

## SITE C PROJECT UPDATE

### Harmonized Joint Review Panel Process for Site C

On September 30, the federal and provincial governments announced that a draft agreement has been developed for a harmonized environmental review of the Site C project, including a joint review panel process. The draft harmonization agreement initiates a co-operative environmental assessment by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEA Agency) and the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office (B.C. EAO).

BC Hydro welcomes this announcement as it marks the commencement of what will be a rigorous and independent environmental review process for Site C. The environmental assessment process will provide multiple opportunities for consultation and input by the public, communities, Aboriginal groups, and stakeholders.

### Regulators Invite Public Comments

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office are inviting public comments on the draft agreement to conduct a harmonized environmental assessment. The draft agreement provides information on the process for conducting the review, outlines the joint review panel terms of reference and identifies the timelines associated with the key steps of the cooperative process.

#### Provide Your Input:

The Public Notice issued by the regulatory agencies states that the public has 30 days to submit comments on the draft agreement, from October 7, 2011 until November 7, 2011.

The CEA Agency and EAO accept public comments submitted by any of the following means:

**By Online Form:** [www.eao.gov.bc.ca/pcp/forms/Site\\_C\\_form.html](http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca/pcp/forms/Site_C_form.html)

**By Email:** [SiteCReview@ceaa-acee.gc.ca](mailto:SiteCReview@ceaa-acee.gc.ca)

**By Fax:** 250-356-6448

#### By Mail:

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An electronic copy of the draft agreement and information regarding the harmonized environmental assessment process are available at [www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca](http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca), in Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry under number **11-05-63919** and at [www.eao.gov.bc.ca](http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca).