

Environmental Monitoring Advisory Committee (EMAC)

Progress Report #2

NOTE: The objective of the EMAC Progress Report is to provide an update on the activities of EMAC, and, are not notes on the Internal Discussions of EMAC which are confidential to the Committee and FORCE. The Terms of Reference and EMAC Members list are available on the FORCE Website at: www.fundyforce.ca.

The 2nd Meeting of EMAC was held on the afternoon of January 29, 2010 at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Dartmouth, NS. The following participated at the meeting:

Attendees:

- Anna Redden – co-chair
- Andrew Hebda
- Mark Taylor
- Michael Brylinsky
- Ken Meade
- Robert Miller
- Melissa Nevin, KMK (NS Mi'kmaq Observer)
- Michael Stokesbury
- Keith Thompson
- Graham Daborn

- Ted Currie, DFO (Observer)
- Joe Kozak (Secretariat)

Meeting Summary/Highlights:

- The objective of the 2nd meeting was a review of the initial comments from the Committee on the proposed Environmental Effects Monitoring Program (EEMP). Don Gordon had provided his initial comments and questions to the Committee members.
- Prior to today's EMAC meeting, EMAC members had the opportunity to attend the OEER/FORCE Information Sharing session. The objectives of that session, were to exchange information and to discuss lessons learned in studying the environment of the Minas Passage.
- Unfortunately, because of personal matters, Don Gordon resigned as EMAC co-chair, and he was unable to participate in this meeting. Don Gordon indicated that he will continue to participate as a member as circumstances and time allow. Don's contribution was recognized by the Committee. The Committee members were asked to consider putting their name forward or submit suggested names from outside of the Committee for a new EMAC co-chair. Graham Daborn agreed to act as interim co-chair until a replacement could be found.

- The revised Terms of Reference (TOR) for EMAC were reviewed again. Although, most of the concerns were addressed in the revised TOR, the Committee members requested additional time to review and provide feedback. It was agreed that the revised TOR would be finalized at the next meeting.
- The remainder of the meeting focused on how best to address the review the EEMP. Although, Don Gordon's initial review was a good starting point, it was recognized that there is a significant amount of material to review, and most Committee members had not had sufficient time to review the proposed programs and related documents in enough detail to provide comments.
- To expedite this process, it was agreed that a Comments Matrix would be developed and distributed prior to the next meeting. Committee members will provide their input to the co-chair, Anna Redden for compilation, and the Matrix will be available for the February EMAC meeting. EMAC anticipates providing draft recommendations to FORCE by the end of March 2010.

Next Meeting

- The next EMAC Meeting will be held on the afternoon of February 19, 2010 at the Minas Basin Development Centre in Hantsport, NS.

31/March/10