

## Community Barbecue Draws a Crowd

In September, more than 300 neighbors of the Goldboro gas plant came to the site for a community barbecue. They enjoyed tours of the plant, videos of the project and a bus tour of the outside facilities. The children had their faces painted, checked out the local fire department's new pumper truck, an RCMP cruiser and ambulance. They now have a better understanding of the role the plant plays in getting Sable gas from the ocean floor to its customers.



The kids were pumped about the local fire department's new pump truck, which was on display at the Sable Community Barbecue in September.



Face painting was one of the more popular events at the Sable Community Barbecue.



Sable employees took utensils in hand and grilled some tasty snacks for guests at the Community Barbecue.

## Our Commitment to the Environment

The Sable Project is committed to ensuring that our impact on the environment is minimized and that every effort is made to protect sensitive areas.

One of the recent improvements made was to reduce the daily amount of flaring at the Goldboro plant by more than 50 percent. We were already well under the daily limits allowed under current rules but we wanted to do better. Flaring is part of routine operations and provides a safe way to vent hydrocarbons in case of a process upset. The small flame you see at the top of the flare tower at the

gas plant is like a pilot light on a gas stove and is kept lit by burning a small amount of natural gas.

Another local environmental initiative we are proud to support is the Mulgrave and Area Lakes Enhancement Association. This group's restoration projects aid streams such as the St. Francis Harbour River to become healthy trout and salmon producers. As a result of the project, local residents and tourists are flocking to the area to enjoy bird watching, canoeing and other outdoor activities.



## Our Safety Goal is Nobody Gets Hurt

At Sable, creating the safest workplace possible is our top priority. We're proud of the progress we have made in safety, but we are always looking for ways to further improve our safety performance. We continuously track, investigate and learn from incidents. We constantly work to identify and reduce hazards. And we require our employees and contractors to always observe our safety systems and procedures.

In recent months employees from our Goldboro and Point Tupper facilities participated in emergency and advanced first aid training, advanced TapRoot® training, fire extinguisher training, job safety analysis training, and a scaffolding inspection course.

"A focus on safety is not something you can turn off and on when you come to work or go home," says Alex Dodds, President of ExxonMobil Canada. "Safety has to be part of your life, 24-hours a day."

ExxonMobil encourages its employees to focus on safety, both at work and at home.

We also believe we have a role to play in promoting safety in the community. ExxonMobil Canada



Audiences enjoyed themselves at the 2003 Stan Rogers Folk Festival, a key community event sponsored each year by ExxonMobil Canada. See story on page two.

## First Edition!

Welcome to the first edition of the Sable Community News.

Our goal is to provide you with information on the Sable project and our safety and environmental performance. We also outline some of the community groups we've worked with. We hope you enjoy this newsletter. Please complete the enclosed survey to let us know what you'd like to see included in future editions of the Sable Community News.

## Investing in our Community

ExxonMobil Canada was the presenting sponsor again last year for the very popular Stan Rogers Folk Festival in Canso. This festival is a tribute to the Canadian singer/songwriter Stan Rogers. Thousands of people attended the three-day musical adventure and enjoyed Maritime, Traditional and Old-time Folk as well as Celtic, Jazz, Rhythm and Blues, World-Beat, Gospel, Bluegrass, Country and Acadian music.



Thousands attended the ExxonMobil-sponsored Stan Rogers Folk Festival

We supported 65 local community groups and events in 2003 including the RCMP Bike Rodeo, Guysborough Fishing Derby, Goldboro/Isaac's Harbour Development Association, Canso Curling Club, Guysborough Come Home Week, Scotia Days, Harbour Light Days, New Harbour Scouts and local food banks.



We are pleased to be able to present 20 scholarships to deserving young Nova Scotia students each year. In 2003, nine of the \$500 scholarships went to students in the Guysborough and Point Tupper area to assist them with their college and university tuition costs.

Congratulations to the 2003 winners: Meghan MacMaster, Melanie Webber and James MacDonald of Guysborough Academy; Glen Alexander Horne, Sarah Annette Leblanc and Terrance Alexander Parker of Canso Academy, and Amy Hallet, Alicia Mills and Ashley Patterson of St. Mary's Academy.

## Emergency Preparations

While we don't anticipate any upsets or problems at the plant, we have plans in place to respond to an emergency if one should happen. There is a well-documented emergency response plan. We make sure it's a good working plan by practicing with mock disasters several times a year.

In September, we held a practice session which set up a mock disaster situation to allow our emergency response team an opportunity to simulate a real crisis and practice their roles to respond and manage the incident. Another exercise was held in November. If you need to report an emergency, Sable has a 24-hour toll-free notification phone number: 1-877-374-0770.

## Newest Sable Platform Up and Running

In early November, natural gas production began from Alma, a new offshore field that makes up part of the Sable Project. It is the fourth field producing natural gas offshore. The other three fields in production are Thebaud, North Triumph and Venture.

The Alma processing platform is located in 67 metres of water and is connected to the Thebaud central processing platform via a 52-kilometre sub-sea pipeline.

Production from a fifth field, South Venture, is expected to begin late this year. The South Venture production platform is currently under construction at Irving Shipbuilding Inc.'s yard in Dartmouth, N.S.



The Alma platform was put in place last summer by the heavy lift vessel Hermod.

## Signage Improved along Pipeline

A total of 300 new signs are being installed along the pipeline from Goldboro to Point Tupper to better inform the public. The signs provide important information to residents of the area about the location of the pipelines and the material flowing through them.

Although there have always been signs along the pipeline,

the new ones are designed to be more visible. They serve as a warning for people working near the pipelines and will help prevent damage to the lines by warning personnel to stay well outside of the pipeline corridor when excavating.

For more pipeline information call toll-free 1-877-374-0770.

