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## **BCTC Chairman Addresses Independent Power Producers**

VANCOUVER, B.C. - Listing lessons learned from recent North American experiences in power generation, transmission and reliability, Bob Reid, Chairman of the Board of Directors of British Columbia Transmission Corporation (BCTC) addressed a gathering of over 250 Independent Power Producers (IPPs) in Vancouver today. Citing transmission as a critical component for system reliability, Mr. Reid outlined how transmission independence allows for broader participation, increased options and benefits that help ensure a secure, reliable, low-cost supply of electricity for British Columbians now and in the future.

BCTC, the newly launched transmission crown corporation, was established as part of the BC government's recent energy plan and is responsible for providing open and non-discriminatory transmission access to new private sector investment in power generation and to large industrial customers who want to purchase electricity from alternative suppliers.

"Not only is BCTC's role to help ensure that British Columbians can continue to count on a reliable and low-cost supply of electricity, but we have been created to help expand the energy sector," confirmed Mr. Reid. "The sector represents a significant untapped economic and employment potential. With the participation of IPPs, BCTC is in a position to help unlock that potential to the benefit of communities and residents across the province."

Michael Costello, CEO of BCTC, also speaking at the conference, outlined the role of the new company as a vehicle for energy supply diversity. Setting out the plan for how BCTC will work with IPPs in the future, Mr. Costello promised streamlined processes that will make doing business with BCTC easy, along with opportunities for IPP input on tariff design and long-term transmission planning.

Speaking on a panel on how to get power to market, Yakout Mansour, Senior Vice President of System Operations and Asset Management for BCTC, focused on the technical aspects of transmission interconnection, transmission service, industry standards and rates providing potential IPPs with insights and practical guidance.

Established in legislation on May 29, 2003, British Columbia Transmission Corporation was created to support the delivery of low-cost, reliable energy to meet the needs of British Columbians and our economy - now and in the future. It is responsible for operating, managing and planning the electricity transmission system of wires, and directing new investment in transmission infrastructure upon receiving approval from the BC Utilities Commission. BCTC began operation in August of 2003.

The British Columbia Transmission Corporation is an independent electric transmission company, ensuring fair and open access to the grid and creating value and opportunities for its customers and stakeholders by providing safe, reliable and cost-effective transmission services. To learn more about BCTC, visit [www.bctc.com](http://www.bctc.com).

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