



## BC Hydro 2021 Integrated Resource Plan Meeting Notes: Local Government Webinar #3

<b>Meeting</b>	Local Government Webinar #3 Presentation on the Draft 2021 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)
<b>Date</b>	July 23, 2021
<b>Location</b>	Virtual Webinar (Microsoft Teams)
<b>Local Government Representatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dan Coulter, MLA, Chilliwack</li> <li>• Tom Shypitika, MLA, Kootenay East</li> <li>• Honourable Anne Kang, MLA Burnaby-Deer Lake, Minister of Citizens' Services</li> <li>• Luisa Jones, City of Abbotsford</li> <li>• Ralph Wells, University of British Columbia</li> <li>• Nick Hsieh, Constituency Assistant, Burnaby-Deer Lake</li> <li>• Adrian Lynch, Metro Vancouver</li> <li>• Richard Stewart, City of Coquitlam</li> <li>• George Friedrich, Metro Vancouver</li> </ul>
<b>BC Hydro Representatives</b>	<p>Bill Clendinning – Presenter            Anne Wilson – Host            Johnson Lee – Technical Teams host            Judy Dobrowolski – Notetaker            Jen Thompson – Notetaker</p>

### WELCOME

BC Hydro opened the session with a welcome and introductions.

BC Hydro took participants through the upfront information including meeting logistics and then provided an overview of the draft 2021 Integrated Resource Plan (2021 IRP). BC Hydro described what an Integrated Resource Plan is and provided an overview of the main elements in the draft plan. Participants were invited to ask questions and provide feedback throughout the session, and opportunity to provide additional feedback was provided at the end of the session.

The summary notes below capture a summary of themes and session areas of interest. This is followed by, for each section of the presentation, participant questions and comments followed by the general BC Hydro response, as appropriate.

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### Summary of themes and session areas of interest

In reviewing the **planning context**, there was an interest in understanding the single-year deficit in 2025.

In reviewing the **EPA renewal draft element**, a participant provided feedback that many Independent Power Producers (IPPs) have invested a lot of capital cost and that what might be sustainable for government may not be sustainable for a private company. Participant wanted to know if consideration was being given to the unique situations of individual companies. The participant asked if we have built the loss of IPPs into our forecast, how much of the load that would be, and what the strategy is to deal with this loss.

In reviewing the **future resources draft element**, there was concern expressed with the length of time to get projects in place and that the five-year window BC Hydro has allocated isn't enough. It was questioned whether BC Hydro is considering the conflict with electricity and renewable natural gas with respect to contracts, and are we looking at natural gas from an IPP perspective. There was also interest in the role distributed generation (such as rooftop solar) plays in the plan.

In reviewing the **small plants draft element**, there was interest about the future of Elko Dam and discussions that are ongoing.

### Introduction and planning context

#### Area of interest/comment

Participant wished to know if the energy graph was correct in showing a deficit in 2025.

#### Response

BC Hydro responded that yes, when we have a small deficit for a single year we have ways of managing it. The IRP is more concerned with when we have multiple years of deficit and what we do about it.

### ELEMENTS OF THE IRP

#### Conservation and time-varying rates and demand response options

BC Hydro outlined the first draft elements of the Base Resource Plan: Demand side measures including energy efficiency and time-varying rates and demand response programs.

**No questions or feedback on this section.**

#### Renewing electricity purchase agreements

BC Hydro summarized the draft approach for EPA renewal element of the plan.

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### **Area of interest/comment**

Participant provided feedback that many IPPs have involved a lot of capital cost and that what might be sustainable for government may not be sustainable for a private company. Participant wanted to know if consideration was being given to the unique situations of individual companies.

### **Response**

BC Hydro responded that the IRP shows how we plan to approach EPAs across different resources and that our strategy will be to use market-based pricing. However, each contract goes through negotiations that are unique to them and through the process the BCUC will have to approved these. The IRP is signaling how we plan to approach the contracts.

### **Area of interest/comment**

The participant asked if we have built the loss of IPPs into our forecast, how much of the load that would be, and what the strategy is to deal with these.

### **Response**

BC Hydro responded that EPA renewals accounts for about 900 MW and that if it was just on economic terms, we would not be renewing these contracts right now – we do not need the power. But we recognize that we may need them soon and this is a bridging strategy to balance our need in the future with our need now.

### **Area of interest/comment**

The participant asked if BC Hydro is planning on acquiring new contracts or is it just renewals.

### **Response**

BC Hydro confirmed it is only for renewals.

## **Transmission system upgrades**

BC Hydro summarized the draft plan element of transmission system upgrades.

**No questions or feedback on this section.**

## **Future Resources**

BC Hydro summarized the draft plan element of future resources.

### **Area of interest/comment**

A participant expressed concern that to establish future resources you need significant lead time – some projects will take more than 5 years and with remote communities, there is a priority to be self-sufficient.

### **Response**

BC Hydro responded that we have EPAs that already exist and our ability to negotiate with them makes them a very attractive option in our plan. We're very sensitive to lead time and most of

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these we are comfortable can be done in the 10-year window. BC Hydro also covered off that we are continuing to plan to be self sufficient under average water.

### **Area of interest/comment**

A participant asked if BC Hydro is considering the conflict with electricity and renewable natural gas with respect to contracts, and are we looking at natural gas from an IPP perspective.

### **Response**

BC Hydro responded that the province is looking at RNG and electricity – and it will likely depend on the economics. We aren't aware of any incentives at this time.

### **Area of interest/comment**

A participant asked what role distributed generation (such as rooftop solar) plays in this plan?

### **Response**

BC Hydro responded that we do have net metering already in place and there are potential options with solar with batteries. But what is valuable to us is capacity projects.

## **Small BC Hydro facilities**

BC Hydro summarized the draft plan element that addresses small BC Hydro facilities.

### **Area of interest/comment**

A participant asked about heritage assets and what's to be done with Elko Dam. They wanted to know what is happening with it and how BC Hydro wanted to be involved in some issues that are being discussed.

### **Response**

BC Hydro responded that there is a plan for small plants including Elko. The timing is listed in the IRP. In the meantime, we agreed to take the question away of who to contact to participate.

## **Planning for the unexpected**

BC Hydro summarized the draft plan element that addresses contingency plans and planning for the unexpected.

**No questions or feedback on this section.**

## **Closing**

BC Hydro thanked people for their participation and mentioned feedback opportunity continues until July 31 with an on-line survey as well as opportunities for organizations to submit comment forms.

Thank you and end of session.

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