

PEACE RIVER SITE C HYDRO PROJECT

Information Sheet

Environmental Assessment¹

www.bchydro.com/sitec

Background

Site C, a potential third dam and generating station on the Peace River in north-eastern B.C., is one of several resource options being considered to help meet B.C.'s future energy needs. BC Hydro is taking a stage-by-stage approach to the evaluation of the potential Site C project and is currently in Stage 2, Project Definition and Consultation.

No decision has been made to build Site C. At the end of each stage of review, BC Hydro would make a recommendation to government for a decision on whether to proceed to the next stage of project planning and development. To make an informed decision on whether to proceed, large projects, such as Site C, require early evaluation and study.

Environmental Assessment

If the potential Site C project were to proceed to Stage 3, the Regulatory – Environmental Assessment stage, the project would be reviewed under provincial and federal environmental assessment legislation: the B.C. *Environmental Assessment Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

Generally, the environmental assessments include:

- opportunities for interested parties to identify issues and provide input regarding the terms of reference for technical studies
- technical studies of the relevant environmental, social, economic, heritage and health effects of the proposed project
- identification of possible ways to reduce or mitigate impacts and enhance benefits
- consideration of input from the public, First Nations and stakeholders in compiling the assessment findings, and in making recommendations about project acceptability

The federal and provincial environmental assessment processes provide mechanisms for assessing potential environmental effects of a proposed project, for mitigation measures that may be required, and ultimately for determining project acceptability and any requirements for compensation.

These processes are overseen by the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office (BCEAO), and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) and responsible authorities. Consultation about the proposed project with First Nations, government agencies and the public is required as part of environmental assessment.

¹ The information in this sheet is preliminary. The environmental and regulatory process has not yet been determined.

For further information, please contact:

Peace River Site C Hydro Project

Toll-free: 1 877 217-0777

Email: sitec@bchydro.com

Fax: 604 623-4332
250 785-3570

Mailing Address:

PO Box 2218, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3W2

Community Consultation Office:

9948 100th Avenue, Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 1Y5

BChydro 

FOR GENERATIONS

www.bchydro.com/sitec