

Backgrounder – Nova Scotia Offshore Basin Forum 2007

The Offshore Energy Technical Research Association (OETR) is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to fostering research to enhance petroleum exploration and development of Nova Scotia's offshore. The Association was incorporated in March 2006, with grants totaling \$2.85 million from the NS Department of Energy. OETR's members are Dalhousie University, Saint Mary's University and the Nova Scotia Department of Energy.

The objective of OETR is to encourage and fund research work that builds geoscience knowledge about Nova Scotia's offshore oil and gas potential as well as research that reduces the technical and engineering barriers to the development of discovered reserves.

In order to meet their objective, OETR established a preliminary set of research priorities. One of the priorities is to hold conferences such as Nova Scotia Offshore Basin Forum 2007 on Oct. 1 and 2, 2007 in Halifax. The Forum brought together geoscientists and other key players in the energy industry to review current information and discuss issues, challenges and knowledge gaps in Nova Scotia's offshore geology.

The OETR Association, Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board (CNSOPB), Geological Survey of Canada (GSC), Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada (PRAC), and Nova Scotia Department of Energy (NSDOE) have been working together to develop a petroleum geoscience community of interest that would foster coordinated geoscience related research and development efforts necessary to better understand the petroleum geology of offshore Nova Scotia. Representatives from these organizations organized this Forum as part of the efforts towards this end. The Forum provided an opportunity to learn about some of the research initiatives being funded by this community.

Nova Scotia Offshore Basin Forum 2007 was presented in association with the Nova Scotia Department of Energy, Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada, the Central Atlantic Conjugate Margins Conference and Canadian Offshore Resources Exhibition & Conference (CORE.07).