

Atlantic Climate Change 2008: Risks, Rewards, and Tools for Action

Response to Call for Abstracts Closing October 31, 2007

Abstract for Oral 20 minute Power Point Presentation

Incorporating Climate Change Adaptation into Design, Development, and Management Decision Making - This presentation surveys some of the decision making tool kit guideline documents developed by ClimAdapt and others. Particular emphasis is placed on practical approaches and limitations for infrastructure decision makers - designers, owners, managers, planners, insurers, and those having financial responsibilities. A breakdown is made of the components of an evaluation of the relationship between the infrastructure of interest, the relevant climate and other changes, and the most relevant performance criteria during the infrastructure life cycle. An approach is presented for prioritizing the order in which numerous potential relationships are further evaluated. The sources, availability, and relative cost of desired information is discussed. Considerations are made for socio-economic, bio-physical, and financial-monetary type impacts. Qualitative and quantitative types of evaluations are reviewed, and where applicable, so are vulnerability and adaptive capacity calculations. An approach is presented for prioritizing the order in which climate change adaptation options are evaluated - between different types of infrastructure, and between multiple examples of similar infrastructure. A risk management type of approach is approach for climate change evaluation recommendations as recommendations for information actions, for management actions, for corrective actions, and for no further action.

Cameron Ells, P.Eng. Cameron Consulting Incorporated, 2085 Maitland Street Halifax NS B3K 2Z8 902.422.3985 cells@CameronConsulting.ca

Cameron Ells is a civil engineer, environmental consultant and entrepreneur. He founded Cameron Consulting Incorporated in 2000, and provides services to public and private sector clients in Canada and internationally. He was a founding member of ClimAdapt and Climate Canada Atlantic, and attended the 2005 United Nations Climate Change Convention in Montreal. In May 2006, at the Engineering Institute of Canada Climate Change Conference in Ottawa, he presented a paper on *Incorporating Climate Change Adaptation into InfraGuide (Municipal Infrastructure) Type Decision Making*. Cameron Consulting led the multi-disciplinary project team in preparing the Phase I Scoping Studies on climate change - infrastructure vulnerability for the Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee: made of representatives of several federal government departments, some provincial and municipal governments, and others, whose administration is organized through Engineers Canada (formerly the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers).