



Kitimat LNG Interconnection Study

February 2021 community online
engagement summary of feedback

APRIL 2021

 **BC Hydro**
Power smart

Overview

This is a summary of feedback received from our February 3, 2021 online public webinar. We received limited feedback from the community regarding the transmission line route and substation location options and the attendance of the webinar was half of the number of stakeholders who registered for the event.

Generally, the perceived impacts associated with the route on the eastern side of the Kitimat Valley is lower and it is perceived that it would be more beneficial to build the new substation closer to the existing Minette Substation for future land use.

Introduction

Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is an important economic development opportunity for British Columbia. We're actively working to meet the electricity needs of proposed LNG facilities to support the CleanBC objective of greenhouse gas reductions.

The Kitimat LNG Project, a joint-venture between Chevron Canada Limited and Woodside Energy International (Canada) Limited, is proposing an LNG plant at Bish Cove. The proposal uses an all-electric plant powered by clean, renewable hydroelectricity from BC Hydro. They have entered into the formal interconnection process with us requesting electrical service for Kitimat LNG. As with all interconnection requests, Kitimat LNG is funding our work on this stage of the interconnection process.

Project scope

Kitimat LNG initiated an interconnection request with BC Hydro in 2019. The amount of electricity requested for Kitimat LNG's all-electric facility far exceeds what the existing line can provide. To meet the needs of this proposed facility, we propose:

- A new substation near existing Minette Substation in Kitimat;
- A 287 kilovolt line from Skeena Substation in Terrace to the new substation in Kitimat;
- A 287 kilovolt line connecting the new substation to the existing Minette Substation; and,
- A 287 kilovolt line from the new substation to Rio Tinto Alcan.

Kitimat LNG will construct 287 kilovolt line(s) from the new substation to their facility at Bish Cove.

Project options

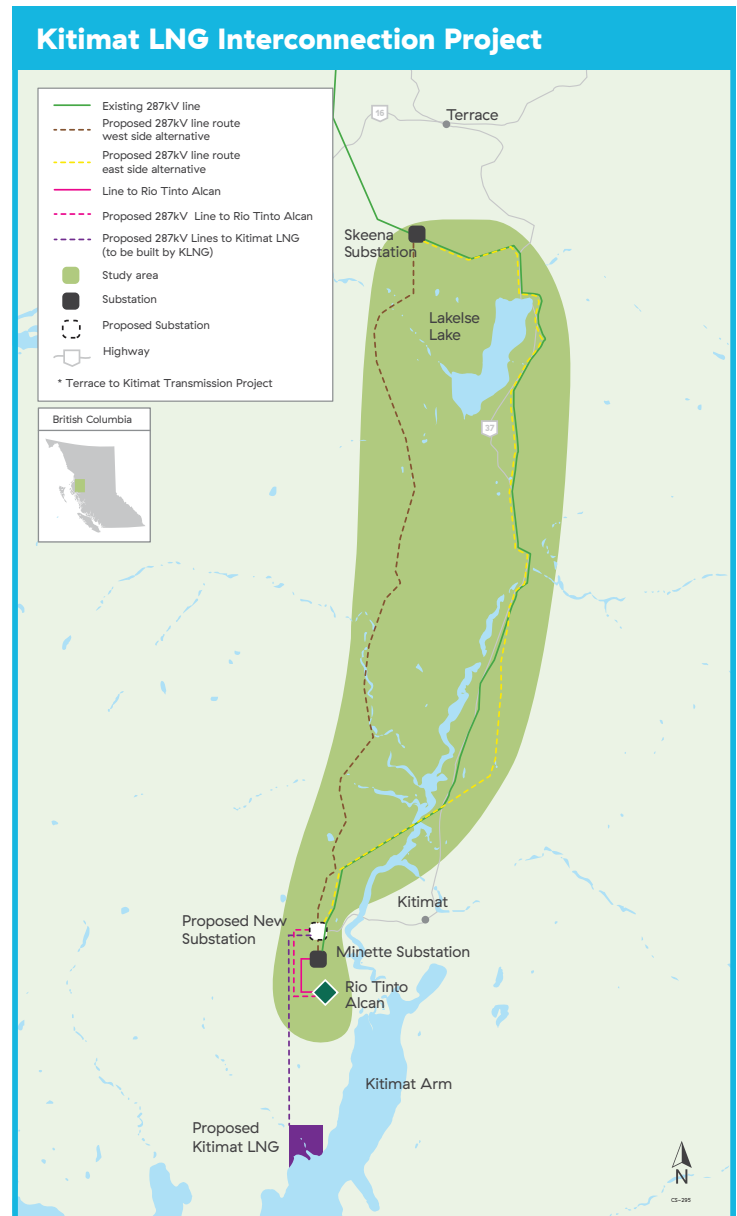
There are two options for the 287 kilovolt transmission line from Terrace to Kitimat and four options on the location for the new substation near the existing Minette Substation in Kitimat.

TRANSMISSION OPTIONS

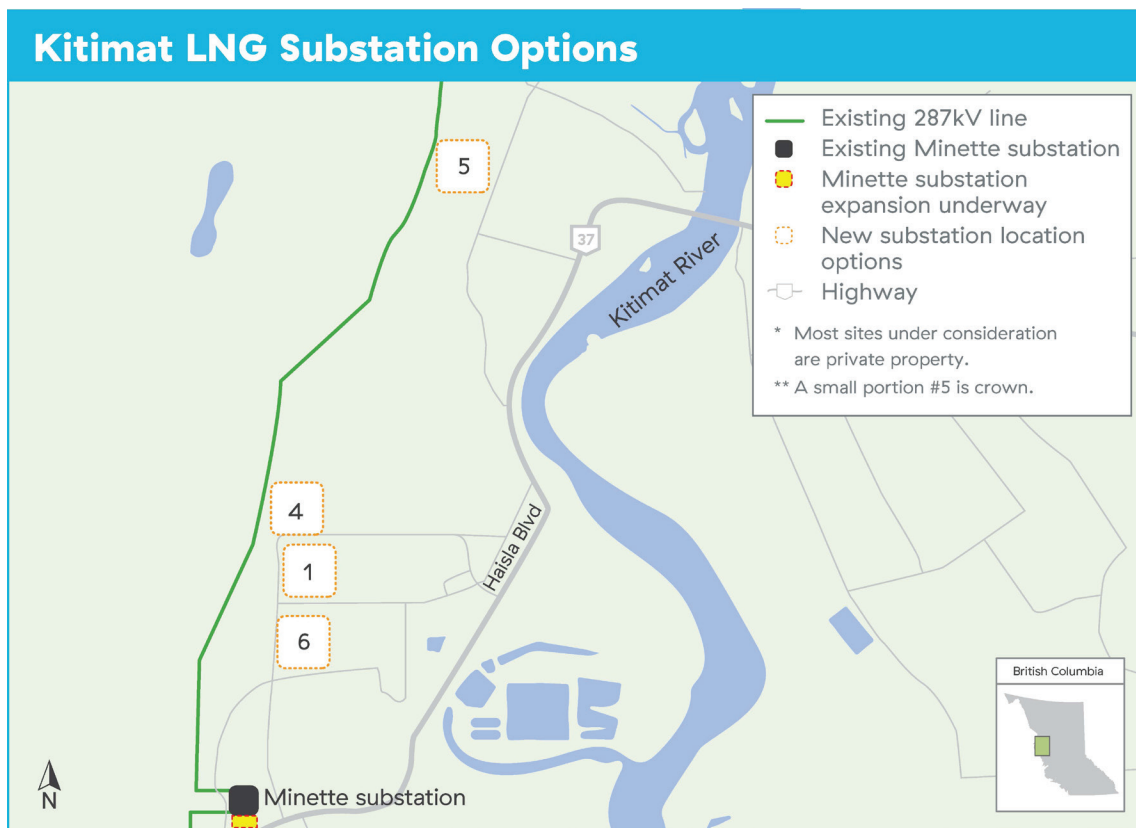
The 287 kilovolt transmission line from Terrace is proposed to run along the Kitimat Valley. The two routing options are:

- Build overhead on west side
- Build overhead on east side

The existing 287 kV transmission line would remain for both options.



SUBSTATION LOCATION OPTIONS



A new substation will be needed near the existing Minette Substation. Of the six site options identified, we have eliminated two sites for geotechnical and/or environmental reasons. Of the remaining sites, public preference is to be closer toward the existing Minette Substation.

Online webinar session

Notifications for the February 3 online webinar were sent to stakeholders who registered on BC Hydro's website to be kept informed about Kitimat LNG Interconnection study, as well as those who previously expressed interest in the original Terrace to Kitimat Transmission Project. Additional stakeholders notified include District of Kitimat, City of Terrace, and the MLA representing the area.

The online webinar had 32 stakeholders registered and 16 of them attended. Representing BC Hydro were eight staff presenting the materials and answering questions including two project managers (lines and station), an assistant project manager, a project engineer, a stakeholder engagement lead, a moderator, a note taker, and a community relations representative.

We have received the following feedback that forms the basis for this summary report:

- One phone call with a stakeholder who was not able to attend the webinar
- One email feedback from a stakeholder who could not make the timeframe for the webinar
- In-webinar questions and comments.
- Two completed post webinar surveys

How will this input be used?

We're in the study phase of this interconnection process to identify the best way to provide power to Kitimat LNG's proposed LNG plant at Bish Cove. This information will inform Kitimat LNG's final investment decision.

Feedback from the public will be combined with several other factors including safety, reliability, environment, First Nation objectives, constructability and cost in deciding the option for both the lines and substation component of the project.

Questions and answers

1. CN Rail had a slide in November that took out 550 feet of track. What have you done to evaluate stability on the west side?
Slide is 10 km south of terrace. (Terrace Standard article)
 - We have completed a conceptual-level review of the geotechnical issues and geohazards (based on terrain stability mapping) for the east and west route options. We have not decided on the placement of the transmission structures but will coordinate with the geotechnical engineering team to minimize or mitigate the risks with geotechnical investigations in future design stages as we develop the layout for the new transmission line.
2. Will line construction go out for public tender or will BC Hydro do the work?
 - We will be looking at all work as we move forward with a supply chain strategy on how best to deliver the project. Major components available are building road access, timber clearing, foundation/civil work, tower erection, and stringing.
3. Why did BC Hydro abandon the eastern route back in Terrace to Kitimat Transmission (TKT) Project four years ago?
 - We had decided to go with the western route four years ago based on:
 - Input from stakeholders
 - Consultation with First Nations
 - Western route was 10 km shorter
 - Visual impacts less on the western route
 - This current study is looking at both based on info from original project plus new information. The original assessment was done years ago so we are looking at it with fresh eyes and updated information.
 - The original project had us removing the eastern line, but this study is keeping the existing eastern line.
4. What is different in amount of land to be cleared for each route option?
 - We have done a detailed assessment and results will be coming in the next couple of months. The eastern route is 10 km longer than western route but we will be looking at how that affects timber clearing, length of road access. It is also important to note that the western route has existing access from previous projects. All this info will be factored into our decision.
5. How many new roads will need to be built on the west side?
 - Previous work on west side identified that, the main artery roads are already in place from industrial development. We will need to have several additional roads in the Right-Of-Way to build the transmission line.

Comments received

- A stakeholder has environmental concerns in the northwest portion of the Kitimat Valley including the riparian area feeding Lakelse Lake and voiced their support for eastern transmission route.
- A stakeholder was in opposition to the western route “through the Thunderbird Forest Area and across the Lakelse River”. Stakeholder believes the special old growth management zone will be compromised and states that it makes more sense to follow the existing transmission route along Highway 37.
- A stakeholder would like BC Hydro to use the existing right-of-way area on the east side of Kitimat Valley. Stakeholder also would like BC Hydro to locate the new substation as close to the existing Minette Substation as possible.
- A stakeholder voiced perception that the eastern route would have reduced impacts compared to the western route. Stakeholder believes that the access road required for western route will have higher impact compared to eastern route given eastern route is mostly beside highway and will use existing access paths.

