified in Ireland until exploration and testing has taken place. Whilst accepting the need for caution, the Company urges that the exploration stage is allowed to be completed as quickly as possible after the EPA reports. Only then will the country gain knowledge to know the quantities of energy available and be able to properly assess whether it wishes to move to production.

Tamboran Resources has no wish to influence the future research programme but will be glad to cooperate in any way that is considered appropriate by the Steering Committee.

Dr R.A.B. Bazley, Regional Director,

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