

**Sydney Tar Ponds Agency-Cooling Pond Award**

The Sydney Tar Ponds Agency has selected three aboriginal companies to clean up the former Sydney Steel cooling pond.

The successful bidders are Norman Morris Joint Venture, Eskasoni; MB2 Excavating and Construction, Membertou; and Membertou - HAZCO Remediation Group. The local companies will share the work expected to begin in about three weeks.

Having the companies on a multiple standing offer list allows the Agency to select a company on a rotational basis to supply labour, materials, and equipment to the project. The work will be complete by spring, 2008.

The cooling pond project is the Province of Nova Scotia's first aboriginal set-aside. Only companies with at least 51 per cent aboriginal ownership and control were eligible to bid on the work. The aboriginal set-aside follows the Government of Canada's aboriginal set-aside program.

The cooling pond is a circular body of water located in front of the Sydney Tar Pond Agency's office on Inglis Street in Sydney. Its function was to cool water used by SYSCO's rolling mills.

The project is funded by the \$400-million, federal and provincial cost-share agreement.

Media Contacts:Tanya Collier MacDonald

Communications Officer

Sydney Tar Ponds Agency

Cel: 578-1804

Email: [tanya@tarpondscleanup.ca](mailto:tanya@tarpondscleanup.ca)

Owen Fitzgerald

Director

Unama'ki Economic Benefits Office

Cel: 565-6293

owenfitzgerald@membertou.ca