



Fernie Substation Upgrade Project

April 2016

To meet current needs for electricity and future growth in Fernie and the surrounding area, we're upgrading our substation on Ridgemont Drive. Demand for electricity is increasing as B.C.'s population and economy grow. At the same time, our electricity system is getting older. That's why we're investing in the Fernie Substation.

Why it's important

The Fernie Substation was built in the early 1970s and is reaching capacity. It's old and needs upgrading with new technology and equipment. This will allow us to continue providing clean reliable power to your community—that's about 5,000 homes and businesses—now and in the future.

What's happening

We'll be expanding our existing site onto property we own on the north-west side of the substation. We'll also replace the control building and one of the transformers, add new equipment, install new security fencing and change out the substation's old wood poles with new steel ones.

Following consultation with the City of Fernie, including review and approval of the proposed substation aesthetics by their Design Review Panel, we'll be enhancing the look of the substation with landscaping and design accents consistent with Fernie's downtown heritage theme. See the architectural drawing above of our plan for the upgraded substation.

Talking with our neighbours

We'll keep you notified about project activities and schedule. Before construction begins, we'll hold a public open house—advertised in advance in the Fernie media—and meet with community and business groups to make presentations and show our plans for the substation. We welcome your questions and comments.

Fast facts

Where:

At our substation in the City of Fernie, next to the skateboard park on Ridgemont Drive.

Timing:

Site preparation and construction from Fall 2016 to Spring 2018.

Why:

To upgrade the aging substation with new equipment and improved technology so we can meet future growth and provide clean reliable power to about 5,000 homes and businesses in Fernie and the surrounding area.

What's capacity:

It's the amount of electricity that a substation can transfer at any given time.

What's a transformer:

Substation equipment that reduces voltage so we can deliver electricity through distribution lines for use in your homes and businesses.

See site plan on back page

When it's happening

Key steps	Schedule (subject to change)
Announcement of project	Completed October 2013
Design of substation upgrade and project planning	Ongoing
Property purchase from City of Fernie for substation expansion	Completed July 2015
Community open house	April 2016
Site clearing and preparation	Fall 2016
Construction start	Winter 2016/2017
Upgraded substation in service	Spring 2018
Completed landscaping	Summer 2018

Safety is our number one priority. We'll manage construction and site activities in order to minimize inconvenience to your community. We'll also develop a comprehensive environmental management plan to support the project and mitigate environmental impacts. As well, environmental monitoring will be in place during construction.



How to reach us

If you'd like to receive project updates by email or learn more, please contact us:

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