

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

OEER reaching out to community-based groups in the Bay of Fundy region

---

July 30, 2007

The Offshore Energy Environmental Research Association (OEER) is inviting applications from community-based groups in the Bay of Fundy region for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Participation Support Funds.

Awards will be made at the discretion of the Fundy Tidal Energy Technical Advisory Group for proposals in two categories:

- initiatives that will bring views and ideas to the SEA process from stakeholders who might otherwise not participate (maximum award of \$500); and
- initiatives that will bring new information to the SEA process through small locally-based research projects (maximum award of \$4,000).

“It is very important to get as much community-based group involvement in the Strategic Environmental Assessment process as possible,” said Dr. Meinhard Doelle, Chair of the Fundy Tidal Energy Technical Advisory Group for OEER. “We hope that the Participation Support Funds will help in a small way to make the participation more effective.”

Applicants should submit a letter providing the following:

- Name of organization requesting funding;
- Contact information;
- Description of the organization, its purpose, membership and history;
- Description of proposed participation or research project;
- Geographic scope of project;
- Project timing;
- How the project will enhance the SEA process;
- Itemized budget;
- Amount requested from OEER; and
- Other in-kind and monetary contributions expected.

Letters should be addressed to:

Wanda Barrett  
OEER Association  
Suite 400, Bank of Montreal Building  
5151 George Street  
Halifax, NS B3J 3P7  
wanda@offshoreenergyresearch.ca

Electronic submissions would be preferred, but are not essential.

Deadline for applications is Aug. 31, 2007 at 4 p.m. Awards will be announced by Sept. 10, 2007. Depending on the number of awards made, a second round of applications may be considered later in the Fall of 2007.

OEER is a not-for-profit association dedicated to fostering offshore energy and environmental research and development including examination of renewable energy resources and their interaction with the marine environment. The Association works in partnership with Acadia University, St. Francis Xavier University, Cape Breton University and the Nova Scotia Department of Energy. Funding for OEER activities and research comes from a \$2.85 million grant from the NS Department of Energy.

For more information on OEER and the SEA Participation Support Funds please visit our website at [www.offshoreenergyresearch.ca](http://www.offshoreenergyresearch.ca).

-30-

Media Contacts: Professor Meinhard Doelle  
Chair  
Fundy Tidal Energy Technical Advisory Group for OEER  
902-494-1030  
E-mail: [Meinhard.Doelle@Dal.Ca](mailto:Meinhard.Doelle@Dal.Ca)

John Cianfaglione  
OEER Association  
902-424-2493  
E-mail: [oeer@offshoreenergyresearch.ca](mailto:oeer@offshoreenergyresearch.ca)