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Our File: AR-2-81347
Notre dossier:

Your file:
Votre dossier:

Via Facsimile

March 4, 2011

Honourable Robert Wells, Q.C.
Commissioner
Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry
Suite 213, Tara Place
31 Peet Street
PO Box 8037
St. John's, NL A1B 3M7

Dear Commissioner Wells:

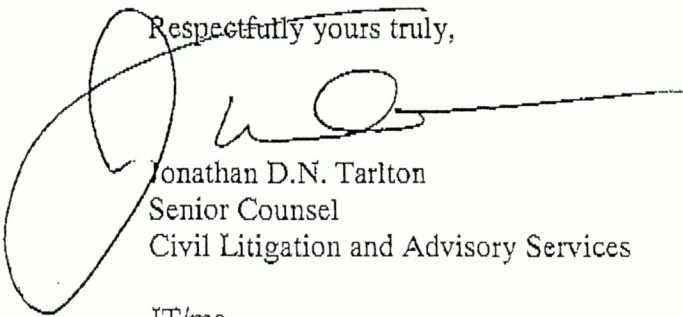
Re: Newfoundland Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry

Further to your letter dated February 21, 2011 and our subsequent conversation on February 28, 2011, I can advise that Transport Canada is currently reviewing the Transportation Safety Board report and intends to respond on or before the statutory deadline of May 7, 2011.

On June 28, 2010, Transport Canada was served with a Statement of Claim by the Plaintiff Cougar Helicopters Inc., and their insurers. Our future participation in Phase II of the Inquiry must reflect this new development.

Unfortunately, neither myself nor Mr. Freeman are able to attend the OHSI Phase II meeting on March 9, 2011, due to prior commitments. We are in the process of arranging for other DOJ counsel to attend with representatives from Transport Canada on our behalf. As a result, our attendance will be as observers only. Any input requested from Transport Canada will be provided by way of follow up letter after such requests have been reviewed by legal counsel and departmental representatives.

Respectfully yours truly,



Jonathan D.N. Tarlton
Senior Counsel
Civil Litigation and Advisory Services

JT/ma

cc. client

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