

Peace River Site C Hydro Project: An Option to Help Meet B.C.'s Future Electricity Needs

Fact Sheet: Public Consultation

Background

- As directed by the BC Energy Plan, BC Hydro is consulting with First Nations, communities and the province of Alberta on Site C, a potential third dam and generating station on the Peace River in northeastern B.C. Public consultation in British Columbia will involve local, regional and provincial stakeholders.
- No decision has been made to build Site C. However, large projects like Site C have a long lead time, and require early evaluation and study.
- BC Hydro is taking a stage-by-stage approach to the evaluation of Site C as a potential resource option for helping to meet B.C.'s future electricity needs. At the end of each stage of review, BC Hydro will make a recommendation to government for a decision on whether to proceed to the next stage of project planning and development.

Stage 2 – Project Definition and Consultation

- BC Hydro is currently in Stage 2, Project Definition and Consultation. There are two rounds of consultation planned in Stage 2, in addition to Pre-Consultation, which concluded in February 2008.
- During the **Pre-Consultation** process (December 2007-February 2008), BC Hydro sought input on how people want to be consulted about the project and on what topics they wish to discuss. Pre-consultation participation included: 686 people, representing approximately 50 stakeholder groups; 305 feedback forms; approximately 400 people attended 48 stakeholder meetings; 31 submissions (fax, email, phone and mail); 56 people attended a public meeting and Open House in Hudson's Hope; 200 visits to the Community Consultation Office in Fort St. John.
- **Round 1** of Project Definition Consultation (May-June 2008) sought feedback on elements of project design, land uses, infrastructure, local impacts, recreation and potential community benefits. Round 1 Consultation with local and provincial stakeholders included approximately 25 stakeholder meetings, 10 open houses, print and radio notices, information mailed to households, printed and on-line feedback forms, as well collection of submissions by fax, phone, email and mail.
- **Round 2** (Fall 2008) will seek input on land and agricultural impacts, as well as topics related to infrastructure and the environment. Round 2 Consultation will also include a series of stakeholder meetings, open houses and other activities.
- At the end of Stage 2, the government will decide whether to proceed to Stage 3, Regulatory-Environmental Assessment. Public consultation will continue through all stages of project development, should the project advance to future stages.
- BC Hydro is committed to effective communications and consultation with First Nations, with the goal of building positive relationships. Consultation with First Nations is being conducted in a separate, parallel process.



FOR GENERATIONS

www.bchydro.com/sitec

Feedback opportunities during Project Definition Consultation include:

- Attending **stakeholder group meetings** (email sitec@bchydro.com for more information)
- Attending **open houses** (the Round 2 schedule will be posted on: www.bchydro.com/sitec)
- **Providing feedback online:** www.bchydro.com/sitec
- **Writing submissions to:** sitec@bchydro.com or PO Box 2218, Vancouver, BC V6B 3W
- Visiting the **Community Consultation Office:** 9948 100th Ave, Fort St. John
- **Calling toll-free:** 1-877-217-0777
- **Faxing:** 604 623 4332 or 250 785-3570