



Environment

July 19, 2018

Melissa Oldreive
Director of Operations
Fundy Ocean Research Center for Energy
(FORCE)
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Carys Burgess
Manager Environment, Stakeholder and
Aboriginal Relations
Cape Sharp Tidal and Emera
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Dear Ms. Oldreive:

**Subject: Cape Sharp Tidal Environmental Effects Monitoring Program
Fundy Ocean Research Center for Energy (FORCE): Berth D**

The review of the updated plan for near-field monitoring at Berth D of the Fundy Ocean Research Center for Energy (FORCE) site, dated June 2018, has been completed.

Following a review of the information provided by Cape Sharp Tidal and through consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) is satisfied with the updated near-field monitoring plan for Berth D, which includes related commissioning and contingency monitoring plans.

Unless otherwise approved, the near-field monitoring plan to be executed by Cape Sharp Tidal at Berth D of the FORCE site shall be implemented as described. Environmental effects monitoring plans at the FORCE site, including near-field monitoring plans, will consider the following, as well as the elements identified by DFO in the attached (dated July 16, 2018):

General Comments:

- As information is received during monitoring at the FORCE site, additional measures may be required to improve environmental effects monitoring plans;
- Elements of the monitoring plans may only be discontinued following consultation with NSE and DFO and obtaining written approval from NSE;
- At a minimum, reporting of monitoring results, including results where applicable from the FAST- EMS Platform deployed in Berth D, must be provided on a quarterly basis (seasonal) with a full summary provided in an annual report to be submitted on or before January 1 unless otherwise approved;
- Wherever possible, reporting shall integrate near-, mid- and far field monitoring results; and
- At the request of NSE and/or DFO, raw data and/or other monitoring information must be submitted to provide an independent analysis or review of the effectiveness of the monitoring plans.

In accordance with Section 9.1 of the updated near-field monitoring plan for Berth D (dated June 2018), for the first quarter of device deployment, Cape Sharp Tidal must provide interim reports to NSE and DFO detailing the operational status of all monitoring devices.

FORCE must seek written approval from NSE prior to device deployment in any of the other berths at the FORCE site and must develop a near-field monitoring plan for that berth in consultation with, and to the satisfaction of NSE and DFO, prior to deployment. FORCE may also be required to revise the mid-field monitoring plan and/or implement a far-field monitoring plan for the period covering said deployment in consultation with, and to the satisfaction of NSE and DFO, prior to deployment.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this in greater detail, please do not hesitate to contact me at 902-483-2696 or by email at helen.macphail@novascotia.ca.

Regards,



Helen MacPhail
Supervisor, Environmental Assessment Branch
Nova Scotia Environment

cc: Mike Wambolt, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Chris Burbidge, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Lynn Bowen, Nova Scotia Environment
Candace Quinn, Nova Scotia Environment



Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pêches et Océans Canada

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July 16, 2018

Helen MacPhail
Environmental Assessment Branch
Nova Scotia Environment
P.O. Box 442
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Dear Ms. MacPhail,

**Subject: 2018 Updates to the Environmental Effects Monitoring Program for
The Fundy Tidal Energy Demonstration Project**

The Fisheries Protection Program of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO-FPP) has completed our review of the updated plan for near-field monitoring at Berth D of the Fundy Ocean Research Center for Energy (FORCE) submitted to Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) by Cape Sharp Tidal. DFO-FPP has reviewed the updated monitoring plan in consideration of our advice provided in writing to NSE on February 26, 2018 in regards to FORCE's Environmental Effects Monitoring Program (EEMP).

DFO-FPP is satisfied with the proposed updates to the near-field monitoring plan for Berth D. This letter outlines DFO-FPP's comments on the 2018 EEMP, including the near-field monitoring plan.

General:

- If a second turbine is to be deployed at Berth D, the addition of monitoring equipment to both turbines should be considered to enhance the near-field monitoring plan and add redundancy in data collection.
- If any future turbines are to be deployed outside of Berth D, additional near-field monitoring plans will be required and modifications to the mid-field monitoring plan may be required.

Fish:

- DFO-FPP recommends that any near-field and mid-field monitoring data collected using active acoustic imaging sonars (i.e., the Tritech Gemini sonar or

scientific echosounders) to monitor fish be validated, supplemented or augmented by conducting physical sampling of fish using alternative methods.

It remains the responsibility of FORCE and its berth holders to avoid causing any unauthorized serious harm to fish and/or impacts to aquatic species at risk to maintain compliance with the *Fisheries Act* and *Species at Risk Act*.

DFO-FPP continues to support an adaptive management approach to environmental effects monitoring at the FORCE test site. DFO-FPP will continue to provide feedback on the EEMP as monitoring data is analyzed, results are presented and approaches are further refined.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at our Dartmouth office at 902-233-9731 or by email at Christopher.Burbidge@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Burbidge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris Burbidge
Senior Fisheries Protection Biologist
Fisheries Protection Program

Cc:

Candace Quinn, Nova Scotia Environment