

New Tidal Power Steps, Online Wind Map Begins

Energy

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Nova Scotia has taken another step forward for in-stream tidal power and offshore renewable energy.

Energy Minister Bill Dooks announced today, April 12, a new policy framework for the development of tidal power and other forms of offshore renewable energy in Nova Scotia.

"This is an exciting step for green energy in Nova Scotia," said Mr. Dooks during a speech to the Renewable Energy Conference in Halifax. "With today's announcement, we have established a foundation so that industry and communities can move forward and test different technologies in Nova Scotia."

"But don't forget, a lot of environmental work needs to be completed before demonstration turbines can be put in the water. And we need to consult with people who live and work along the Bay of Fundy."

The policy framework builds on existing work by the province, including \$250,000 in funding set aside for completing a strategic environmental assessment in the Bay of Fundy. Mr. Dooks also announced that OEER, the offshore energy environmental research association, has agreed to conduct the assessment.

A technical conference for tidal energy development is planned for later this spring. People and companies interested in attending, or with other questions about offshore renewable energy in Nova Scotia, should contact Sandra Farwell at 902-424-1700 or e-mail farwelse@gov.ns.ca.

Mr. Dooks also announced \$78,000 in funding for an online and interactive wind atlas of Nova Scotia. The minister said the atlas, once completed, will assist smaller-scale wind developers locate new projects in Nova Scotia. Work on the atlas is expected to be completed this fall.

FOR BROADCAST USE:

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