

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

### **Progress Report #21**

***NOTE: EMAC Progress Reports provide an update on the activities of EMAC, but do not include a record of internal discussions at EMAC meetings 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) .***

This meeting of EMAC was held on Friday, September 29, 2017 at the Scotia Investments Building, 3 Bedford Hills Road, Bedford, NS.

The following participated at the meeting:

Attendees:     EMAC Members  
Don Aldous  
Gordon Beanlands – Chair of EMAC  
Graham Daborn  
Sana Kavanagh

Observers  
Bob Fournier (FORCE Board)  
Kira Krumhansl (FORCE)  
Melissa Oldreive (FORCE)

\*by phone

Regrets         Andrew Hebda  
(EMAC           Anna Metaxas  
Members)       Tim Milligan  
Mike Stokesbury  
Mark Taylor  
John Tremblay

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

- Gordon Beanlands (EMAC Chair) welcomed the Committee members and observers to the 20<sup>th</sup> EMAC meeting. Gordon welcomed Dr. Kira Krumhansl, FORCE's new Director of Environmental Programs. Kira will be the new point of contact for EMAC moving forward.
- Administrative and action items from the previous full EMAC meeting (held in December 2016) were reviewed and discussed. Gordon highlighted a discussion of a special meeting where EMAC comments on the Black Rock meeting were discussed (April 2017).

- EMAC members discussed developing a template for EMAC members to consider when reviewing berth holder environmental effects monitoring programs (EEMPs) and providing advice to FORCE and its berth holders. FORCE staff will develop a draft and send to EMAC members for feedback.
- EMAC members discussed the importance of examining far-field effects, although this is not directly within FORCE's mandate. Members agreed that this issue should be brought to the attention of regulators for consideration.
- Gordon summarized a presentation he provided to FORCE's Board of Directors. The presentation highlighted what has been learned at FORCE to-date, the challenges in monitoring tidal energy turbines, and next steps for monitoring at FORCE. Feedback from the Board was positive.
- Graham Daborn provided an update on a workshop held at Acadia University in conjunction with FORCE in spring 2017 on methods to determine effects of tidal turbines on fish populations. The workshop included guests from Scotland, Maine and Washington State. The group spent several days identifying best practices, lessons learned, and next steps for research.
- Melissa provided an update on FORCE's EEMP activities, which was captured in the Third Quarter Environmental Monitoring Progress Report, as well as Fundy Advanced Sensor Technology (FAST) program updates.
- EMAC members discussed Year One monitoring reports on fish, marine mammals, and seabirds. A lengthy discussion was had on the reported results and potential opportunities to improve data collection and processing.