

## **MEETING NOTES**

**Independent Expert Advisory Committee (IEAC)  
Oversight Committee (OC)  
Teleconference Meeting - October 20, 2017  
1:00 to 1:55 p.m. Atlantic Time**

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### **Attendees:**

#### **IEAC Staff**

Dr. Ken Reimer – IEAC Chair  
Ms. Marina Biasutti-Brown - Research Director  
Ms. Roxanne Mitsuk – Senior Administrative Assistant

#### **Oversight Committee Members**

Mr. Martin Goebel – Government of NL  
Mr. Greg Nuna – Innu Nation  
Mr. Carl McLean – Nunatsiavut Government  
Mr. George Russell – NunatuKavut  
Mayor Jamie Snook – Municipalities (Town of HV-GB) (Resigned)  
Mr. Peter Madden – Nalcor Energy  
Ms. Abla Hanna – Government of Canada

#### **Alternates**

Peter Penashue – Innu Nation  
Mr. David Haley – Nalcor Energy

#### **Technical**

Ms. Jennifer Dorr – Government of Canada  
Ms. Brigid Rowan – NunatuKavut  
Ms. Cathy Guirguis – Innu Nation

### **Introductions/Logistics**

Ken opened the meeting welcoming all participants, added Jamie Snook's resignation to "Other Business" and gave a brief description on the IEC Activities to date.

### **Agenda Review and Approval**

The following Agenda was approved by all Members:

1. Update on Letter to the Minister(s)
2. Update on Recommendations
  - a. Recommendation #1: Feasibility Study
  - b. Recommendation #2: Monitoring – changes in scope
  - c. Recommendation #3: Nalcor Modelling – completion by 15 February 2018
3. Slope Stability Study by NRCan

4. "Management/Communication Activities"
  - a. Communications Strategy
  - b. Human health workplan
5. Research Portfolio Updates
  - a. RP#1 – Methylmercury flux core experiments
  - b. RP#2 – Harvard modelling exercise
  - c. RP#3 – Data input assistance
  - d. RP#4 – Website
  - e. RP#5 – Biomonitoring
  - f. RP#6 – Traditional Knowledge Study
6. Other Business – Munciple Representative (Jamie Snook's Resignation Letter)
7. Next meeting

## 1. Update on Letter to the Minister(s)

The Letter with Recommendations was sent to responsible Minister (s) on Friday, September 22 and all recommendations were accepted through a Provincial Government News Release on Tuesday, September 26, 2017.

Martin noted that Minister Joyce responded to the IEAC Recommendations with a letter and that we should receive it soon.

## 2. Update on Recommendations

- a. *Recommendation #1: Feasibility Study* – Ken circulated Nalcor's Draft SOW to the IEC Group, for feedback, which is expected early next week. IEC and Nalcor (and its independent engineering firm which will be undertaking the Study) will continue to cooperate on the SOW and Feasibility Study.
- b. *Recommendation #2: Monitoring – changes in scope* – Nalcor is working on implementing these recommendations. Peter noted that the water levels were increased to install the boom upstream of the dam.

Detection limits recommendation was accepted and were implemented immediately. Plankton sampling will be done. Will ensure data collected will contribute to research being done.

Aquatic Monitoring – will have SBEC-IEAC table of concordance, this will be put together in the next couple of weeks.

We have a contract set up with Dr. Iris Koch. She will start work in early November doing statistical analysis of data. There is a year's worth of data to look at and determine if there are any changes in the levels of methylmercury.

- c. *Recommendation #3: Nalcor Modelling – completion by 15 February 2018* – Peter provided an update. Work is in progress. All but the hydrodynamic model should be ready by December. Peter noted the importance of sharing of data between Reed and Harvard. Ken will facilitate the exchange of information. He will be speaking to Ryan Calder regarding the Harvard Model next week.

### 3. Slope Stability Study by NRCan

A presentation was given on slope stability by SNC Lavalin at the IEC Meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The Report was provided to NRCan for review, in addition to specific questions posed by the OC (in particular NG and NCC). These questions were also sent to Nalcor.

Jenn said that NRC does agree with the conclusion of the SNC Report. They are putting the finishing touches on their report and will forward to Ken as soon as possible.

Dave noted that the questions put forward by the IEAC were quite aggressive. Nalcor will have the answers to send to Ken next week.

Ken will send a package with the questions and answers, and the NRCan report as soon as they are available

### 4. Management/Communication Activities

#### a. Communications Strategy

Martin has comments on the Communications Strategy and will send them to Ken this afternoon.

**All comments on the Communications Strategy should be submitted by midweek-next week (Oct 25). When all comments are received, Ken will compile for further discussion.**

#### b. Human Health Workplan

Maureen Baikie will be working on this. There is good information available regarding country foods & effects, pros, cons, etc. She will provide the information in a concise report to the IEC for future use.

### 5. Research Portfolio Updates

a. Methylmercury flux core experiments – Work is currently underway, Prentiss Balcom and Heidi Pickard are contracted out to do the testing. Preliminary results should be available by December 20 and a Report will be submitted by January 30, 2018.

b. Harvard modelling exercise – Ken will be speaking with Ryan Calder next week. We should be able to better understand what the models are predicting then.

c. Data Input assistance – We should have an analysis provided to us by the end of November.

d. Website – Marina is putting together a scope of work for the website. David Wolfrey, Stewart Michelin and Etienne Pone will have input on what the Website should look like and what information the Labrador public will be seeking. Marina will meet with them to get their input on Tuesday October 24.

It was suggested that we follow the Communications Plan for this.

Marina will send the OC Members a draft of the Website when it is ready, so that

all members can look at it before it goes “live” and test it for glitches.

- e. Biomonitoring – A contract is now in place for this work. We are looking at the information that is available, will see where there are data gaps and if the food is safe to eat. There will be a presentation on this in early December and a Report will follow in the new year.
- f. Traditional Knowledge Study – Carl spoke with Rodd on this. There has not been much discussion on it to date. **Carl will ask Rodd to contact George and Greg to move this work forward**

Peter noted that what he sent from the Environmental Assessment should be helpful in doing this study. We need to look at what gaps are important to fill.

## **6. Other Business – Jamie Snook/Mayor of Happy Valley-Goose Bay – Resignation**

Ken let the group know about Jamie Snook sending him an email stating that he has resigned from the OC and suggested that we reach out to the affected municipalities and see if they can recommend or appoint another member on their behalf. **Ken will reach out to the affected municipalities to ask about their representation on the OC.** It was agreed that “affected municipalities” includes Happy Valley-Goose Bay, North West River, Mud Lake, Rigolet and Cartwright.

## **7. Next Meeting**

The next IEAC Oversight Committee meeting will be no later than the end of November or early December. It was noted that Ken will distribute the slope stability ‘package’ as soon as it is available. An earlier meeting will be called if the OC wishes to discuss this or any other issue more urgently.

*Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m. Atlantic Time.*