

SYDNEY TAR PONDS AGENCY--Two Contracts Worth \$7.7 Million Awarded

Contracts valued at \$7.7 million were awarded to two Cape Breton companies as the Sydney Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens cleanup heads into its peak construction season.

McNally Construction Inc., Port Hawkesbury, was awarded a \$3.8-million contract to remove contaminated material from the lower reaches of Coke Ovens Brook from the Victoria Road overpass to Inglis Street, and to build a protective liner along the bottom of the brook. It will join the Coke Ovens Groundwater Collection Treatment System, now being built, to an engineered channel. Work is expected to run from April to October.

ALL-TECH Environmental Services of Cape Breton, Sydney, was awarded a two-year, \$3.9-million contract to continue monitoring and evaluating air quality for the Sydney Tar Ponds Agency. The consulting firm provides real-time data upwind and downwind of the site. It also reports on data collected on a six-day cycle.

"The awarding of these contracts illustrates the continued progress being made on this important cleanup as well as the government of Canada's commitment to a safe environment and a strong economy for the people of Sydney," said Rona Ambrose, Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada.

"This remediation project continues to build a lasting legacy that will have a positive impact on the Cape Breton economy and its residents for years to come," said Bill Estabrooks, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. "As these contaminated properties are safely transformed into useable land, local contractors and tradespeople continue to gain valuable skills and experiences they can market to the world."

In January 2007, the government of Canada and the province of Nova Scotia committed \$400 million to ensure the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens cleanup is completed by 2014.
