

NB Energy Institute Releases First Scientific Study

Fredericton, NB, April 21, 2015 ----- The first research project funded by the New Brunswick Energy Institute and carried out by the Canadian Rivers Institute has been finalized and released for public consumption.

Entitled **Environmental Flows Guidelines for Resource Development in New Brunswick**, “the document serves as a scientific review to provide background information on environmental flow assessment approaches and on the current status of environmental flow guidelines used in jurisdictions across Canada and internationally,” according to Allen Curry the scientific lead on the project. In the report, the authors “make recommendations on best practices for New Brunswick”.

The project was funded by the New Brunswick Energy Institute because there are currently no federal guidelines regarding determination of holistic environmental flows in Canada, I.E., guidelines to safeguard the wellbeing of aquatic life and maintain ecosystem integrity.

“While New Brunswick has not experienced serious pressure related to surface water abstraction to date, that will change as the Province develops more of its natural resources, therefore we see a need to define policy guidelines and best practices for New Brunswick’s environmental flow needs,” Dave Besner, Chair of the New Brunswick Energy Institute said in releasing the study.

While this is the first study initiated and released by the Energy Institute, there are others currently underway. “Our Board, made of up senior scientists from New Brunswick and elsewhere, sees our most important role as providing quality and independent information to the residents of New Brunswick regarding energy and energy related issues,” Besner said. “This study by the Canadian Rivers Institute is a first step in that direction.”

The report is available for anyone to review on the Energy Institute website, www.nbenergyinstitute.ca.

-30-

Contact for the study:

Allen Curry, Canadian Rivers Institute

(506)452-6208

Contact for the NB Energy Institute:

Dave Besner, Chair

(506)474-3812