

## **The Daily Gleaner**

### **N.B., N.S. to study tidal power**

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There is yet another study being done on tidal power in the Bay of Fundy.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are both kicking in \$75,000 to look at the environmental and socio-economic impact of tidal power.

But there are still no plans in the short term to start drawing energy from the highest tides in the world.

"This is an important step forward in developing future tidal projects which could benefit both our provinces," said New Brunswick Energy Minister Jack Keir on Tuesday.

Some experts believe that tidal power in the Bay of Fundy could provide up to 1,500 megawatts of electricity in the next decade.

Nova Scotia already has a 20-MW tidal power plant at Annapolis using older technology.

Last year, a study by the California-based Electric Power Research Institute looked at eight locations in the Bay of Fundy and selected Cape Enrage as the best site in New Brunswick for tidal power.

Keir, however, said tidal power needs more study.

"This study is going to take a look at it from an environmental point of view," he said. "Shipping lines, the right whale issue, fishermen."

The Offshore Energy and Environmental Research Association -- which was established to promote and fund research on energy and marine environments -- will issue a request for proposals to gather that information.

Keir said there is no clear leader in tidal power technology.

He said he was in Scotland a couple of weeks ago at a renewable-energy conference and many different tidal-power technologies were on display.

Keir said after this latest study is complete, the next step will be to test some of those different technologies.

"I want to get going on this," he said.

he said. "But we can't go quicker than the process allows."

"It is important that we get it right."

Opposition energy critic Bruce Northrup said he supports doing another tidal power study.

"I am glad to see they are working with Nova Scotia on that," he said. "Two heads are better than one."