

**From:** [Minister, Natural Resources and Renewables](#)  
**To:** [Eilidh Canning](#)  
**Subject:** admin@munargyle -- Re: Georges Bank Moratorium (Log # 2021-01009)  
**Date:** October 13, 2021 1:53:57 PM

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Warden Danny Muise  
Municipality of Argyle  
PO Box 10  
Tusket, Nova Scotia B0W 3M0  
[admin@munargyle.com](mailto:admin@munargyle.com)

Dear Warden Muise,

**RE: Georges Bank Moratorium**

Thank you for your August 12, 2021 letter expressing the Council of the Municipality of Argyle's support for the continuation of the Georges Bank Oil and Gas Exploration and Drilling Moratorium.

The Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia jointly manage offshore oil and gas development in the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Area and are firmly committed to the responsible management of offshore resources while ensuring the highest level of environmental protection.

I share your perspective and interest on the ecological importance and environmental sensitivity of Georges Bank. This is why the protection of the fishing grounds and habitat in this area has been supported through federal and provincial moratoria on oil and gas activities since 1988.

As you may know, Governments may extend the moratorium in increments of up to ten years through a joint federal - provincial Ministerial decision. Prior to any decision being made, legislation requires a review to take place that examines environmental and socio-economic impacts of exploration and drilling activities. My Department has been working closely with our joint management partner, Natural Resources Canada, on this matter and anticipate the results of an initial review in the coming weeks.

As requested in your letter, I have instructed my Department officials to engage your Council during the review process.

Once again, thank you for writing.

Regards,

*Original signed by*

Tory Rushton  
Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables