Info Session Date and Location
February 24, 2005
Caesar’s Inn,
55 South Sixth Ave., Williams Lake, B.C.

Attendees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Interest/ Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gerald Jolliffe</td>
<td>Cariboo Regional District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Douglas Gook</td>
<td>Green Party of BC, Quesnel (arrived at 7 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duncan Barnett</td>
<td>Cariboo Regional District (arrived at 7:20 pm)</td>
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BC Hydro/IEP Representatives

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization and Department</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charmane Edwards</td>
<td>BC Hydro/Community Relations</td>
<td>Host/Facilitator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Scouras</td>
<td>BC Hydro/Power Planning and Portfolio Management</td>
<td>IEP Presenter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristann Boudreau</td>
<td>BC Hydro/Stakeholder Engagement</td>
<td>Workshop Facilitator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cam McAlpine</td>
<td>JaJa Communications/ External Consultant</td>
<td>Note Taker</td>
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Discussion Highlights

Note: There was a low turnout in Williams Lake (three people: two regional district directors and a private citizen), therefore the discussion cannot necessarily be said to be in any way representative of the full range of perspectives in the community and broader region. The information session was conducted very informally.

- One attendees’ primary recommendation was that BC Hydro emphasize green, clean alternative energies (especially solar power) more than is currently being done. He also strongly favoured a move to distributed power generation. He suggested this would improve flexibility of usage and supply to the provincial grid (i.e., through net metering). He also suggested that BC Hydro consider hosting an alternative energy fair in partnership with relevant alternative energy associations (including a forum for discussion of integrated vs. distributed generation).

- One attendee wanted improved access to the grid and reliability of supply for the Chilcotin Plateau west of Williams Lake. He also wanted to see BC Hydro explore alternative resource options such as biomass and/or cogeneration for the Cheslatta Forest Products mill at Anahim Lake.
• One attendee suggested the regional district is assessing the opportunities and feasibility of the development of a biomass/biogas/cogeneration facility to make use of slaughterhouse waste and/or municipal waste. He recommended an increased emphasis on Power Smart with a renewed emphasis on school-aged programs. He also had several suggestions unrelated to the IEP.

1. Introduction/Overview

Because there was only one attendee present at the start of the meeting, Charmane Edwards provided a brief informal introduction to the Integrated Electricity Planning (IEP) process for him, noting BC Hydro is seeking input to find out what is important to stakeholders.

Note: Jim Scouras noted there likely wouldn’t be a workshop the following day because only one person had signed up. An offer was made to help arrange for attendance at a workshop elsewhere in the province if anyone else was interested.

Jim introduced himself and described his role in power acquisitions within the BC Hydro Power Planning and Portfolio Management department. He noted the information session was meant to address three themes:

- What is the IEP?
- What happened during the 2004 IEP?
- What’s happening with the 2005 IEP?

2. IEP Presentation

Jim provided an overview of the Integrated Electricity Plan and of the IEP Stakeholder Engagement Plan for 2005. Highlights of the presentation are as follows:

- The IEP is a 20-year plan, updated every two years, that describes how BC Hydro will meet customers’ needs for electricity. It is estimated electricity consumption will grow at a rate of about 1.5 per cent per year.

- There is an identified need to fill the gap between the available supply and the expected future demand for electricity.

- Established objectives of the IEP include the following: customer reliability of supply, no net incremental environmental impact, foster a conservation culture; maintain low-cost position in North American, and leverage trade opportunities without compromising the ability to supply all BC’s electricity needs with domestic supply. A priority in meeting these objectives is to meet BC Hydro’s stated triple bottom line: economic, social and environmental.

- There are a number of Resource Options available to BC Hydro to produce electricity, including but not limited to: biomass, coal, cogeneration, large hydro, natural gas, Power Smart, small hydro, tidal, wave and wind power. Each Resource Option is available to differing degrees in different parts of the province. Each brings impacts, referred to in the IEP process as Attributes. Following this round of stakeholder engagement, a Resource Options Report will be filed with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC).

- Resource Options will be combined in a variety of different ways (portfolios) according to stakeholder input and will be compared before selecting a preferred portfolio that best meets BC Hydro’s needs.
• An IEP Action Plan that identifies the short-term steps and the long-term vision of the preferred portfolio will then be created to support BC Hydro’s regulatory filings, including the Resource Options Report (filed by the end of May 2005), Resource and Expenditure Acquisition Plan (filed by the end of 2005) and the Revenue Requirements (filed in February 2006).

• The 2004 IEP process preceded and provided direction for the 2005 IEP process. The chosen direction included continuation of the Power Smart program, sending out call for tenders on Vancouver Island, ongoing investigation of the Burrard and Site C options, and a new round of stakeholder engagement.

• General feedback from First Nations during the 2004 IEP process included: a desire to be engaged earlier, a request that historical grievances be addressed, some interest in remote electrification and reliability of service to First Nations communities, concern about the impacts of transmission lines, and interest in revenue sharing.

• General feedback from other stakeholders during the 2004 IEP process included: support for triple bottom line planning, high value placed on reliability and cost before environment, support for IPPs, and support for maintaining public ownership of BC Hydro.

• Feedback from the north and interior in 2004 showed support from some areas for low cost, but not at the expense of reliability and the environment, while other areas supported environmental goals, but not at the expense of low cost. There was also strong support for reliable supply and mixed views on increasing electricity exports, support for Resource Smart, and in the interior there was support for trade when economically beneficial to keep rates low.

• The 2005 IEP will build on what was learned during the 2004 process and to decide upon a preferred portfolio. It was stressed that BC Hydro must be able to demonstrate that feedback and input was listened to and is being implemented where appropriate.

2.1 Questions, Recommendations and Discussion Points about IEP Presentation

What areas of BC are not served by BC Hydro?
BC Hydro serves approximately 90 per cent of the province. Those not served include parts of the Kootenays, the City of New Westminster, and parts of Kelowna.

Why is solar power not included in the list of resource options described in this presentation?
One attendee said he expects to be able to disconnect from the BC Hydro grid by next year once solar capabilities are developed enough to replace it. He recommended solar power be included as an option when developing portfolios. Jim noted that, although solar power is not mentioned in this presentation, it is included on BC Hydro’s list of potential resource options; however, its cost is still too prohibitive to make it an economically viable part of a preferred portfolio. He also discussed BC Hydro’s net metering in terms of its potential to complement distributed generation from sources like solar power. Information on BC Hydro’s net metering program is available at [http://www.bchydro.com/info/ipp/ipp8842.html](http://www.bchydro.com/info/ipp/ipp8842.html).
Government policy should begin moving toward decentralized power generation. One attendee said he felt many of the resource options - even small hydro - are still too environmentally damaging and primary emphasis should be put on resource options that feed into a decentralized system.

Is there any plan to hook up the community of Anahim Lake to the grid? Currently the Chilcotin Plateau is served by one of the longest transmission lines in the province and it doesn’t carry enough power to supply all the ranches in the area or a sawmill 90 kilometres west of Williams Lake, nor does it reach Anahim Lake, which is still powered by diesel.

One attendee recommended two things:
1) **The western transmission line be upgraded to provide enough power to service the Sigurdson mill 90 kilometres west of Williams Lake.**
2) **The possibility of a biomass cogeneration opportunity at the Chilcotin Forest Products mill in Anahim Lake be investigated.**

Jim committed to getting the answers to questions about the transmission line, as well as the feasibility of alternative electrification at Anahim Lake, and did note that part of BC Hydro’s long term planning includes electrification of remote First Nations communities.

**How do we get more information about getting involved in power generation through alternative technologies?**
The City of Williams Lake, the Cariboo Regional District, the Cariboo Cattelemen’s Association and the provincial government are in informal discussions about a “BSE Project”, which would use biomass and/or biogas technology to generate electricity using slaughterhouse waste and/or municipal waste. Jim responded that the Greater Vancouver Regional District had a similar idea and had put out requests for proposals to do feasibility studies. Jim suggested a similar process might work in this case.

**How is Power Smart incorporated into the IEP?**
There are five phases of Power Smart scheduled to be implemented by 2010 and the expectation is it will form an integral part of the preferred portfolio.

**How does the Kyoto Accord affect the IEP process?**
One of the attributes used in measuring the relative impact of resource options is the amount of greenhouse gas emissions and it will therefore be central to the decision making.

**BC Hydro should consider sponsoring an alternative energy trade fair.**
There was apparently some similar kind of energy fair sponsored by BC Hydro in Vancouver in the late 1990s. It was recommended a similar idea be part of any Power Smart education campaign as well as providing an opportunity to put an increased profile on alternative energies.
BC Hydro should consider implementing more incentive programs similar to the former Wonder Tree Home Schoolers Network “Power Smart challenge” etc. and other programs targeted at school-age children.
BC Hydro recently committed itself to stabilizing the per capita “energy intensity” in the residential and business sectors at today’s levels by 2020. An important part of achieving that goal will be an increased focus on education and building awareness among school-aged children.

2.2 Other discussion points unrelated to the IEP presentation

What is the status of the Hat Creek coal development?
BC Hydro has transferred all Hat Creek coal licenses to the Province of B.C. BC Hydro retains ownership of the Hat Creek properties and is continuing with existing agricultural tenancies until a long-term exit strategy is determined. An agreement to transfer the property to the Provincial Government was not reached.

Public awareness needs to be increased on issues around tree falling near BC Hydro rights of way.
In more rural areas, many people are trying to remove trees on their properties that have been attacked by the Mountain Pine Beetle and may not be aware of the risks of electrocution if the trees have fallen (or do fall) on power lines. This issue was featured in BC Hydro’s most recent bill insert.

BC Hydro should become involved in, and show environmental leadership in, the developing invasive plant strategy.
The Invasive Plant Council of BC is a multi-stakeholder non-profit society formed last year to coordinate a provincial strategy on invasive plants and would benefit from BC Hydro’s involvement, given the large amount of land managed in the province by BC Hydro. Gwen Shrimpton, of the BC Transmission Corporation, is a member of the Board of the Invasive Plant Council of B.C.

3. Summary of Meeting and Next Steps
Charmane thanked everyone for coming and reminded them that comments on the IEP process can also be made by phone, fax, email and mail. She also noted that, since there weren’t enough people to warrant a workshop, the next day’s session would be cancelled. She offered to make arrangements for anyone interested in attending a session in a different community.

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