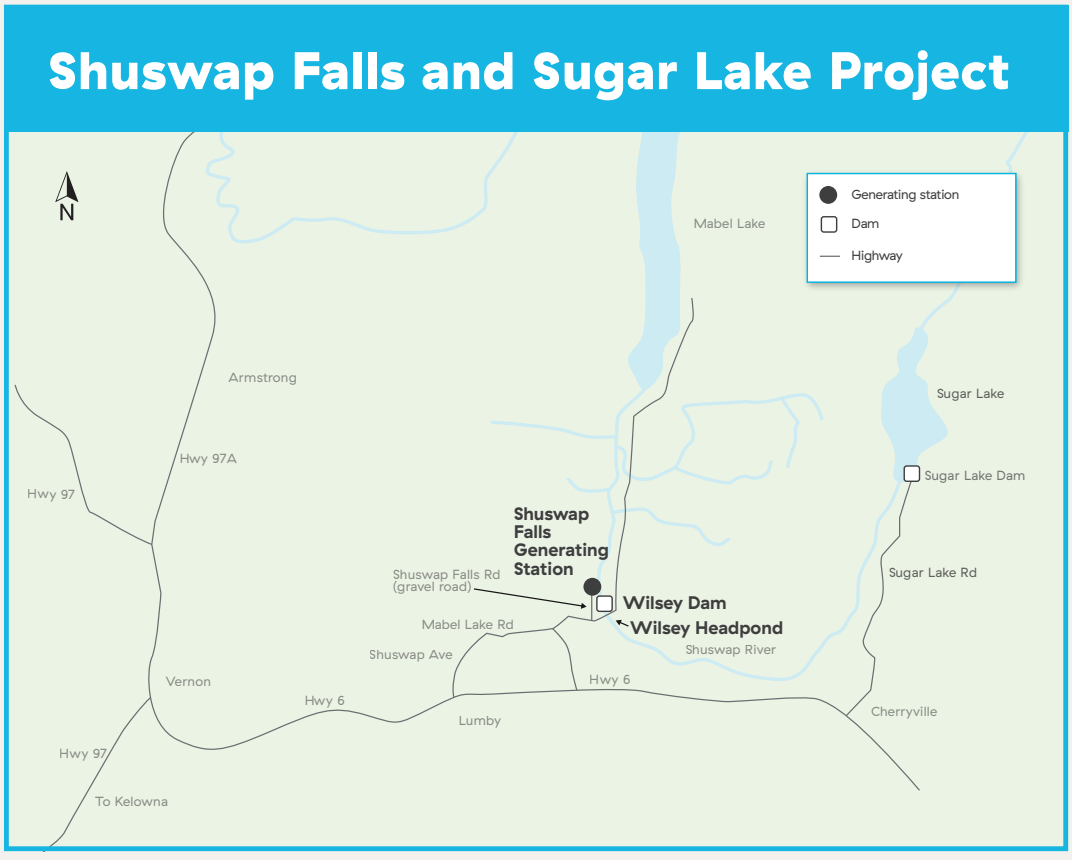
Shuswap Falls Water Licence Renewals
Questions and Answers

This document provides an overview of the Shuswap Falls facilities and answers questions specific to the Shuswap Falls water licence renewals. More detailed information is available at **bchydro.com/waterlicencerenewal**.

If you have any questions or comments about the renewals, in general or in relation to your property or interests, please contact us at **1 866 647 3334** or **wlrenew@bchydro.com**.

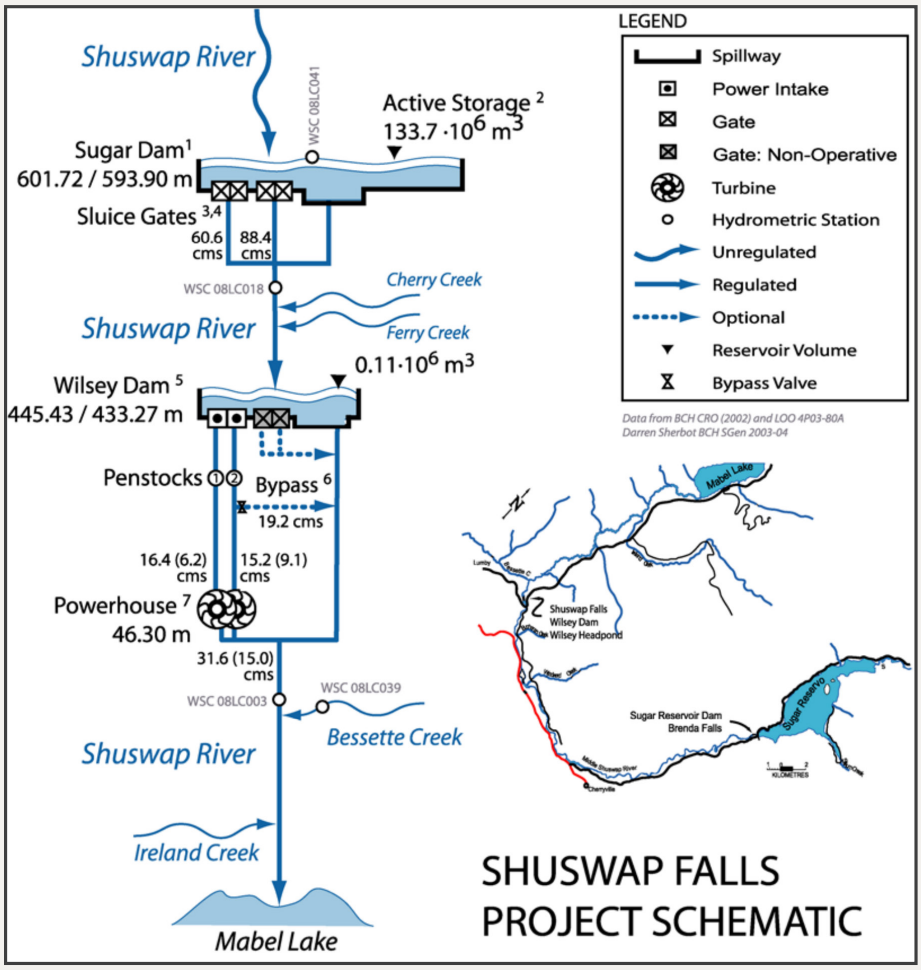
Q1	Where are the Shuswap Falls facilities located?
A1	The Shuswap Falls facilities are part of the Shuswap Falls and Sugar Lake Project which has five key components centered around two locations east of Vernon, BC: ○ Wilsey Dam, Wilsey Headpond and Shuswap Falls Generating Station located at Shuswap Falls northeast of Lumby and about 35km east of Vernon. ○ Sugar Lake Dam and Sugar Lake Reservoir located north of Cherryville and about 70 km east of Vernon.



Q2	How do the facilities operate?

A2

- Sugar Lake Dam impounds Shuswap River to form Sugar Lake Reservoir. As there are no generating facilities at Sugar Lake Dam, all releases from the dam go into Shuswap River where they combine with inflows, primarily from Cherry and Ferry creeks, and flow to Wilsey Headpond.
- Water from the headpond either goes through one of the two generating units at Shuswap Falls Generating Station (i.e., SHU G1 or SHU G2) or over the Wilsey Dam spillway into Shuswap River and then flows into Mabel Lake. SHU G1 has been out of service since 2013 and we are reviewing options for repair.



- The project facilities are operated according to the requirements of the Shuswap River Water Use Plan Order and existing water licences.

Q3 How many existing water licences are there and which are being renewed?

A3

- There are four existing water licences for the Sugar Lake and Shuswap Falls Project, one of which has an associated permit over Crown Land. Three of the four licences are associated with the Shuswap Falls facilities.

Licence	Purpose	Metric	Date of First Issue	Expiry Date
FWL 120948	Diversion from Wilsey Headpond to Shuswap Falls Generating Station	9.9 m3/s (32% of authorized diversion)	Nov 4, 1927	Dec 31, 2018
FWL 120949	Storage in Wilsey Headpond	165,600 m3 (100% of authorized storage) 434.52 – 445.43 m	Nov 4, 1927	Dec 31, 2018
FWL 120950	Diversion from Wilsey Headpond to Shuswap Generating Station)	21.2 m3/s	Jan 21, 1941	None
FWL120951 PCL25334	Storage in Sugar Lake Reservoir	148 Mm3 589.64–601.72 m	Aug 11, 1941	None

- We are renewing licences FWL120948 and FWL120949 as they have expiry dates of December 31, 2018. We have applied to renew these licences and our rights under the licences are protected until the Comptroller of Water Rights makes a decision regarding the renewal applications.
- We are not requesting changes to either the facility footprint or existing licence conditions as part of the renewals. We will continue to operate the facilities in accordance with our Water Licence conditions and Orders.
- We are asking that a permit over Crown Land be issued for the areas where our facilities are located on Crown Land (i.e., in the area of Wilsey Dam, including the dam footprint and spillway).

Q4 Why does BC Hydro have two licences for diversion from Wilsey Headpond?

A4

- We have two licences because the licences were issued at different times.
- The original licence and predecessor to FWL 120950 was issued in 1941 to accommodate the addition of a second generating unit and increased capacity at the generating station.

Q5 What area is considered in the water licence renewal applications?

A5

- The area being considered is the area in which the potential effects associated with the specific licence up for renewal are anticipated to occur.
- The specific area being considered for FWL 120949 (i.e., storage licence) is the area from Mabel Lake Road Bridge to Wilsey Dam and a 30m buffer around the headpond.
- The specific area being considered for FWL 120948 (i.e., diversion licence) is the area from Wilsey Dam and spillway to the point where the Shuswap River meets Bessette Creek and a 30 m buffer along either side of the river.

Q6	Is there a Water Use Plan for the Shuswap System?
A6	○ Yes, a Water Use Plan was completed in 2005 following a multi-stakeholder consultative process (bchydro.com/content/dam/hydro/medialib/internet/documents/environment/pdf/wup_shuswap_water_use_plan.pdf). ○ The Water Use Plan Order issued by the Comptroller of Water Rights is one of the documents that guide operation of the Shuswap Falls facilities. ○ As we have completed the Order requirements, we are undertaking a review of our compliance with the Order. Although they are separate projects, the Order review and licence renewal schedules do overlap. ○ More information on the Order review can be found at bchydro.com/wupor.
Q7	**Who is BC Hydro consulting and engaging with regarding the Shuswap Falls water licence renewals?**
A7	We are consulting and engaging with First Nations with an interest in the licence renewals, regulatory agencies, and those who may be directly affected by the renewals as identified in the *Water Sustainability Act* (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).
Q8	**What is the schedule for the Shuswap licence renewals?**
A8	○ From summer 2016 to fall 2017 we undertook consultation and engagement related to the licence renewals and prepared our Renewal Application. ○ We submitted our Renewal Application in December 2017 and, since that time, have been involved in the technical review phase. We plan to submit the findings of the technical review phase in Fall 2019. ○ The Comptroller of Water Rights will then begin a formal referral and review process. Additional information on the review process is available at: gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/water-licensing-rights