

Environmental Monitoring Advisory Committee (EMAC) **Progress Report #1**

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 1st Meeting of EMAC was held on the evening of November 19, 2009 at the KC Irving Environmental Centre, Acadia University in Wolfville, NS. The following participated at the meeting:

Attendees: Donald Gordon– co-chair
Anna Redden – co-chair
Andrew Hebda
Mark Taylor
Michael Brylinsky
Ken Meade
Robert Miller
Melissa Nevin, KMK (NS Mi'kmaq Observer)
Michael Stokesbury

Ted Currie, DFO (Observer)
Jennifer Matthews, OEER (by phone)
Doug Keefe, FORCE (Support)
Joe Kozak (Secretariat)/ Russell Dmytriw (Support), AECOM

Meeting Summary/Highlights:

- The first meeting was an opportunity for EMAC members to meet each other and do the initial planning on their approach for the review of the proposed Environmental Effects Monitoring Programs (EEMP) for the Project.
- Members reviewed and discussed the Terms of Reference (TOR) for EMAC. There were some issues raised regarding the confidentiality of the EMAC discussions and recommendations to FORCE, and therefore it was agreed to prepare revisions to the TOR to address these concerns. The revised TOR will be presented at the next meeting for further discussion. Once the TOR are revised and approved by FORCE, these will be placed on the FORCE website.
- An overview of the most recent EEM studies from June to November 2009 was provided by the FORCE representatives. These studies are being finalized and the reports should be completed in early 2010 for review by EMAC.

- An update on the NSPI turbine deployment on November 12, 2009 in the Minas Passage was provided by NSPI.
- It was agreed that EMAC members will start compiling their comments on the EEMP for the next face to face meeting in January, 2010. It was recognized by all, that the EMAC members have a large amount of information to review, and all members will make an effort to prepare comments within that timeframe. The anticipated target for preparing draft recommendations was February 2010.
- A meeting between the OEER funded project leaders and the consultants working on behalf of FORCE was proposed by OEER for mid to late January 2010. The objectives of the meeting would be to exchange information and to discuss lessons learned in studying the environment of the Minas Passage. EMAC members will be invited to this session.

Next Meeting

- The next EMAC Meeting will be held on the afternoon of January 29, 2010 at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, NS.