

## Environmental Monitoring Advisory Committee (EMAC)

### Progress Report #14

***NOTE: EMAC Progress Reports provide an update on the activities of EMAC, but do not include a record of internal discussions at 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](http://www.fundyforce.ca) .***

The 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of EMAC was held on Thursday October 16, 2014 at the FORCE Office, Barrington Street, Halifax, NS. The following participated at the meeting:

**Attendees:** Gordon Beanlands – Chair  
Michael Brylinsky  
Allyn Clarke  
Clayton Coppaway  
Graham Daborn  
Robert Miller

Observers

Alannah Hunt, KMK  
Lisa Isaacman, Acadia University  
Joe Kozak, FORCE contractor  
Steve Sanford, NS Environment  
Anne-Marie Belliveau , FORCE Director of Operations

**Meeting Summary/Highlights:**

- Gordon Beanlands, EMAC Chair, welcomed the Committee members and observers to the 14<sup>th</sup> EMAC meeting. The Chair noted that this will be Clayton Coppaway's last EMAC meeting, as he is moving out of the province, and thanked Mr. Coppaway for his excellent contributions to the Committee during his membership.
- The main objective of the meeting was to discuss the proposed Request for Proposals (RFP) for the design of a future FORCE Environmental Effects Monitoring Program (EEMP).
- The status of the Action Items from the last EMAC meeting were reviewed by Anne-Marie Belliveau and Gordon Beanlands. There were only two Action Items, which were for an EMAC Representative to join FORCE's Fundy Advance Sensor Technology (FAST) Science Advisory Board (Allyn Clarke volunteered); and, suggested names for a new EMAC Member with sedimentology expertise.

- Anne-Marie Belliveau provided an update on the FORCE project. Of particular note, was that FORCE successfully deployed the first power cable at the site as October 16<sup>th</sup>. The remaining three power cables were scheduled to be deployed over the next two to three weeks.
- The reasoning behind the proposed RFP to design FORCE's new EEMP was presented and discussed by the members. The purpose of the RFP is to provide a fresh look at the information that was compiled under the FORCE EEMP to date. FORCE recognizes that EMAC members are volunteers and have done an exemplary job in reviewing the studies completed and in providing advice to FORCE. However, with turbines reported to be deployed in 2015, FORCE needs to finalize and implement an EEMP in mid-2015.
- A general overview of the RFP was undertaken, with discussion and feedback from the Committee members. FORCE will take into consideration all comments and feedback and incorporate them into the RFP where possible, and plans to release the RFP as soon as possible.
- There was a discussion regarding the key monitoring priorities, which continue to be fish and mammal interactions with turbines, as well as lobster and ongoing seabirds and mammal monitoring plus noise measurements.
- The members also had opportunity to provide feedback on a nominal EEMP budget for 2015.

#### **Next Meeting**

- The next EMAC Meeting date is to be determined.