

INFORMATION SHEET

ABORIGINAL CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

BC Hydro and Aboriginal groups are engaged in a consultation and engagement process that is continuing through all stages of the project.

Stage 2: Consultation and Technical Review

Stage 2 of project planning and evaluation was the consultation and technical review stage, and occurred between 2007 and 2009. During this stage, BC Hydro initiated consultation and engagement with 41 Aboriginal groups in B.C., Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

The primary objective of consultation and engagement with Aboriginal groups in Stage 2 was to share information about the project, identify interests and concerns, obtain feedback, and increase knowledge and understanding about potential project impacts.

Consultation agreements were negotiated where more in-depth consultation was required.

Stage 3: Environmental and Regulatory Review

Stage 3 includes a thorough and independent environmental review by federal and provincial environmental assessment agencies, including a joint review panel. Consultation with Aboriginal groups is a key component of the environmental assessment process.

As part of its Stage 3 work, BC Hydro is:

- Continuing to consult and engage Aboriginal groups. To date, BC Hydro has engaged approximately 50 Aboriginal groups in B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.
- Providing information about Site C and identifying interests and concerns. This involves consultation on specific components of the project, or on topics of interest to Aboriginal groups.
- Negotiating consultation agreements. Several consultation agreements have been negotiated to date, and others remain under discussion.
- Undertaking traditional use studies with project-area First Nations.
- Facilitating participation in the environmental assessment process.

BC Hydro is also working with Aboriginal communities, training providers and educational institutions to identify opportunities for skills training, jobs and economic development that may be associated with the project.

The Site C project requires environmental certification and other regulatory permits and approvals before it can proceed to construction. In addition, the Crown has a duty to consult and, where appropriate, accommodate Aboriginal groups.

-2-

ABOUT BC HYDRO

Fifty years ago, British Columbians turned to BC Hydro to build the clean electricity system they count on to power B.C.'s economy, create jobs in every region, and keep the lights on. Now, BC Hydro is building again for the next 50 years. B.C. continues to grow and so has the need for more electricity. That's why BC Hydro is building, renewing, and encouraging conservation to meet today's needs and those of future generations.

More information on Site C can be found at: www.bchydro.com/sitec.