According to an article in Thursday's Globe and Mail , a planned oil well by Chevron Canada off Newfoundland lacks safeguards to prevent a disaster like we are witnessing in the Gulf of Mexico. Chevron is preparing to drill one of the deepest offshore oil wells in the world off the coast of Newfoundland.

Experts question whether Ottawa is taking a strong enough stand on existing projects, particularly those on the East Coast. If the planned Chevron well in the Orphan Basin well were to rupture, apparently the equipment needed to drill a relief well would not be available fast enough. It could take weeks to get rigs in place.

Isn't it time for Canadian and Newfoundland regulators to sit up and take notice of what went wrong in the Gulf of Mexico and take additional measures to ensure that appropriate emergency response capability is in place off Canada's east coast. What would be the impact on fisheries if there were a major rupture offshore?

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