The Site C Clean Energy Project (Site C) would be the third hydroelectric facility on the Peace River, along with the W.A.C. Bennett and Peace Canyon dams. The Site C reservoir would be approximately 83 kilometres long and would be, on average, two to three times the width of the current river. It would flood approximately 5,550 hectares of land and would have a total surface area, including the current river area, of approximately 9,330 hectares.

The Site C reservoir would be comparatively smaller than BC Hydro’s other major hydroelectric projects because it would rely on the existing Williston Reservoir for water storage.

As the third project on the Peace River, Site C would re-use the same water flowing downstream from the two upstream facilities and simply pass it along. This would enable Site C to generate approximately 35 per cent of the energy produced at the W.A.C. Bennett Dam, with only five per cent of the reservoir area.

The Site C reservoir would be one of the most stable in the BC Hydro system with relatively little fluctuation in water levels during typical operations.

The proposed maximum normal operating range for the Site C reservoir would be 1.8 metres — between 460.0 metres and 461.8 metres. However, during typical operations the reservoir would be expected to fluctuate within a smaller range.

In addition, downstream of the facility, at the B.C./Alberta border, flows are expected to be within today’s normal range. Far downstream from Site C, at the Peace-Athabasca Delta — approximately 1,100 kilometres away — no notable changes are expected.

Reservoir operations in B.C. require a water license from the Comptroller of Water Rights in accordance with the Water Act and the Water Protection Act.

BC Hydro will be consulting with the public, communities and Aboriginal groups about reservoir operations during the environmental assessment process.

- more -
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.