INFORMATION SHEET

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Public and stakeholder consultation is a key component of planning for the Site C Clean Energy Project. As part of Stage 2, the consultation and technical review stage, BC Hydro held more than 120 public and stakeholder meetings across the province between 2007 and 2009.

As part of Stage 3, the environmental and regulatory review stage, Site C is undergoing a cooperative environmental assessment process by federal and provincial regulatory agencies, which includes a joint review panel.

The environmental assessment process for Site C is thorough and independent. It includes multiple opportunities for timely and meaningful participation by the public, Aboriginal groups, governments, and other interested stakeholders.

BC Hydro is leading several streams of public and stakeholder consultation. These BC Hydro-led consultations are separate from the consultation opportunities led by the environmental assessment agencies.

The streams of BC Hydro-led consultation are outlined below.

Regional and Local Government Liaison
BC Hydro is engaging key municipal, regional and provincial government stakeholders to ensure they are kept up to date on the status of the project, and are consulted on key issues, particularly those that are directly related to local governments.

There are two components of Regional and Local Government Liaison: the Regional and Local Government Liaison committee brings together regional Mayors and Directors of the Peace River Regional District with the Site C project team, while Local Government Technical Engagement allows key municipal staff to meet with Site C project staff on a community-by-community basis.

Property Owner Liaison
Following up on property owner consultation held in Stage 2, ongoing meetings and two-way information sharing with property owners is continuing throughout Stage 3.

Local Area Consultation
BC Hydro will conduct area-specific consultations where local issues arise. For example, consultation with the community of Hudson’s Hope was held to gather local input about proposed berm options.

Project Definition Consultation
Project Definition Consultation will focus on gathering stakeholder and public input on a range of topics important to project planning and the ongoing environmental assessment. Topics in the spring of 2012 include Highway 29 realignment, outdoor recreation, and construction materials.
Aboriginal Consultation and Engagement
BC Hydro and Aboriginal groups are engaged in a thorough consultation and engagement process that continues through all stages of the project.

How Input Will Be Used
To maximize participation, a range of consultation methods will be used during Stage 3, including community consultation offices in Fort St. John and Hudson’s Hope, stakeholder meetings, open houses, print and online feedback forms and written submissions.

Feedback gathered through BC Hydro-led consultation will help inform the planning process, project definition and plans for mitigation. A Consultation Summary Report will be prepared and released on the project website following each consultation period. In addition, Consideration Memos will be prepared, indicating how input has been considered.

Consultation and the Environmental Assessment Process
Consultation is a key part of the cooperative federal-provincial environmental assessment process.

Several public comment periods will take place as part of the environmental assessment process. These include a public comment period in the spring of 2012 on the nature and scope of environmental studies (Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines).

In addition, there will be consultations on BC Hydro’s Environmental Impact Statement (Application).

More information is available on the environmental assessment agencies’ websites:
- Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency: [www.cea-acee.gc.ca](http://www.cea-acee.gc.ca)
- British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office: [www.eao.gov.bc.ca](http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca)

ABOUT BC HYDRO
Fifty years ago, British Columbians turned to BC Hydro to build the clean electricity system they count on to power B.C.’s economy, create jobs in every region, and keep the lights on. Now, BC Hydro is building again for the next 50 years. B.C. continues to grow and so has the need for more electricity. That’s why BC Hydro is building, renewing, and encouraging conservation to meet today’s needs and those of future generations.

More information on Site C can be found at: [www.bchydro.com/sitec](http://www.bchydro.com/sitec).