

Water Licence Renewal Project

Questions and Answers

This document addresses BC Hydro's Water Licence Renewal Project. More detailed information is available at bchydro.com/waterlicenser renewal.

If you have any questions or comments about the renewals, in general or in relation to your property or activities, please contact us at **1 866 647 3334** or wlrenew@bchydro.com.

Q1 How many licences is BC Hydro applying to renew?

A1 We are applying to renew ten licences.

Facility	Licence	Purpose	Licence Amount	Expiry Date
Shuswap	FWL120948	Diversion from Wilsey Headpond to Shuswap Generating Station	9.9 m3/s	Dec. 31, 2018
Shuswap	FWL120949	Storage in Wilsey Headpond	165,600 m3	Dec. 31, 2018
La Joie	FWL 126279 PCL 26551	Storage in Downton Reservoir	705.55 Mm3	April 1, 2019
La Joie	FWL126259	Diversion from Downton Reservoir to Carpenter Reservoir	2.5 m3/s	March 30, 2051
Bridge	FWL126281 PCL 26549	Storage in Carpenter Reservoir	20.00 Mm3	April 1, 2019
Bridge 1	FWL126287	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station	42.5 m3/s	April 1, 2019
Bridge 1	FWL126288	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station	19.8 m3/s	April 1, 2019
Bridge 1	FWL126080	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station	2.7 m3/s	March 30, 2051
Bridge 2	FWL125250	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 2 Generating Station	10 m3/s	March 30, 2051
Alouette	FWL 124724	Diversion from Alouette Reservoir to Stave Reservoir	8.50 m3/s	Dec. 31, 2018

Seven licences have expiry dates in December 2018 or April 2019 and we have initiated the renewal process for those licences. We have also initiated the renewal process for three diversion licences at La Joie and Bridge with expiry dates in 2051. We are applying to renew these licences with the intent that all licences at La Joie and Bridge with renewal dates have the same licence term moving forward.

Q2 Does BC Hydro have other licences that have to be renewed?

A2 Most of our water licences were issued without expiry dates and, as a result do not require renewal. However, approximately 10 additional licences will require renewal in the future.

Q3 Why does BC Hydro have more than one licence at each facility?

A3 We have more than one licence at a facility as licences are issued for different purposes (e.g., storage or diversion) and have different precedence dates and terms (i.e., were issued at different times and/or for different lengths of time).

Q4	Did BC Hydro consider any alternatives to renewing the licences?
A4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We considered a number of alternatives including allowing the licences to expire, renewing all licences, and a combination of both. ○ After considering the alternatives, we decided to renew all licences as this would enable us to continue operating our facilities to generate electricity and plan for future re-development as needed.
Q5	When did BC Hydro submit the renewal applications?
A5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We submitted our Renewal Applications as follows: Shuswap in December 2017, Alouette in September 2018 and Bridge in October 2018. These submissions initiated the renewal process and provide available information to potentially affected parties. ○ One Renewal Application was submitted for each system and includes information for each licence or permit being renewed. ○ After we complete our consultation and engagement, and submit any additional information requested by the Comptroller of Water Rights, the Renewal Application will be considered final and the Comptroller will initiate a referral and review process related to the licences at that facility.
Q6	What area was considered in the applications?
A6	We considered the area with which the licence is associated (e.g., reservoir) and the area where any potential effects associated with the specific licence up for renewal are anticipated to occur.
Q7	Will the same process be followed for all water licence renewals?
A7	Generally yes; however, we anticipate that the timeline and activities may be different for the different systems depending on the nature of the licences being renewed.
Q8	Are you proposing any changes to the existing rights under the water licences?
A8	We are not requesting changes to the existing licence conditions or facility footprints as part of our licence renewal applications.
Q9	What information will be used to determine the effects of the licence renewal?
A9	Existing information related to the area in which the licence renewal is occurring will be used.
Q10	Is climate change considered in water licence applications?
A10	Climate change is considered through inflow forecasts used to determine water availability at each facility.
Q11	Who is BC Hydro consulting or engaging with regarding the Water Licence renewals?
A11	We are consulting and engaging with First Nations with an interest in the licences being renewed, regulatory agencies, and those who may be directly affected by the renewals as identified in the <i>Water Sustainability Act</i> (i.e., authorization and change approval holders and applicants, riparian or land owners whose land is likely to be physically affected if the renewal is granted).
Q12	What happens if the licences are not renewed as applied for?
A12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If the licences are not renewed, we may lose all or part of the rights under these licences, potentially putting all or part of the generation from these river systems at risk. ○ In addition, current non-power benefits (e.g., recreation and regulated fish flows) may also be put at risk.

Q13	Are there other activities ongoing in the three systems where licence renewals are being pursued?
A13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes, we undertake a variety of activities and programs at our facilities on an ongoing basis. ○ The Shuswap River and Alouette Water Use Plan Order Reviews are underway. ○ System upgrades for safety purposes will be undertaken as required. ○ Activities associated with other programs such as the Reservoir Archaeology Program, fisheries mitigation activities and the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program may also be undertaken.
Q14	Are the water licence renewals associated with the Water Use Plan Order Reviews?
A14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The licence renewals and Order Review are different projects and processes. ○ The Shuswap and Alouette renewal schedules will overlap with the Order Reviews for those facilities. The Order Review for the Bridge system will not overlap as monitoring studies are still ongoing. ○ More information on the Order reviews can be found at bchydro.com/wupor.