

Water licence renewals overview

- For BC Hydro to use water to generate power we need a licence under the *Water Sustainability Act*. If our facilities use Crown Land, we also need a permit over Crown Land.
- To be able to keep operating our facilities, we have applied to renew some of the licences at the following facilities:
 - Shuswap Falls: One license that authorizes us to store water in Wilsey Headpond and one licence that authorizes us to divert water from the headpond to Shuswap Falls Generating Station have expiry dates of December 31, 2018. We had also asked 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). Note: In January 2020 we asked that the renewal application be placed on hold while the Wilsey Dam Fish Passage Project proceeded. Additional information on the Wilsey Dam Fish Passage Project is available at: bchydro.com/energy-in-bc/projects/wilsey-fish-passage-project.html.
 - Alouette: One licence that authorizes us to divert water from Alouette Lake Reservoir to Stave Reservoir has an expiry date of December 31, 2018.
 - La Joie and Bridge: Two licences that authorize us to store water at Downton Lake and Carpenter Lake reservoirs to support generation at La Joie and Bridge River Generating Stations, and two licences that authorize us to divert water from Carpenter Lake Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station have expiry dates of April 1, 2019. We have also applied to renew three licences with expiry dates in 2051 with the intent that all licences at La Joie and Bridge with renewal dates have the same licence term moving forward.
- We are not asking for changes to the current licence conditions or facility footprints as part of the renewals.

Water licence renewal applications

- We have submitted a Renewal Application, including a Water Development Plan and the online application forms, for each of Shuswap Falls (December 2017), Alouette (September 2018) and La Joie and Bridge River (November 2018). The documents include information about BC Hydro operations as well as the activities proposed (e.g., location, duration, timing), legal property descriptions, surveys and maps, land lease or permit information and a summary of our consultation activities for each licence and permit. As we have applied to renew the licences, our rights under the licences are protected until the Comptroller of Water Rights makes a decision regarding the renewal applications.
- We are consulting and engaging with First Nations with an interest in the licences being renewed, regulatory agencies, and others who may be directly affected by the renewals (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).
- After we complete our consultation and engagement, and submit any additional information requested by the Comptroller, the Renewal Application will be considered final and the Comptroller will initiate a referral and review process related to the licences at that facility. The Comptroller of Water Rights will make decisions on our Renewal Applications based on the information provided and the review undertaken.

Water Use Plan Order Review

- We have started the Water Use Plan Order Review process to review the activities we undertook to meet the Order requirements identified by the Comptroller after completion of the Water Use Plans at Alouette and Shuswap. Although the licence renewal and Order Review schedules may overlap, they are separate projects and processes. The Shuswap review has been paused while the Wilsey Dam Fish Passage Project proceeds.
- More information on the Order Review is available at bchydro.com/wupor.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

More detailed information on the water licence renewals is available at bchydro.com/waterlicencerenewal.

If you have questions or comments, please contact us at projects@bchydro.com or 1 866 647 3334. We look forward to hearing from you.