

## **Environmental Monitoring Advisory Committee (EMAC)**

### **Progress Report #5**

***NOTE: The objective of the EMAC Progress Report is to provide an update on the activities of EMAC. Each Report offers a summary of the Internal Discussions of an EMAC meeting, the notes of 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](http://www.fundyforce.ca).***

The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of EMAC was held on the afternoon of Friday May 7, 2010 at the Minas Basin Development Center in Hantsport, NS. The following participated at the meeting:

**Attendees:** Anna Redden – co-chair  
Gordon Beanlands – co-chair  
Michael Brylinsky  
Allyn Clarke  
Andrew Hebda  
Ken Meade  
Robert Miller  
Michael Stokesbury

Joe Kozak (Secretariat)  
Steve Sanford, NS Environment (Observer)

#### **Meeting Summary/Highlights:**

- Gordon Beanlands welcomed the Committee members and introduced Allyn Clarke as a new member of EMAC. Allyn Clarke is an Emeritus Scientist with DFO and contributes expertise in physical oceanography.
- The main focus of the meeting was to review, discuss and finalize EMAC Recommendations on the Environmental Effects Monitoring Program (EEMP) for official submission to the FORCE Board and placement on the FORCE website.
- Anna Redden updated EMAC on her presentation of EMAC Recommendations to the FORCE Board at its meeting on April 20, 2010.
- After EMAC discussion of the recommendations and related comments, it was agreed that a slightly restructured, condensed version would be prepared by the co-chairs, with the understanding that the condensed version would not change the intent of the EMAC Recommendations. This document would be circulated for approval by all EMAC members by no later than May 17, 2010. EMAC would then submit its official recommendations to the FORCE Board for placement on the FORCE website.

- An update on current EEMP studies in the Minas Passage was provided by Joe Kozak on behalf of FORCE. There was considerable discussion on the studies, particularly on the fish migration trials using echo-sounders and mid-water trawl nets. EMAC recommended that other netting experiments be considered, such as drifting gill nets. It was noted that FORCE would consider any proposals on other approaches to monitor fish movements in the Passage.
- Ken Meade of NSPI provided an update on the NSPI (OpenHydro) turbine. He indicated that additional work was planned in May in an attempt to re-establish communication with the turbine. He noted that the turbine may be raised in late Summer or early Fall if communications with the unit cannot be re-established.
- Due to Summer vacation schedules, it was agreed that the next EMAC meeting be held in early Fall, unless there is an urgent need. Over the Summer months, the Secretariat will provide Email updates to EMAC members on current EEMP studies, on a monthly basis beginning in June.

#### **Next Meeting**

- The next EMAC Meeting will be held in mid to late September 2010, with the date to be determined. If a specific need arises prior to September, a Summer meeting or conference call will be called.