

Tidal power refresher course *Province returns with news on tapping tides*

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PARRSBORO: Staff from the Nova Scotia Department of Energy are coming to Parrsboro to give an update on the Province of Nova Scotia's plans for in-stream tidal power in the Bay of Fundy.

Topics will include the Province's new policy framework as well as the strategic environmental assessment of the Bay of Fundy. Staff will also be available to answer questions about the tidal project.

The presentation will take place at 6:30 p.m. on April 24, 2007 at the Fundy Geological Museum in Parrsboro. All are welcome.

It has been almost a year since the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) presented the results of its study on in-stream tidal energy to the community of Parrsboro.

Since then, a great deal of knowledge has been gained from discussions with the UK, the industry and other governments.

As well, the Province announced \$250,000 to complete a strategic environmental assessment in the Bay of Fundy. OEER, the Offshore Energy Environmental Research Association, recently agreed to conduct the assessment.

Last week, on April 12, Energy Minister Bill Dooks announced a new policy framework for the development of tidal power and other forms of offshore renewable energy.

"This is an exciting step for green energy in Nova Scotia," said 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.