

Appendix C

Public Meeting Minutes

Comment and Responses from April 4, 2018 Community Meeting

Comments/Questions and Answers from April 4, 2018 Public Open House

Please note that the comments and questions are verbatim as submitted in writing at the Open House

| Comment | Response |
|---|--|
| “At which point does the NS Lands need to include Federal government. Why not include them from pilot project?” | The federal government has been included in our planning for several years through the Boat Harbour Environmental Advisory Committee. They are included in the approval process for the pilot project work activities. In addition, through Nova Scotia Environment’s approval process, they seek advice from relevant federal agencies. A submission for federal funding is in process. |
| “I have concerns with water quality during the testing.” | Water will be tested to ensure it meets discharge criteria prior to discharge back into Cove 1. |
| “My concerns are with the well waters, the harbour water.” | Groundwater in the immediate area of the Boat Harbour Effluent Treatment Facility site has been tested has not been impacted due to the effluent treatment facility’s processing of Mill effluent. |
| “Will pipe from Mill to Boat Harbour be removed?” | We are in the process of evaluating the options for the pipeline. Different stretches of the pipeline may be treated differently. For the most part, it will likely be cleaned, abandoned and capped in place. Some sections may be removed. The final determination has not yet been made. |

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| <p>“With the cleanup has there been testing done on the fish living in Boat Harbour?”</p> <p>“What will be done with the contaminated live fish once the dam is removed?”</p> | <p>We have found mummichogs and stickleback in Boat Harbour. They are pollution tolerant species. DFO has advised that these fish will likely have to be destroyed during remediation, prior to removal of the dam.</p> |
| <p>“Once more it is decided it will be easier to form an opinion.”</p> <p>I’d like to see the continuous management info (should the waste be disposed of on-site) to be publicly accessible as well.”</p> | <p>Should the waste be disposed of on site, there will be a requirement for at least yearly monitoring reports. These reports will be publicly available.</p> |
| <p>“Cleanup plans still rudimentary.”</p> | <p>The planning process is long and intense. We want to make sure we get it right.</p> |
| <p>“I think you have to go the way you are going. Not rushing, checking things out before you start.”</p> | <p>Methodical and diligent planning is key to a successful outcome.</p> |
| <p>“There was a lot of focus on sediment in the harbour but nothing communicated in regards to wetland where raw effluent was pumped prior to establishing a treatment system. Also I would like to see a list of contaminants of concern and media affected.”</p> | <p>The April 4, 2018 open house was focused on the pilot testing infrastructure. More information will be coming on the wetland areas as we head into the open houses for the environmental impact assessment, planned to start later this year. This will also include contaminants of concern in affected areas.</p> |
| <p>“I feel the info was well presented and as complete as possible. Cynicism and distrust are, unfortunately rampant.”</p> <p>“My significant concern is where the ‘treated’ waste will be permanently placed. Given the history of the Boat Harbour treatment facility, there is considerable mistrust.”</p> | <p>The options for sludge transport and disposal are still under evaluation. In the next few months, we will have a better idea of what the preferred option is and we will be talking about this at our open house sessions to support the environmental impact assessment later this year. There will be monitoring programs in place during and following remediation, as required by regulators.</p> |
| <p>“Was concerned your engagement with PLFN has been downplayed. Expected to give us (PLFN) a plug about engaging the PLFN community to be ready for tenders. Got nothing.”</p> | <p>PLFN content will be incorporated into all tenders for the project.</p> |

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| "My concern is if they take sludge off site, where will it go? How will they transport it?" | The options for sludge transport and disposal are still under evaluation. In the next few months, we will have a better idea of what the preferred option is and we will be talking about this at our open house sessions to support the environmental impact assessment later this year. |
| "I believe Boat Harbour will be cleaned up from what we heard at this Open House. But will industry and government then go ahead and put the mill contaminants through a pipe to be put in the Northumberland Strait, thus making a greater mess?" | The remediation project has no influence on what happens with the replacement facility. |
| "I would like to suggest that more notice be given regarding meetings, perhaps an ad in the "Chronicle News". I was only informed of the meeting tonight through a friend on Facebook. We don't listen to local radio ECFM nor do we subscribe to the New Glasgow News. I heard that more people would have been interested to attend if they had been aware. There was a noticeable decrease in attendance tonight over the last meeting last year." | Noted. We will have more advanced and widespread notification for the open houses yet to come, including notification on the project web site. |

**Comment and Responses from May 15, 2018
Community Meeting**

Comments/Questions and Answers from May 15, 2018 Public Open House

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Comments/Questions and Answers from May 15, 2018 Public Open House

Relating to Pilot:

| Comment | Response |
|--|---|
| "What is the impact on the air when the sludge is removed from Boat Harbour?" | We have done some baseline monitoring to see what contaminants are in the air before starting our work. We have just awarded a Tender for independent air monitoring during our pilot work. This will help us determine what issues we may have with air quality and what options we have for mitigation. The program includes stop work orders if emissions are detected at levels approaching those of concern for human health. |
| A comment was made "That the contents found won't be made public and the financials won't be shared with public as to the cost of clean-up." | We know what the Boat Harbour sludge is contaminated with. The Infographic presented at the open house discusses the contaminants found, including visuals. All estimates for the cleanup have been shared publicly to date. As we refine our cost estimates and start the remediation, we are required to report our spending and liabilities in the public accounts, subject to audit by the Auditor General. During the meeting, we also advised the attendees if they had questions on this that we could answer them. |
| "Remediation t is being done in isolation to its replacement. How can we undo all this if the replacement is wrong?" | That is correct, the replacement project is a separate project. The Boat Harbour Act stipulates that on January 31, 2020, Boat Harbour will no longer be allowed to receive and treat effluent from the pulp mill. If there are issues with the replacement facility, it will be up to the mill owners to fix the problem. Boat Harbour is not a part of that solution. |

Comments/Questions and Answers from May 15, 2018 Public Open House

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Relating to Larger Remediation Project:

| Comment | Response |
|---|---|
| "Remediation is a long time coming. I do have concerns about the proposed effluent treatment facility." | The proposed replacement facility is a project that is separate from the remediation. This team is not able to address those questions and concerns. |
| "I feel as though the government has no concern over environmental issues and thinks it can just make a mess and clean it up later and leave it for future generations to deal with." | The Province of Nova Scotia remains committed to the remediation of Boat Harbour and its return to a tidal estuary. |
| "I'm impressed with plans to remediate Boat Harbour." | The Province of Nova Scotia remains committed to the remediation of Boat Harbour and its return to a tidal estuary. The Province's plans are advancing well. |
| "I am quite pleased with the way the project is being handled" | The Province of Nova Scotia remains committed to the remediation of Boat Harbour and its return to a tidal estuary. The Province's plans are advancing well. |
| "All this information that you have collected and will collect should be shared with Department of Environment and with Northern Pulp who are planning replacement facility." | Any information we collect is available to Nova Scotia Environment and, if relevant, to Northern Pulp. |
| "Could the air monitoring data be made public?" "If the water level needs to be reduced is it released into Pictou Harbour?" | Air monitoring data will be made public. In order to reduce the water level in Boat Harbour, the water will be released at the same location it has been released for the past 50-plus years, over the dam near the culverts at Highway 348. |