La Joie Dam Improvement Project

Open House





March 2022

Agenda

- Bridge River System Overview
- Project Overview
- o Identifying a Leading Alternative
- Dam Improvement Options
- Next Steps: Spring Studies
- Timeline , Consultation & Engagement
- o Q&A



Bridge River System Overview





BC Hydro is making significant capital investments in the Bridge River system facilities.





Bridge River System







Project Overview





Project Overview

Why is this project important?



- The LaJoie Dam is at the top end of the system and has a major influence in the watershed
- It is the biggest project in the Bridge River capital plan



Identifying a Leading Alternative

Truescape Demo





Project Overview

Alternatives considered

Over the past year, the following alternatives have been evaluated:

- Do Nothing (deferral).
- Improve dam to full reservoir levels
- Improve dam to reduced reservoir levels
- Decommission the dam



Identifying a Leading Alternative





Structured Decision Making

Recommended Leading Alternative = Refurbish Dam for Normal Reservoir Level

Objectives/ Criteria:

- Dam Safety
- Environment
- Cost

- Service Reliability
- First Nations
- Stakeholders

Refurbish Dam for Normal Reservoir Level:

- Flexibility to manage system flow
- Minimizes environmental risks
- Increases value of generation
- Best opportunity to manage Dam Safety Risks¹

EGEND		Not Viable		Alternative 1	Alternative 2
eading Alternative forse than Leading Alternative			Decommission La Joie	Refurbish Dam for	Refurbish Dam for
etter than Leading Alternative		Do Nothing	Facility	Normal Reservoir Level	Reduced Reservoir Level
ame as Leading Alternative					
bjective	Measure	(Do Nothing)	(Decommission)	(Normal Level)	(Reduced Level)
inimize Cost to Ratepayers					
Project Lifecycle NPV	PV \$M	Not Viable	Not Viable		
aximize Service Reliability					
Flexibility to Manage System Flows/Risks	High/Med/Low	Low	None	High	Medium
ncremental Energy - Bridge River System	+/- GWh vs. no change	No change	All generation at Bridge River System at risk	+50 GWh	No change
La Joie Peaking Capacity	MW	15 MW	0 MW	15-22 MW	15 MW
inimize Safety Risks (Dam Safety)					
Seismic Risks on Bridge System - Step 1	Is Risk Manageable?	Only in short-term	Yes	Yes	Yes
Seismic Risk at La Joie		Seismic risk acceptable in short term but further dam face deterioration threatens long-term seismic safety	Eliminates seismic risk at La Joie	Improvements address seismic risk	Improvements address seismic risk
Seismic Risks on Bridge System - Step 2	Relative Difference	Worst	Bad	Best	Middle
Seismic Risk Downstream (cascading failure at Terzaghi due to more frequent flood post- earthquake)		Only provides opportunity to avoid cascading failure of Terzaghi through operational measures, but does not allow for managing post-earthquake flows. This relies heavily on Terzaghi to manage the flows from a	Eliminates storage buffer provides no opportunity for managing post-earthquake flows to avoid loading of other potentially damaged structures downstream	Largest storage buffer provides best opportunity for managing post-EQ flows to avoid loading of other potentially damaged structures downstream	Reduced storage buffer provides less opportunity for managing post-earthquake flows to avoid loading of other potentially damaged structures downstream

Above: Structured Decision-Making Table. Example for discussion.



Leading Alternative



Refurbish Dam for Safe Operation of Normal Reservoir Level

- Maximum Normal Reservoir Level El. 749.8 m
- Addresses existing deterioration and seismic deficiencies
- Upgrade dam and intake tower
- Endorsement from St'at'imc Nation



Dam Improvement Options





Project Overview





Project Overview

Dam Safety Issues





Dam Improvement Options

Upstream Only Options





Dam Improvement Options

Combined Upstream & Downstream Options





Intake Tower Improvement Options

Upgrading of Existing Intake Tower Options





Intake Tower Improvement Options

Construct New Intake Tower Options





Intake Tower Improvement Options

Transfer post-EQ Intake functions to downstream components





Shortlisting the Options

Key considerations

- Safety:
 - Winter construction
- Environment
 - Number & length of deep reservoir drawdowns
- Cost versus Robustness & Reliability
- Socio-economic
- First Nations
- Stakeholders
- Constructability





Next Steps: Spring Studies





Next Steps

Reservoir Drawdown and Site investigations





Next Steps

Reservoir Drawdown and Site investigations



Spring drawdown

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- One week in late April/Early May
- 699m-700m (which is about 10m below normal low levels but significantly reduces the extent of the lake area)
- Site investigations include:
 - Test pitting and geotechnical drilling
 - Environmental Impacts
 - Cultural heritage



Timeline, Consultation & Engagement









Economic Opportunities



- As we're at the very early stages of the project, we haven't identified what opportunities will be available.
- We'll share more information as we move forward with our planning.



Consultation and Engagement

Consultation and engagement will be ongoing throughout the La Joie Dam Improvements Project. If you have any questions or comments on our project work, you can reach us at:

Email: projects@bchydro.com

Phone: 1 866 647 3334

You can also find the latest project information on our website -

www.bchydro.com/bridgeriver









BC Hydro Power smart