

BC Hydro Integrated Resource Plan: Indigenous Nations Consultation

Southwest Region

Virtual meeting – June 23, 2021

First Nation / Organization

Cory Bob	Nanoose First Nation
Alli DiGiovanni	Katzie First Nation
Barb Leggat	Leq'a:mel First Nation
Cassandra Harper	Kwikwetlem First Nation
Cheryl Jones	Nanoose First Nation
Derek Leboeuf	We Wai Kai Nation
Fiona Hood	Tsleil-Waututh
Gina Peters	People of the River
Jennifer Knox	Komox First Nation
Josh James	Penelakut Tribe
Jackie Good	Snuneymuxw First Nation
Crystal Nahanee	Squamish Nation
Justin Laslo	Leq'a:mel First Nation
Kayla Phillips	Musqueam Indian Band
Nigel Selvadurai	Seabird Island Band
Paul Blom	First Nations Energy and Mining Council
Roma Leon	Katzie First Nation
Shawnrae Gabriel	Seabird Island Band/Sto:lo First Nation
Zain Nayani	Kanaka Bar Indian Band
Christine Smith-Martin	Coastal First Nations – Great Bear Initiative Society
Mark Blom	B.C. First Nations Energy and Mining Council

BC Hydro Representatives

Presenters	Bill Clendinning, Director, Energy Planning Charlie Weiler, Indigenous Relations Senior Negotiator
BC Hydro Indigenous Relations	Alison Erven, Julian Gonzalez, Alexi Lai, Joanne McKenna, Ian Wong, Michaela Mamonluk, Alison Hall
Notetakers	Lyndsey Stark; Anne Pigott
Tech Support	Taruni Singh (IT)

Independent Facilitator

Cheryl Brooks	Indigenuity Consulting Group
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Summary of presentations

Welcome and Introductory Remarks

The workshop began with Charlie Weiler acknowledging the traditional territory and a moment of silence for the 215 burial sites found at the former Kamloops residential school. All participants introduced themselves and Chrystal Nahanee offered a prayer and greetings.

After introductions and discussing virtual meeting tools and etiquette, Cheryl Brooks, the facilitator, explained the agenda:

- Overview and recap: Integrated Resource Plan
- What we heard during Phase One
- Discussion: Reviewing the Draft Plan – do items align with your values and interests?
- Discussion: BC Hydro and UNDRIP– gathering your input
- Wrap up and next steps

Cheryl also noted that BC Hydro will take notes and circulate a summary of the meeting in the next couple of weeks. Comments in the meeting summary won't be attributed to individual participants.

Due to the interest in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in the first round of consultation on the IRP, BC Hydro included an agenda item to seek input on BC Hydro's plan to implement UNDRIP. A summary of themes from the input received on this topic is captured at the end of this document after the section on the Integrated Resource Plan.

BC Hydro presentation on the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)

Before presenting the draft IRP Bill Clendinning and Charlie Weiler addressed the following topics:

- What is an IRP
- Where we are in the schedule of developing the IRP
- A recap of some major themes from the input received from the first round of consultation
- How BC Hydro developed its draft IRP
- An overview of the concepts of energy and capacity

Bill Clendinning presented the IRP load resource balance showing when we expect to need future resources to meet demand and answered questions on this topic. Following that Bill presented the elements of the draft IRP. After each element of the plan was presented Bill paused and Cheryl facilitated discussion on that specific element. The elements of the draft IRP that were presented and discussed in the workshop are:

- Energy Conservation
- Voluntary Time of Use Rates
- Renewing expiring Electricity Purchase Agreements
- Transmission Upgrades
- Future Resources
- Small Plants

- Planning for the unexpected

The PowerPoint presentation from the workshop is attached to this summary.

Summary of Participant Input

The following is a summary of what BC Hydro heard from Indigenous Nation representatives during the workshop. The purpose of this summary is to capture themes from the feedback received from participants attending the workshop and help BC Hydro consider the alignment between the draft plan and Indigenous interests. Please let us know if you have further questions or information requests regarding the IRP or anything arising from this summary.

Overview and recap: Integrated Resource Plan

- A participant commented they are seeing a lot of development in their traditional territory including the construction of high-rise buildings and waterfront residential buildings. They assume this is happening in other First Nations territories and see this as an infringement on their rights and title.
- A participant mentioned poles and lines in their community need maintenance and wanted to know if these plans are considered as part of the IRP.

What we heard during Phase One

- No comments received during this part of the presentation

Load Resource Balance

The load resource balance shows when BC Hydro's expects to need more resources by comparing BC Hydro's forecast of future electricity demand against resources, we know we have in place to meet that future demand. It also shows the range of uncertainty in BC Hydro's forecasts (i.e. future demand may be higher or lower than expected).

- No comments received during this part of the presentation

Reviewing the Draft Plan – BC Hydro asked: “does this align with your values and interests?” “What other feedback do you have?”

Energy conservation programs

- One participant identified electricity costs for communities as a big issue as electricity costs are not discretionary and can be much higher in northern communities.
- A participant commented that conservation efforts using heat pumps should be considered in the IRP to support Indigenous communities. They've experienced much higher bills in their Indigenous community compared to residing in Vancouver and shared that high electricity bills are having a negative impact on their community members. Heat pumps

could be considered to replace their wood burning stoves which would also decrease logging for fuel needs while also increasing Elders' comfort during heat waves.

- A participant commented that previous smart meter installation in their community correlated with a 40-50% increase in electricity bills and they requested education for their community on why this occurred.

Voluntary rates and supporting programs

- No comments received during this part of the presentation.

Renewing Electricity Purchase Agreements (EPAs)

- A participant expressed interest in the Net Metering Program and wanted to know if BC Hydro would purchase power from projects generating under 1 MW.
- The participant went on to share they would like to see Indigenous-owned Independent Power Producers continue to be offered opportunities to sell power to BC Hydro.
- A participant was interested in selling power from Indigenous-owned projects to Alaska and wanted to understand if this was possible.

Transmission system upgrades

- No comments received during this part of the presentation.

Future resources

- No comments received during this part of the presentation.

Small BC Hydro plants

- No comments received during this part of the presentation.

Planning for the unexpected

- A participant expressed an interest in using utility scale batteries in Indigenous Nation communities. They mentioned their community previously bought residents generators which has been received positively. They highlighted that remote communities can experience long term outages which can cause food to spoil. In particular, they recommended exploring the use of batteries in Sooke and Port Renfrew who rely on intermittent solar power.
- It was suggested that Vancouver Island would be a suitable spot for pilot projects using utility batteries due to its small size and wide-spread reliance on solar panels.

Follow up

- None

Summary and Wrap-up

Charlie Weiler thanked participants for attending the workshop and reminded audience of the next steps in the consultation process:

- BC Hydro will circulate meeting summary for your review and comment
- BC Hydro respectfully asks for your comments and input for this phase of consultation by **July 31, 2021**
- The final IRP will be filed with the BCUC by December 31, 2021
- Consultation summary will be sent to you and included in the filing with the BCUC

Additional input can be provided through the following means:

- Please take the survey: <https://bchydro.civilspace.io/en/projects/clean-power-2040/engagements/irp-phase-2/sections/1>
- Provide input by emailing CP2040.Indigenous@bchydro.com
- Call us at 1-877-461-0161 (extension 3) if you have any questions

Reconciliation and Implementing the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in BC Hydro's business

In the first round of consultation on the IRP there was a high level of interest in how BC Hydro will implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ("UNDRIP" or the "Declaration") in its business. As result the second round of regional workshops on the IRP also had an agenda item to seek Indigenous input into the development of an UNDRIP implementation plan for BC Hydro and how it plans to implement UNDRIP into its business.

Participants in the IRP consultation sessions were asked for their input on five themes that BC Hydro believes relate to UNDRIP and BC Hydro's work. The five themes are:

1. Respectful Relations
2. Social and Cultural Well-Being
3. Decision-Making
4. Water, Lands, and Resources
5. Economic Relations

BC Hydro sought feedback on the following questions: Are these the right themes? Are we missing any? What are some ideas for advancing reconciliation in each area?

The Indigenous input at the regional workshops will help BC Hydro develop a plan to implement UNDRIP in its business.

BC Hydro's UNDRIP presentation is part of the PowerPoint presentation attached to this summary.

Participant input on UNDRIP and BC Hydro

- A participant emphasized that revenue sharing remains important to Indigenous communities. They stated revenue sharing is the essence of reconciliation and the Province and BC Hydro need to give back to communities by allowing them to share in the revenue in exchange for the resources that have been extracted. They expressed that this needed to be stated today so BC Hydro can relay as necessary.
- An participant commented that is it important that BC Hydro has a branch dedicated to Indigenous relations in the company to support clean energy development, support communities and allow Indigenous people to express their concerns so these can be relayed to the rest of the company.
- A participant commented that the recent news at the former Kamloops Residential School highlights that we have work to do to move forward. When we talk about reconciliation, it's important to talk about how Indigenous Nations view reconciliation and we're getting into a period where more Indigenous voices are being heard. Conversations like the one today need to continue for reconciliation to move forward.