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Premier Charts Progress on Oil and Gas

Premier's Office

October 7, 2009 9:15 AM

The province remains focused on expanding the oil and gas industry

Premier Darrell Dexter told industry leaders at the Canadian Offshore Resources Exhibition and Conference in Halifax today, Oct. 7, that the government remains dedicated to advancing the Crown share file, finding jobs in tidal energy and supporting new geoscience initiatives aimed at attracting drilling activity

"This is an industry that provides significant benefits to all Nova Scotians, so it is important that we continue to move ahead with new initiatives," the premier said

Premier Dexter welcomed the \$15-million geoscience work underway by the Offshore Energy Technical Research association, and he expressed confidence that the scientific results would help stimulate new drilling activity in offshore Nova Scotia

"Nova Scotia is seeing progress on the Crown share file. The federal government introduced legislation last week that will pave the way for regulations to be enacted," said the premier

"I congratulate the federal government for moving forward to seal the deal. This is good for Nova Scotia, and good for Canada."

The premier also welcomed ongoing developments in tidal energy, including a decision by OpenHydro, in partnership with Nova Scotia Power, to test a turbine in the Bay of Fundy. Premier Dexter said the tidal project is providing benefits to Nova Scotians and he pointed to construction of the OpenHydro sub-sea base by Cherubini Metal Works in Dartmouth, as an example of oil and gas work being transferred to a growing sector

"We have clear evidence that the skills and expertise earned from years in offshore oil and gas can also be successful in the tidal energy industry," said Premier Dexter

"There are many success stories in both our offshore and onshore. Our goal is to help grow this industry so that more Nova Scotians can benefit, either through new jobs or increased royalties invested in hospitals, roads and schools."

The Canadian Offshore Resources Exhibition and Conference, or CORE Conference, is Atlantic Canada's oldest oil and gas event

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Page last updated 2009-10-14.

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