



EcoLogo^M

— The new mark of green energy

Green power generation proposals must be evaluated against clearly established and accepted standards for defining green energy. The Environmental Choice^M Program's guideline for renewable low-impact electricity has emerged as the dominant green standard in Canada.

BC Hydro has entered into an agreement with TerraChoice Environmental Services Inc., which manages and operates the Environmental Choice^M Program on behalf of Environment Canada, to certify existing and new green energy supply contracted from independent power producers (IPPs). The Environmental Choice^M Program (ECP) is the most widely recognized third-party standard of choice for certifying environmentally preferable electricity generation in Canada. Facilities that successfully meet ECP's standards will receive the Program's official symbol of certification – the EcoLogo^M. The EcoLogo^M certification mark is internationally recognized as proof of successful evaluation against stringent environmental criteria.

Under the agreement with BC Hydro, TerraChoice will evaluate existing and new facilities that are owned and operated by IPPs and are contracted to supply green electricity to BC Hydro.

Third-party certification of IPP facilities will enhance the recognition of BC Hydro's green energy acquisitions and Power Smart's Green Power Certificates, positioning BC Hydro as a credible player in the Tradable Renewable

Certificates market, both domestically and for export. It is also consistent with current market trends and commercial best practices as well as with the B.C. Energy Plan, which supports independent standards to create fair market rules and promote private sector development.

To display the EcoLogo^M mark, the generating facility and its electricity must be reliable and practical and must meet general environment-related criteria. These would include consultation with communities and stakeholders; prior or conflicting land-use and biodiversity losses; heritage, cultural, scenic, recreational and touristic values; and no adverse impacts for endangered or threatened species. As well, the facility and its electricity must meet criteria specific to the generation resource used (water, wind, solar, biomass or biogas).

BC Hydro is confident that IPPs who supply them with green energy will achieve EcoLogo^M certification and that everyone will benefit from having a consistent standard for green energy certification.

For more information on the Environmental Choice Program: www.environmentalchoice.com.

