Seton Unit Replacement and Bypass Project

July 2023



Agenda

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- Access & Accommodation Studies Update
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- Communications



Bridge River System



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Overview of Seton Generating Station with Bypass Alignment





Seton Bypass Project Overview



Aerial view of the Seton penstock and generating station

Early planning stages continue

- A bypass will provide long-term benefits for water conveyance in the Bridge River system
- Project planning is currently underway
- Project is subject to BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) approval
- Targeted completion for the bypass is 2027



The Importance of Seton in the System



Aerial view of Seton Canal and Seton Dam

The Seton Dam and Generating Station are at the downstream end of the Bridge River system playing a critical role in water conveyance.

This includes:

- Providing operational flexibility for water management
- Maintaining controlled flow for the Seton and Lower Bridge Rivers
- Maintaining electrical power into the grid



Why do we need a Bypass?



Above: Seton Dam. Below: Seton Powerhouse

There are two possible ways to release water from Seton Lake.

- Through the Dam via Seton River
- Through the canal and powerhouse.

The anticipated 12-month construction period to replace the generating unit requires no flow through the powerhouse.

Diverting all water down the Seton River for 12 months would result in:

- Very high flows
- Environmental impacts
- Risk of Erosion



Overview Seton Generating Station



The Seton generating unit dismantled during annual maintenance.

- The generator and turbine are nearing end of life:
 - Generator was installed in 1956; the turbine was replaced in 1977
- Unit replacement work will take place within the powerhouse.
- Schedule is under review



Current Activities



Crews drilling near the tie-in of the bypass and canal (Sept. 2021)

Happening this fall:

- Site investigations including geotechnical drilling along bypass route.
 - Traffic control will be in place for work along Roshard Road.
 - Work expected to last two weeks.
 - Drilling to take place after peak wildfire season (mid-September).
- Field assessments for laydown areas.
 - Soil sampling and archeological assessments.
 - Work expected to last 2 weeks



Project Timeline

Spring 2024 **March 2021** Earliest Complete construction start Identify recommended preliminary design Fall 2025 leading alternative May 2023 Submit CPCN Bypass: Spring 2028 Complete feasibility Application to BC **Generating Unit: TBC** design for preferred Utilities Commission Earliest in-service date alternative ~Fall 2024



Access and Accommodation Studies



In the Bridge River region, we're studying:

- o Transportation
- o Access
- Worker accommodation
- Socio-economic impacts and business opportunities
- This is an important opportunity for local communities, organizations, businesses and the public to better understand how BC Hydro operates in the region and find collaborative solutions
- Expected study completion is 2024



Workforce Forecast - Lillooet



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First Nations - Consultation



Field work for the Bridge River Transmission Project

The Bridge River system is located entirely in St'át'imc Nation Territory.

In 2011, St'át'imc, BC Hydro and the Province signed an historic agreement that addressed past impacts and provides a framework for creating a new, more positive, relationship into the future.

As projects move forward, we're collaborating at various levels to better understand and integrate St'át'imc perspectives and interests into our planning, and to work together to identify meaningful economic and employment opportunities across projects.

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Communications



Bridge 1 Units 1-4 along the Secon Lake Reservoir

'The project Is needed urgently' BCUC approves Bridge River 1 Units 1—4 Generator Replacement Project

The B.C. Utilities Commission has given their approval for the Bridge River 1 Units 1—4 Generator Replacement Project, saying there is, "...no justification to delay the BR1 Project because the project is needed urgently."

The project at Bridge River 1 will replace aging equipment in the generating station to improve reliability, restore capacity and increase operating flexibility.

Project manager John Fitzgibbon welcomed the granting of the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the project.

"We're grateful it's been found to be in the public interest. We're thankful to our stakeholders and St'at'imc Nation for their involvement in the regulatory approval process."

The BCUC had asked for the Bridge River 1 project to be coupled with the Bridge River Transmission Project so the applications could be reviewed together. The transmission project will continue with their regulatory approval process separately. decision on the Bridge River Projects here: Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Bridge River Projects

BCUC DECISION

- BCUC

You can find the full BCUC

In their decision the panel cited the the growing need for clean energy in the province, managing water flows in the Lower Bridge River system, and aging infrastructure.

With the certificate in hand, Fitzgibbon's team is focused on getting the project to the end of the planning phase and into implementation.

"System design and detailed design of the generator's major components will take about nine months, it will be another 18 months for the manufacturing of the first generator, and about 27 months before new equipment shows up at alle if everything goes to plan." The targeted completion of the project is 2030.

Update on work forecast

BC Hydro's workforce in the Bridge River region can vary depending on project status.

- O This summer approximately 40 workers were in the area.
- The number increased to 50 this fall with the majority of work completed mid-November
- Workers have been staying at existing facilities with the majority in Tsal'alh/Seton Portage.
- O No additional accommodations required for 2022 or 2023.

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We will continue to communicate project work through:

- Local ads
- o Open Houses
- o Bi-annual newsletter
- Delegations to local governments
- o www.bchydro.com/bridgeriver
- Email projects@bchydro.com
- Phone: 1-866-647-3334





