

## Environmental Monitoring Advisory Committee (EMAC)

### Progress Report #16

***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).***

The 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of EMAC was held on Friday May 29, 2015 at the Scotia Investments Building, 3 Bedford Hills Road, Bedford, NS. The following participated at the meeting:

**Attendees:** Gordon Beanlands, Chair  
Allyn Clarke  
Alannah Hunt  
Mike Stokesbury  
Mark Taylor  
Timothy Milligan

Observers

Angie Gillis, MCG  
Anna Redden, Acadia  
Kris MacLellan, Minas Energy  
Carys Burgess, Emera  
Craig Chandler, Black Rock Tidal Power  
Allan Howell, NS Energy  
Steve Sanford, NS Environment  
Donald Humphrey, DFO  
Anne-Marie Belliveau, FORCE  
Joe Kozak, FORCE contractor\*  
Jessie Ross, FORCE  
Tyler Boucher, FORCE (student)

SLR Representatives

Russell Dmytriw, SLR  
Gayle Zydlewski, University of Maine\*  
Garrett Staines, University of Maine\*  
Dom Tolitt, SMRU\*

\*via phone

**Meeting Summary/Highlights:**

- Gordon Beanlands, EMAC Chair, welcomed the Committee members, observers and SLR Consultants (Canada) Ltd. (SLR) representatives to the 16<sup>th</sup> EMAC meeting. The Chair also sadly noted the recent death of Michael Brylinsky, who has served as an EMAC member since the Committee's inception. Michael was very active in the work of EMAC and he was recognized for his positive contributions to the environmental monitoring program.
- Today's meeting objective was to review and discuss SLR's responses to the comments received from EMAC on SLR's initial draft EEMP Design Project Report. The feedback received at the meeting will be incorporated into SLR's final report which is due by June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Administrative Items were discussed. The main Action Item from the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting was a request to EMAC members for suggestions regarding new EMAC members, as the Committee has openings for 3 new members. It was also noted that EMAC has evolved since its formation in 2009, and therefore the Committee's Terms of Reference requires updating. Suggested revisions to the TOR will be prepared and circulated for discussion at the next EMAC meeting.
- Anne-Marie Belliveau provided an update on the FORCE project, which covered the following items: preparation and submission of an EA Amendment to NS Environment to align with the present berth holders' projects; and the FAST Project. As noted at the last meeting, the FAST project now consists of a small and a large platform for research purposes. Both platforms are built and marine testing of the platforms should begin in the next couple of months.
- Russell Dmytriw of SLR, with the support of the SLR team members listed above, led the discussion regarding responses to comments from EMAC members on the initial Draft EEMP Design Report. The monitoring programs discussed were for marine mammals, fish, lobsters, physical oceanography, acoustics, marine benthos and seabirds. There was an active discussion and exchange of views. SLR will incorporate the feedback received at the meeting and revise and complete the final Draft EEMP Design Report for mid-June. FORCE will take into consideration the Final Report, plus feedback from regulators and additional feedback from EMAC, to finalize a design for an EEMP prior to the deployment of the next turbines.
- Carys Burgess of Emera presented an overview of Cape Sharp Tidal Venture's proposed EEMP for near-field and "at the turbine" environmental monitoring. The proposed plan has been submitted to DFO for their feedback. EMAC members were invited to provide comments on the proposed plan by mid-June.