

Water Licence Renewal Project

Questions and Answers

This document addresses BC Hydro's Water Licence Renewal Project. Information on the water licence application process in B.C. is available at: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/water-licensing-rights/water-licences-approvals> and more specific information on the BC Hydro Water Licence Renewals Project is available by contacting us at **1 866 647 3334** or wlnrenew@bchydro.com.

Q1 How many licences does BC Hydro have to renew?

A1 We have to renew seven licences (FWL) and the associated permits over Crown Land (PCL):

Facility	Licence	Purpose	Licence Amount	Expiry Date
Shuswap	FWL120948	Diversion from Wilsey Headpond to Shuswap Generating Station	9.9 m3/s	Dec. 31, 2018
Shuswap	FWL120949	Storage in Wilsey Headpond	165,600 m3	Dec. 31, 2018
Lajoie	FWL 126279 PCL 26551	Storage in Downton Reservoir	705.55 Mm3	April 1, 2019
Bridge	FWL126281 PCL 26549	Storage in Carpenter Reservoir	20.00 Mm3	April 1, 2019
Bridge 1	FWL126287 PCL 26560	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Seton Lake	42.5 m3/s	April 1, 2019
Bridge 1	FWL126288 PCL 26562	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Seton Lake	19.8 m3/s	April 1, 2019
Alouette	FWL 124724	Diversion from Alouette Reservoir	8.50 m3/s	Dec. 31, 2018

Q2 Does BC Hydro have other licences that have to be renewed?

A2 Most of our water licences were issued in perpetuity and do not require renewal. However, approximately 12 additional licences will require renewal in the future.

Q3 Why does BC Hydro have more than one licence at each facility?

A3 We have more than one licence at a facility as licences are issued for different purposes (e.g., storage or diversion) and have different precedence dates and terms (i.e., were issued at different times and/or for different lengths of time).

Q4 Did BC Hydro consider any alternatives to renewing the licences?

- A4**
- We considered a number of alternatives including allowing the licences to expire, renewing all licences, and a combination of both.
 - After considering the alternatives, we decided to renew all licences as this would enable us to continue operating our facilities to generate electricity and plan for future re-development as needed.

Q5	When will BC Hydro submit the renewal applications?
A5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As of October 2016, we plan to submit the initial applications as follows: Shuswap in Summer 2017 and La Joie Bridge and Alouette in Spring 2018. These submissions will initiate the renewal process and provide available information to potentially affected parties. ○ One application will be submitted for each system and will include information for each licence or permit being renewed. ○ The final application documents will be submitted after completing consultation and any further assessments required.
Q6	What area will be considered in the applications?
A6	We will consider the area with which the licence is associated (i.e., reservoir) and the area where any potential effects associated with the specific licence up for renewal are anticipated to occur.
Q7	Will the same process be followed for all water licence renewals?
A7	Generally yes; however, we anticipate that the timeline and activities may be different for the different systems depending on the nature of the licences being renewed.
Q8	Are you proposing any changes to the existing rights under the water licences?
A8	We are renewing the licences and permits because they are expiring and we are not requesting changes to the project footprints or operations as part of our licence renewal applications.
Q9	What information will be used to determine the effects of the licence renewal?
A9	Existing information related to the licence renewal areas will be used.
Q10	Is climate change considered in water licence applications?
A10	Climate change is considered through inflow forecasts used to determine water availability at each facility.
Q11	Who will BC Hydro engage with regarding the Water Licence renewals?
A11	We will engage with First Nations, regulatory agencies, and those who may be directly affected by the renewals as identified in the <i>Water Sustainability Act</i> (i.e., authorization and change approval holders and applicants, riparian or land owners whose land is likely to be physically affected if the renewal is granted).
Q12	What happens if the licences are not renewed as applied for?
A12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If the licences are not renewed, we may lose all or part of the rights under these licences, potentially putting all or part of the generation from these river systems at risk. ○ In addition, current non-power benefits (e.g., recreation and regulated fish flows) may also be put at risk.

Q13	Are there other activities ongoing in the three systems where licence renewals are being pursued?
A13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes, we undertake a variety of activities and programs at our facilities on an ongoing basis. ○ The Shuswap River and Alouette Water Use Plan Order Reviews are anticipated to start in 2016. ○ System upgrades for safety purposes will be undertaken as required. ○ Activities associated with other programs such as the Reservoir Archaeology Program, fisheries mitigation activities and the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program may also be undertaken.
Q14	Are the water licence renewals associated with the Water Use Plan Order Reviews?
A14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The licence renewals and Order Review are different projects and processes. ○ The Shuswap and Alouette renewal schedules will overlap with the Order Reviews for those facilities. The Order Review for the Bridge system will not overlap as monitoring studies are still ongoing.