



**Securities
Commission**

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**IN THE MATTER OF THE SECURITIES ACT
R.S.N.S. 1989, CHAPTER 418, AS AMENDED**

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

NEXEN INC.

Receipt for a Preliminary MJDS Shelf Prospectus dated **May 17th, 2005** relating to the securities of the above Issuer is hereby issued pursuant to section 60 of the Act.

DATED at Halifax, this **17th** day of **May, 2005**.

"Frank A. Mader"

J. William Slattery, C.A.
Deputy Director, Corporate Finance per
Frank A. Mader, C.A., Staff Accountant

NOTE: The issuance of this receipt is not construed as meaning that the adequacy of the Preliminary Short Form Prospectus and supporting material has been established. These are being reviewed by the Commission staff and initial comments will be furnished to you by letter as soon as practicable.

Project #**784856**