

**Plan for second refinery
in final study stages**

St. John's — A proposal to establish a second oil refinery in Placentia Bay is in the final stages and has been registered for environmental assessment, according to the provincial government.

The Southern Head oil refinery project aims to build an oil refinery at the head of Placentia Bay, between North Harbour and Come by Chance.

The facility is expected to have an initial production capacity of 300,000 barrels per day with the possibility of that increasing to 600,000 barrels.

The company filed a project description with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency in September and expects to have the final stage of a feasibility study completed by the end of this year.

Natural Resources Minister Kathy Dunderdale said the study, thus far, as demonstrated a new refinery would be able to compete "throughout the Atlantic Basin marketplace."

Although such a project would provide economic spin-off, Dunderdale added that a significant amount of work needed to be done before the project could be approved to proceed.

Members of the public have until Dec. 4 to submit their comments to the province with respect to the environmental assessment.