

December 2018

Re: Notice of Site C Construction Activities: January to March 2019

This letter describes the work planned from January 1 to March 31, 2019.

For the upcoming period, construction will focus on:

- the advancement of earthworks at the dam site and the excavation of the two diversion tunnels
- construction of the Site C substation
- vegetation, tree clearing, and waste wood removal and disposal, which may include burning, in portions of the transmission line corridor
- upgrades and maintenance for access roads that connect to the transmission line corridor
- transmission line construction, including site preparation, helical pile and concrete foundations, and tower assembly and installation
- expansion of the outdoor switchyard and indoor gas-insulated switchgear at Peace Canyon
- construction of the Highway 29 realignment at Cache Creek West
- clearing and grubbing at the Halfway River Highway 29 realignment
- road maintenance and road construction in areas of the future reservoir
- clearing, including waste wood removal, log hauling, disposal, and burning, in the Moberly River and Cache Creek areas and lower, middle, and eastern reservoir areas

For all activities described in this letter, the necessary permits, authorizations, licenses, or government approvals have been or will be obtained as required before the work begins. Geotechnical site investigations, air quality monitoring, heritage and other field studies are ongoing. BC Hydro will continue to provide annual field study notices of these activities, which are available on the <u>Site C website</u>. In all identified work areas, geotechnical site investigations, including the drilling of test holes and the installation of test piles, may be required.

BC Hydro requests that you use caution when hunting, shooting, or setting traps in the vicinity of the Site C transmission line corridor for the safety of public and workers in the area.

Please let us know if you have questions or concerns. We appreciate your feedback.

January to March 2019

The following construction-related activities are expected to commence, continue or be completed in the period from January to March 2019:

Dam site area

- <u>Access roads</u>: Crews will continue to maintain dam site access roads and existing south bank resource roads, including the petroleum development roads.
- Main civil works: The main civil works contractor will continue their construction activities

during this period. This includes excavation and material relocation on the north and south banks (which will require drilling and blasting), construction of the south bank drainage tunnel, construction of the diversion tunnels, in-river work and dredging, aggregate production, concrete batching, foundation preparation and construction of the spillway buttress, riprap placement, temporary upstream fishway construction, earth-fill dam preparation, and other civil works.

- Generating station and spillways (GSS): Concrete will be placed for the powerhouse and main service bay structures. Portions of the powerhouse will be heated to continue concrete work through the winter. Preparation will continue for laydown areas for penstock and intake construction.
- <u>Turbines and generators</u>: The turbines and generators contractor will continue to mobilize crews and equipment to their work area on the south bank. The contractor will ship material to the dam site by rail and will assemble equipment in their on-site manufacturing facility.
- <u>Site C substation</u>: The substation contractor will continue with site preparation works, foundation construction, control building fit out, and the assembly and installation of substation equipment. Concrete and aggregates will be shipped to site.
- <u>Dam site security</u>: Security infrastructure will be installed, including fencing.

Public roads and highways

- <u>Highway 29 at Cache Creek/Bear Flat (eastern portion)</u>: Preliminary investigations and planning will occur for archeological stripping. Stripping may begin, weather dependant.
- Highway 29 at Cache Creek (western portion): The contractor will continue construction
 of this segment of the highway. This includes development of aggregate sources in the
 Peace View Borrow area, drainage, and new highway construction.
- Highway 29 at Halfway River: Clearing and grubbing will begin in early February for the Halfway River segment, including in the new alignment right-of-way and aggregate source areas.

Peace River/reservoir

- <u>Fish habitat enhancement project:</u> The habitat enhancement contractor has mobilized to the south bank of the Peace River and will be working through this period.
- Reservoir clearing: The reservoir clearing contractors will undertake clearing and road upgrade/building activities in the lower, middle, and eastern reservoir areas, including the Moberly River, around the Tea, Wilder and Cache creeks, and near Halfway River. Clearing will occur on the north and south banks and on islands in the Peace River. Road maintenance will occur on existing roads in the reservoir area, including Bear Flat Road and the lower portion of Old Hope Road. Please see the attached maps for more information.
- <u>Debris management</u>: Merchantable trees of sufficient size, quality, and volume to make them suitable for harvest and transport will be transported to local mills. When conditions allow, wood will be burned at the dam site, transmission line corridors, and along the reservoir areas in conjunction with clearing activities.

Hudson's Hope

• <u>Site investigations</u>: Geotechnical investigations may occur to support detailed design development for the shoreline protection project.

Transmission works

- Access road maintenance: Road maintenance and upgrades to portions of existing
 access roads will occur. This is required to provide safe access to the transmission line
 right-of-way. This work will include erosion and sediment control.
- Access road construction: Access roads will be constructed within portions of the transmission line right-of way.
- <u>Clearing and debris management</u>: Tree clearing and vegetation removal may occur in portions of the transmission line right-of-way. Waste wood and debris will be disposed or removed. This may include mulching, spreading, or burning.
- <u>Peace Canyon Generating Station</u>: Upgrade works within the switchyard building will continue. The Peace Canyon switchyard contractor will continue work on the outdoor switchyard expansion, including equipment assembly and installation.
- <u>Transmission line construction</u>: The transmission line contractor has mobilized crews and equipment to their work areas in the transmission line corridor and the marshalling yards near Moberly Lake and Jackfish Lake Road. Transmission towers are being assembled and installed.

Production and transport of materials

- Wuthrich Quarry: Riprap will be produced. Blasting will occur as part of this work.
- West Pine Quarry: Riprap will be produced. Blasting will occur as part of this work.
- Portage Mountain Quarry: Internal roads may be constructed.
- <u>85th Avenue Industrial Lands</u>: The main civil works contractor will continue work at the Industrial Lands. This will include the preparation of offices, a parking lot, and laydown/stockpile areas. Excavation may begin in this period.
- <u>Conveyor belt system:</u> Construction will occur for the temporary conveyor belt system.
 This will include earthworks and pile driving. The conveyor is scheduled to be in service in spring 2019. Fencing will be installed along the conveyer right-of-way.

Water Licence(s) and Leaves to Commence Construction

During the course of construction, BC Hydro will apply for a series of Leaves to Commence Construction (LCCs) under its Water Licences in order to construct particular project works or components of project works. Construction-related activities under the LCCs are also independently reviewed by the Independent Engineer and the Independent Environmental Monitor as required by BC Hydro's Water Licences.

To date, BC Hydro has obtained LCCs for:

- Initial works
- RSEM storage areas

- North and south bank excavations
- South bank stage 1 cofferdam
- Clearing of the eastern reservoir
- North bank cofferdams and diversion tunnel works
- RCC buttress foundation preparation and RCC placement
- Geotechnical investigations for the Hudson's Hope Shoreline Protection and Halfway River debris boom
- Earthfill dam excavation, foundation preparation, fill placement and approach channel foundation preparation and placement
- Generating station civil works and spillway civil works
- Construction of the temporary fish passage facility

In January 2018, the Comptroller of Water Rights issued Water Licences for the temporary and permanent fish passage facilities.

One LCC application is planned for the coming months, for clearing of the Halfway River debris boom island (LCC04A).

What to expect

During this time period, the following can be expected:

- There will be project-related traffic on public roads leading to the dam site, transmission corridor, reservoir and Highway 29, as contractors mobilize and continue to haul materials, equipment, rock, and timber. This will include increased industrial traffic on resource roads and public roads from Chetwynd leading to the site on the south bank.
- Day, night and weekend shifts are anticipated for the duration of the project.
- Traffic control will be intermittently in place for construction and investigation activities along Highway 29. This may cause minor delays to highway users.
- Noise will occur near the project work areas as a result of the scheduled construction activities.
- Noise and vibration will result from the periodic blasting and other work that is occurring in the quarries. Hauling may occur at night.
- There will be construction occurring in and around the Peace River at the dam site.
- Public safety signs and beacons have been installed on both banks of the Peace River, upstream and downstream of the dam site, to mark the boundaries of the active construction area. Until further notice, boaters will be able to pass through the dam site, but will not have shoreline access in the dam site construction area. A security boat will be monitoring boat traffic.
- BC Hydro is monitoring air quality in the Site C project area. This data is being added to
 the Ministry of Environment's B.C. Air Quality Monitoring Data (www.bcairquality.ca).
 The Ministry uses this data to report on air quality trends. In the event of poor air quality,
 the Ministry will release air quality advisories through a notification list.

Learn more

- Visit the project website: <u>sitecproject.com</u>
- Call the toll-free project line: 1-877-217-0777
- Email the project team: sitec@bchydro.com
- Send an enquiry or feedback online at: https://www.sitecproject.com/contact-us#enquiry