Oil and Marine Protection Don’t Mix: Inconsistent Regulation Across Canada

**ARCTIC**
A moratorium on offshore oil and gas was implemented in 2016.\(^3\)

1. **Tallurutiup Imanga / Lancaster Sound**
   Proposed National Marine Conservation Area
   In 2016, Shell Canada relinquished 30 offshore exploration permits (860,000 ha), allowing for expansion of proposed NMCA boundaries.\(^4\)

2. **Laurentian Channel**
   Proposed Marine Protected Area
   Regulations proposed in 2017 would allow oil and gas drilling in 88% of the MPA.\(^5\)

3. **The Gully**
   Designated Marine Protected Area
   The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board has maintained a moratorium on activities within the Gully since 1998.\(^6\)

4. **Northeastern Newfoundland Slope**
   Designated Marine Refuge
   In 2018, the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board put out a call for oil and gas exploration licences, permitting activity in 35% of the marine refuge area.\(^7\)

5. **Georges Bank**
   A jointly declared federal-provincial moratorium, in place since 1988 to protect this productive fishing area, has been extended until at least 2022.\(^8\)

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**PACIFIC**
A moratorium on drilling off the Pacific coast has been in effect since the early 1970s.\(^9\)

**ATLANTIC**
Active offshore oil and gas regulated by two provincial-federal Accords.\(^10\)

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**Bill C-55 - An Act to amend the Oceans Act and the Canada Petroleum Resources Act**

Proposed amendments to the Canada Petroleum Resources Act (CPRA) will allow the government to:
- Issue an order to prohibit oil and gas activities within Oceans Act MPAs,
- Cancel oil and gas interests within certain Arctic areas.

**Gaps remain:**
Amendments do not automatically protect any MPAs from oil and gas development. The amendments will not protect MPAs in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland & Labrador from oil and gas development at all, or prevent environmentally harmful seismic testing anywhere in Canada.

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