

Clean Power 2040

Powering the future



BC Hydro 2021 Integrated Resource Plan

Meeting Notes: Local Government Webinar – Lower Mainland, BC

Meeting	Local Government Webinar (Lower Mainland, BC) about the Integrated Resource Plan
Date	December 10, 2020
Location	Virtual Workshop (Webex)
Local Government Representatives	Vivian Birch-Jones, Director, Squamish Lillooet Regional District Steven Pettigrew, City of Surrey
BC Hydro Representatives	Bill Clendinning; Presenter Anne Wilson; Moderator Shaka Baker; Host Alex Tu; SME Sabrina Locicero; Community Relations Sharon Wasylik; note-taker Judy Dobrowolski; note-taker

Presentation Summary

The webinar began with a traditional territory acknowledgement.

After introductions and discussing virtual meeting tools and etiquette, Bill Clendinning, Director of Energy Planning and Analytics at BC Hydro led the presentation for the webinar. The presentation is appended to the meeting notes.

What is an Integrated Resource Plan & consultation timeline

Bill Clendinning provided an overview of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the schedule for creating the plan for submission to the BC Utilities Commission.

Planning objectives

Bill Clendinning explained the five planning objectives that BC Hydro is considering when reviewing topics for the IRP. He also explained two important terms to know when discussing the topics for the IRP: energy and capacity.

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Integrated Resource Plan Choices

Bill presented the 20-year outlook of electricity supply and demand in BC, for both energy and capacity, and discussed choices BC Hydro will have to make in light of the outlook. Participants were invited to provide input regarding the choices and options presented.

During the first several years when we have sufficient supply of electricity to meet demand, choices presented were:

- Energy efficiency programs, voluntary time varying rates and voluntary demand response programs
- Expiring Electricity Purchase Agreements (EPA) and BC Hydro's potential options
- BC hydro's Small generation plants approaching end of life

Later in the planning horizon as gaps between supply and demand emerge, the following illustrative options were presented:

- Looking at ways that new technology, such as utility-scale batteries and pumped storage could help to store electricity for when customers need it.
- Upgrading our existing system, including expanding some of our larger facilities, like adding an additional generating unit at the Revelstoke Generating Station, and upgrading our power lines to help meet demand from customers.

Basil then discussed uncertainty and the various scenarios BC Hydro considers when evaluating the options presented above.

Bill concluded by discussing the regional demand supply outlook and the options that the IRP may consider in the region.

Participant Input

The following is a summary of the discussion that took place.

Planning Objectives (slide 8)

Participants noted that while cost is an important objective given that some people are struggling to pay their bills, it was good to see the environment objectives as well. One participant noted that people don't understand where power comes from and the sacrifices that need to happen in order to move to a fossil-free society. It was recommended that further education was needed.

Energy and Capacity: 20-year outlook of Supply and Demand (slides 10 and 11)

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One participant asked if Site C had been factored into the supply/demand outlook and queried if another Site C would be needed if electricity load rises. BC Hydro noted that Site C was included in the outlook. They also noted that the whole purpose of the IRP is to anticipate scenarios where future electricity needs are higher or lower than resources, and to prepare for that.

2030 to 2040: Getting ready to explore new resources (slide 14)

New or renewed local power sources

One participant requested that third party suppliers be brought back into the system. It was suggested that IPPs be renewed because if they dismantle and are again needed in the future, there will be greater costs to bring them back on line. BC Hydro responded that, with regard to renewing IPPs, they would have to look at whether they are supplying energy or capacity (or both) to the system and what the costs are compared to other resources.

One participant expressed interest in the idea of batteries or pumped storage while another participant asked about tidal energy and underwater turbines. BC Hydro noted that tidal has been looked at for several years but the technology behind it has not advanced enough to make it a viable option at this time.

One participant suggested that export be restricted to other Canadian provinces, but not to the U.S.A.

The webinar ended at 11:00 am.