



Fundy Ocean Research Center for Energy

Community Liaison Committee (CLC) Meeting

FORCE Visitor Centre

1156 West Bay Road, Black Rock

Wednesday, October 26th, 2016

Minutes

1. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Gerard Cormier at 12:08pm, after those gathered had settled in with their lunch. The Agenda and copies of the Minutes of the last meeting were circulated; both documents having been circulated previously in electronic format. Present at the meeting were: Gerard Cormier (GC), Croyden Wood (CW), guest Sarah Dawson from Cape Sharp Tidal Venture (SD), Robert Yorke (RY), Tom MaClaren (TM), John Brownlie (JB), guest Sue Molloy from Black Rock Tidal Power (SM), Don Fletcher (DF), Melissa Oldrieve (MO) and Tyler Boucher (TB) from FORCE, and Mary McPhee (MM). Those gathered gave introductions around the table. Regrets were received from Melissa Nevin, Andrew Wagstaff and Cindy Tupper.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

GC asked the membership if they had all reviewed the minutes of the last meeting. Hearing from the membership that they had reviewed the minutes, the Co-chair asked for any errors or omissions. No errors or omissions were reported. GC asked Mary McPhee for an update on the FAST 3 platform. MM and TB told the membership of the process of developing the additional platform, and TB outlined the ability of this platform to assist with environmental monitoring studies. The minutes were approved as circulated.

3. Old Business

a. Website Update

MM informed the membership that FORCE staff had updated the CLC portion of the FORCE website with 2015 documents. GC asked MM if future documents would be posted to the website in the same fashion which MM confirmed. JB asked if videos and other materials could be posted for sharing, and MM indicated the web locations for various FORCE info and videos, including Vimeo and FORCE website, and welcomed the CLC membership to share these materials in their network.

4. New Business:

a. CLC Co-Chair Election: Gerard Cormier Term

GC reminded members that his term as Community Co-Chair was ending, requiring the election of a new Co-Chair from the membership, while Tom MaClaren would assume the senior Co-Chair role. Members briefly discussed the Co-Chair role. JB asked for further explanation of the staggered terms of the Community Co-Chairs, which GC detailed as allowing for continuity for community member leadership within the committee. RY stated that Gerard had done a good, thorough job as Co-Chair and suggested GC continue as Co-Chair for an additional term. Commentary among the members indicated strong support for GC to accept another term as Co-Chair. TM asked for other nominations for Community Co-Chair. Hearing none, TM remarked that there was



clear indication for GC to continue another term. TM asked GC if he would accept another term as Co-Chair and GC indicated his acceptance.

b. CLC Membership – District 13 Councillor (Parrsboro)

GC told the membership that following the amalgamation of Parrsboro with Cumberland County, there had been suggestions received to invite the newly elected municipal councillor for Parrsboro (District 13) Norm Rafuse to the CLC. Members discussed the terms of reference and membership to the CLC, as well as the inclusion of the representative for Parrsboro after the dissolution of the former Town Council. RY stated that this approach made sense. Further discussion ensued, and the question of who would approach Councillor Rafuse to invite him to the committee. TM stated that the Co-Chairs would approach Norm as to joining CLC.

c. CEA Energy Symposium Update

GC described to those gathered some of the interesting sessions provided during the CEA Energy Symposium in September, and asked Don Fletcher to provide further updates as a member of the CEA. DF spoke to the success of the Symposium, attendance, and information about tidal energy from other areas. Those who had attended discussed the format of the symposium, indicating that there were conflicting sessions that were equally interesting. DF indicated the CEA would plan another symposium and that CEA personnel would be attending events around the region. GC recommended CLC members attend future CEA Energy Symposiums, as well as any industry events in the region.

d. FORCE Visitor Centre 2016 Season Update

MM described the busy visitor season with less regional and more out-of-province visitors, as well as variations in visitor trends. MM indicated that visitor numbers were tracking toward another record high, and told the members that the Visitor Centre would end its regular season on October 31, but remain open by chance during operations into early November. MM spoke to the credit owed to the three student assistants who had worked with FORCE in the season, namely Catlyn McLellan and veteran student Phoenix Bard-Cavers, as well as the addition of local student Kristen Yorke, who had been an incredible addition to the team. MM detailed the student assistants' participation in field work, as well as the many school student tours from around the region. MM indicated the strong interest in the Cape Sharp Tidal turbine from most visitors. MM also mentioned the addition of radio operators to the team of local community members involved with the FORCE site. JB asked for further information regarding the radio operator training. MM responded that a group of locals, including CLC members, student intern had taken part in Radio Operator Certificate training for supporting marine operations. JB indicated interest in the course and asked if there would be further courses. GC added that CLC members had been invited to join the training via email. MM indicated that there may be further courses and those who were interested should reach out to her via email or phone.

e. Black Rock Tidal Power Update

Guest Sue Molloy from Black Rock Tidal Power delivered a presentation re. the Triton platform, including design, anchoring, operations, maintenance, as well as resources analysis, use of modeling, operational parameters, safety consideration, and environmental monitoring program. GC asked when deployment was expected. SM indicated next year (2017). TM asked when deployment would be expected for 2017. SM indicated summer time frame for deployment. GC asked where the fabrication would take place, SM replied AECON Pictou would be the build site. DF asked why Pictou was the fabrication site, as opposed to Amherst.



SM replied that there was no ideal site, and indicated that a fabrication facility, location near water and the skilled workforce were factors. SD (CSTV) echoed these factors in Cape Sharp Tidal fabrication.

f. FORCE EEMP Update

MO and TB delivered a presentation re. FORCE environmental programs EEMP studies, including Seabirds, Fish Surveys, Mammals, Marine Noise and Lobsters. Seabird studies are conducted by Envirosphere Consultants, showing low densities of seabirds. Fish Surveys using EK80 scientific echo-sounder transects, with leadership from University of Maine, Mammals surveys using CPods enabling passive listening, Marine Noise studies focusing on ambient noise, utilizing drifting hydrophones, and Lobster study which would focus on catchability of lobsters in the area around the turbine. JB asked for clarification that the EK80 couldn't ID species, TB responded that the EK80 allowed for inferences based on the swim bladder re. numbers and species. JB asked if seasonality was noted in fish surveys, MO replied that seasonal trends were observed, including more fish abundance in April, into May, as well as more fish nearshore, and the utility of the control and FORCE site in the study data collection. TM asked what the University of Maine team added to fish surveys, TB responded that experience in data collection, analysis, and survey work was important and MO added that working with U. Maine personnel enabled the growth of the regional knowledge base for fish monitoring. JB asked if fish tagging studies were part of the program, MO responded that there was not a current fish tagging study in the EEMP but that there was a lot of discussion re. future fish tagging studies, including cost sharing, and collaboration. SM spoke to the need for collaboration with groups like OTN for tagging study success. GC asked what the first deployment of CPods revealed re. mammals, MO responded that porpoises were present 99% of days during deployment, for a total of 3% of the time, and indicated that the next deployment would focus on timing of the porpoise presence, and further that the first deployment included 3 CPods but the next deployment had included 5 CPods for increased data capturing. MO and TB continued their presentation, focusing on FAST monitoring platforms, summarized as follows: FAST 1 deployment had tested range of instruments, FAST 2 deployment had been 8 months in length, both of the platforms having been redeployed after initial testing, and having the benefit of interchangeability of instruments. Further, FAST 3 platform instrumentation would focus on biologicals, and could be deployed un-cabled with an assortment of sonar, hydrophones, echo-sounder, acoustic instruments. FAST platforms were concluded to be valuable in expansion of monitoring capabilities. MO highlighted the increased monitoring including shoreline surveys, which would expand upon previous shoreline monitoring and beach clean-ups. MO encouraged the membership to reach out to FORCE staff to get involved with the ongoing programs.

g. Cape Sharp Tidal Venture Update

The time was noted at 2:00p.m. and all agreed to give Sarah Dawson the floor to provide an update. SD reviewed the establishment of CSTV Community Office in Parrisboro in June, indicating visitors included local business owners, CLC members, and many visitors from out of town. SD indicated that CSTV had moved across the street in September, and the later weeks had seen fewer tourists, and more locals visiting. SD indicated that the office would remain open thru the autumn months. SD detailed the legal challenger of the approval by the Minister of the Environment for the deployment of the CSTV turbine, which had resulted in a judicial review. SD indicated that the fishing group had applied for a motion to stay the turbine deployment, which after review had been denied. SD further explained that a further legal case charging evidence that the turbine would cause irreparable harm to the environment would be evaluated by legal process (judge) by February, 2017. GC asked if CSTV was now free to deploy their turbine with legal approval, SD replied yes, and explained



that with respect to the legal process, CSTV was focusing ongoing dialogues with stakeholders including fishers, even after deployment. SD indicated the CSTV team was focusing on the turbine deployment challenges, and detailed the move of the turbine from Pictou to Halifax. SD indicated CSTV would advise stakeholders of deployment timelines as well as interconnection and energy production. JB asked if CSTV would consider its mission accomplished after the deployment, to which SD replied that the project would remain incomplete and would focus on monitoring, environmental studies and the successful install of the two built CSTV turbines. JB asked if CSTV would be sharing turbine monitoring data before the court deadline in February, to which SD replied that CSTV would be sharing data with regulators in quarterly reporting format. MO added that third party analysis would ensure meaningful interpretation of data for reporting purposes. JB asked for clarification regarding the DFO, Department of Environment position re. environmental studies, particularly towards the claims that earlier studies hadn't been completed. SD responded that regulators had indicated the approval of the turbine and monitoring following deployment, as well as recommendations to CSTV, FORCE, as well as the adaptive management approach to environmental monitoring at this stage. MO clarified that DFO was not part of the legal process, court case in question. DF asked if the gap in internet service affected FORCE/CSTV data management, and indicated that community members along the shore were working to improve internet services. MM indicated that FORCE was aware of the work of the shore group re. internet services, and detailed the procurement of internet service by FORCE and other partners.

5. Action Items

Two actions items as follows:

- a) Substation tour for members who had not seen the facility before would be organized, per demand,
- b) Co-chairs would see to inviting Councillor Norm Rafuse to join CLC.

6. Next Meeting & Adjournment

A note that Croyden Wood departed the meeting at 2:22 pm with another commitment to attend. Discussion regarding the next meeting focused on an after-turbine-deployment timeline. With all in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 2:35p.m.