

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU ON TIDAL ENERGY, MINAS SAYS

August 2008

Hantsport (NS) - Minas Basin Pulp and Power says it wants to make sure that Nova Scotians actively take part in public consultations on the Fundy Tidal Energy Demonstration Project.

"Your opinion is important and I encourage you to get directly involved in this environmental assessment over the coming months," says Scott Travers, President and COO of Minas. "Public participation is a key part of the environmental assessment process, and as we move through the summer and into the fall there will be a number of publicized opportunities for us to provide information on the tidal energy demonstration project."

In January 2008, the Province of Nova Scotia announced that Minas Basin Pulp and Power had been awarded the right to construct a tidal energy demonstration and research facility in the Bay of Fundy. This test facility, along with the three turbine technologies which the province has selected, are now the subject of an environmental assessment designed to evaluate and recommend a suitable location.

"We want to have direct input from as many people – who live in the area, or who are concerned about the ecological and energy issues – as possible. We will have a comprehensive approach, including community open houses, meetings with stakeholder groups and a website (www.minas.ns.ca) for ongoing updates on our progress."

The upcoming environmental assessment, follows the completion of the 2007-2008 provincial Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process created to examine marine-based renewable energy options for Nova Scotia. The SEA initiative was led by Offshore Environmental Energy Research (OEER) and funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Energy.

"Minas is committed to being part of the greening of Nova Scotia's electricity supply by assisting the Province meet its target of developing 500 megawatts of new, renewable energy capacity by 2013," says Travers. "As a Nova Scotia company, in business since 1927, we have been proudly operating in a 'green' fashion for many years by using 100% recycled fibre and pursuing a range of renewable energy initiatives such as wind energy, biomass cogeneration, and the reprocessing of plastic wastes into diesel fuel."

"At Minas, we know that clean energy is more than just a slogan: it is our company's, and Nova Scotia's, future."

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