

# Water Licence Renewal Project

## Questions and answers

This document addresses BC Hydro's Water Licence Renewal Project. More detailed information is available at [bchydro.com/waterlicencerenewal](http://bchydro.com/waterlicencerenewal).

If you have any questions or comments about the renewals, in general or in relation to your property or activities, please contact us at 1 866 647 3334 or [projects@bchydro.com](mailto:projects@bchydro.com).

Q1	How many licences is BC Hydro applying to renew?																																																							
A1	<p>We are applying to renew ten licences.</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Facility</th><th>Licence</th><th>Purpose</th><th>Licence amount</th><th>Expiry date</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Shuswap</td><td>FWL120948</td><td>Diversion from Wilsey Headpond to Shuswap Generating Station</td><td>9.9 m3/s</td><td>Dec. 31, 2018</td></tr><tr><td>Shuswap</td><td>FWL120949</td><td>Storage in Wilsey Headpond</td><td>165,600 m3</td><td>Dec. 31, 2018</td></tr><tr><td>La Joie</td><td>FWL 126279 PCL 26551</td><td>Storage in Downton Reservoir</td><td>705.55 Mm3</td><td>April 1, 2019</td></tr><tr><td>La Joie</td><td>FWL126259</td><td>Diversion from Downton Reservoir to Carpenter Reservoir</td><td>2.5 m3/s</td><td>March 30, 2051</td></tr><tr><td>Bridge</td><td>FWL126281 PCL 26549</td><td>Storage in Carpenter Reservoir</td><td>20.00 Mm3</td><td>April 1, 2019</td></tr><tr><td>Bridge 1</td><td>FWL126287</td><td>Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station</td><td>42.5 m3/s</td><td>April 1, 2019</td></tr><tr><td>Bridge 1</td><td>FWL126288</td><td>Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station</td><td>19.8 m3/s</td><td>April 1, 2019</td></tr><tr><td>Bridge 1</td><td>FWL126080</td><td>Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station</td><td>2.7 m3/s</td><td>March 30, 2051</td></tr><tr><td>Bridge 2</td><td>FWL125250</td><td>Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 2 Generating Station</td><td>10 m3/s</td><td>March 30, 2051</td></tr><tr><td>Alouette</td><td>FWL 124724</td><td>Diversion from Alouette Reservoir to Stave Reservoir</td><td>8.50 m3/s</td><td>Dec. 31, 2018</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>Seven licences have expiry dates in December 2018 or April 2019 and we have applied to renew those licences. We have also applied to renew three diversion licences at La Joie and Bridge with expiry dates in 2051. We have applied to renew these licences with the intent that all licences at La Joie and Bridge with renewal dates have the same licence term moving forward. Our rights under the licences are protected until the Comptroller of Water Rights makes a decision regarding the renewal applications.</p> <p>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: <a href="http://bchydro.com/energy-in-bc/projects/wilsey-fish-passage-project.html">bchydro.com/energy-in-bc/projects/wilsey-fish-passage-project.html</a>.</p>	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	La Joie	FWL 126279 PCL 26551	Storage in Downton Reservoir	705.55 Mm3	April 1, 2019	La Joie	FWL126259	Diversion from Downton Reservoir to Carpenter Reservoir	2.5 m3/s	March 30, 2051	Bridge	FWL126281 PCL 26549	Storage in Carpenter Reservoir	20.00 Mm3	April 1, 2019	Bridge 1	FWL126287	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station	42.5 m3/s	April 1, 2019	Bridge 1	FWL126288	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station	19.8 m3/s	April 1, 2019	Bridge 1	FWL126080	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 1 Generating Station	2.7 m3/s	March 30, 2051	Bridge 2	FWL125250	Diversion from Carpenter Reservoir to Bridge 2 Generating Station	10 m3/s	March 30, 2051	Alouette	FWL 124724	Diversion from Alouette Reservoir to Stave Reservoir	8.50 m3/s	Dec. 31, 2018
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Q2	Does BC Hydro have other licences that have to be renewed?																																																							
A2	<p>Most of our water licences were issued without expiry dates and, as a result do not require renewal. However, approximately 10 additional licences will require renewal in the future.</p>																																																							
Q3	Why does BC Hydro have more than one licence at each facility?																																																							
A3	<p>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).</p>																																																							

<b>Q4</b>	<b>Did BC Hydro consider any alternatives to renewing the licences?</b>
<b>A4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We considered a number of alternatives including allowing the licences to expire, renewing all licences, and a combination of both.</li> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Q5</b>	<b>When did BC Hydro submit the renewal applications?</b>
<b>A5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We submitted our Renewal Applications as follows: Shuswap in December 2017 (now paused, as noted above), Alouette in September 2018 and Bridge in November 2018. These submissions initiated the renewal process and provide available information to potentially affected parties.</li> <li>○ One Renewal Application was submitted for each system and includes information for each licence or permit being renewed.</li> <li>○ After we complete our consultation and engagement, and submit any additional information requested by the Comptroller of Water Rights, the Renewal Application will be considered final and the Comptroller of Water Rights will initiate a referral and review process related to the licences at that facility.</li> </ul>
<b>Q6</b>	<b>What area was considered in the applications?</b>
<b>A6</b>	We considered the area with which the licence is associated (e.g., reservoir) and the area where any potential effects associated with the specific licence up for renewal are anticipated to occur.
<b>Q7</b>	<b>Will the same process be followed for all water licence renewals?</b>
<b>A7</b>	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.
<b>Q8</b>	<b>Are you proposing any changes to the existing rights under the water licences?</b>
<b>A8</b>	We are not requesting changes to the existing licence conditions or facility footprints as part of our licence renewal applications.
<b>Q9</b>	<b>What information will be used to determine the effects of the licence renewal?</b>
<b>A9</b>	Existing information related to the area in which the licence renewal is occurring will be used.
<b>Q10</b>	<b>Is climate change considered in water licence applications?</b>
<b>A10</b>	Climate change is considered through inflow forecasts used to determine water availability at each facility.
<b>Q11</b>	<b>Who is BC Hydro consulting or engaging with regarding the Water Licence renewals?</b>
<b>A11</b>	We are consulting and engaging with First Nations with an interest in the licences being renewed, 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).

<b>Q12</b>	<b>What happens if the licences are not renewed as applied for?</b>
<b>A12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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.</li> <li>○ In addition, current non-power benefits (e.g., recreation and regulated fish flows) may also be put at risk.</li> </ul>
<b>Q13</b>	<b>Are there other activities ongoing in the three systems where licence renewals are being pursued?</b>
<b>A13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Yes, we undertake a variety of activities and programs at our facilities on an ongoing basis.</li> <li>○ The Shuswap and Alouette Water Use Plan Order Reviews are underway; however, Shuswap started in February 2019 and was paused while the Wilsey Dam Fish Passage Project proceeded. Additional information on the Wilsey Dam Fish Passage Project is available at: <a href="https://bchydro.com/energy-in-bc/projects/wilsey-fish-passage-project.html">bchydro.com/energy-in-bc/projects/wilsey-fish-passage-project.html</a>.</li> <li>○ System upgrades for safety purposes will be undertaken as required.</li> <li>○ Activities associated with other programs such as the Reservoir Archaeology Program, fisheries mitigation activities and the Fish &amp; Wildlife Compensation Program may also be undertaken.</li> </ul>
<b>Q14</b>	<b>Are the water licence renewals associated with the Water Use Plan Order Reviews?</b>
<b>A14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The licence renewals and Order Review are different projects and processes.</li> <li>○ More information on the Order reviews can be found at <a href="https://bchydro.com/wupor">bchydro.com/wupor</a>.</li> </ul>