



February 18, 2026

Job Number: 133945  
vFCBC Tracking Number: 100483341

BC Hydro and Power Authority  
333 Dunsmuir ST  
Vancouver, BC V8B 5R3

Dear BC Hydro and Power Authority,  
Change Approval - Changes In and About a Stream (File 9000961)

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A Change Approval for the above application has been granted and a *Water Sustainability Act* Section 11(1) Changes In and About a Stream Approval document verifying this is attached.

We wish to inform you that the Peace River serves as a spawning and rearing area for fish. The protective requirement of the federal *Fisheries Act* must be met.

This approval does not constitute authority of any other agency. The holder of this approval shall have the necessary permits from other agencies concerned prior to the commencement of the works authorized herein. The permit holder is required to adhere to all other applicable Provincial and Federal Regulations.

Archeological sites (both recorded and unrecorded) are protected under the *Heritage Conservation Act* and must not be altered or damaged without a permit from the Archeology Branch. The holder of this approval must advise everyone who will be involved in ground-disturbance and construction that if archeological materials are encountered, activities must be halted and the Archeology Branch contacted at 250-953-3334 for direction.

Section 105 of the *Water Sustainability Act* gives the recipient of this notice the right to appeal my decision. You may file an appeal within 30 days of the date indicated on this letter. Information on filing an appeal can be found on the Environmental Appeal Board WEB site at <http://www.eab.gov.bc.ca/>.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the document issued or this letter please contact Liia Schilds, Water Officer, by email at [Liia.Schilds@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Liia.Schilds@gov.bc.ca) or by phone at (778) 576-1148.

Sincerely,

Suzan Lapp  
Assistant Water Manager



# Province of British Columbia

## *Water Sustainability Act*

### Approval

#### Section 11(1) and 11(2)– Changes In and About a Stream Approval

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**BC Hydro and Power Authority, 333 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, BC V8B 5R3**  
and their agents are hereby authorized to make changes in and about a stream as follows:

- 1) The name of the stream is the Peace River. The project area is known as the Site 106.5 Main Channel Bar.
- 2) The changes to be made in and about the stream are described in the management plan entitled “*Site C Clean Energy Project Water Sustainability Act Section 11 Approval Application Peace River - 106.5 Main Channel Bar Excavation*”, as the following:
  - In-river excavation of material for fish habitat enhancement,
  - Hauling of material to the dam site for use in dam site construction activities where possible,
  - Site restoration, demobilization, and decommissioning of work areas and crossings, and
  - mainstem shallow habitats to be excavated to below the water elevation that occurs at low Site C operational flow of 390 m<sup>3</sup>/s.
- 3) The location of the works are at the following coordinates, as provided by the applicant:
  - North portion: between 56.193291°, -120.894553° and 56.192872°, -120.890126°
  - South portion: between 56.190706°, -120.894687° and 56.190774°, -120.891536°
- 4) All works shall be completed in accordance with:
  - i. Tailrace Excavation - Midstream Island & 106.5 Main Channel Bar - Environmental Protection Plan - Site C Clean Energy Project, Dated June 10, 2025

- ii. Site C Clean Energy Project - *Water Sustainability Act* Section 11 Approval Application - Peace River - 106.5 Main Channel Bar Excavation Management Plan
  - iii. Midstream Island and 106.5 Main Channel Bar Excavation Fish and Fish Habitat Assessment: Site C Clean Energy Project, Dated July 30, 2025
- 5) All works shall take place between March 1, 2026, and February 28, 2028.
  - 6) A Qualified Environmental Professional/Monitor with the authority to halt work shall be on site during all phases of the in-stream work.
  - 7) Any significant departures from the approved plans and specifications as outlined in clause (2) and (4) will be reported to the Water Manager prior to those alterations occurring.
  - 8) Measures must be taken to ensure that no harmful material (e.g. fuel and other hydrocarbons, soil, road fill, or sediment) which could adversely impact water quality, fish and other aquatic life, and/or fish habitat, be allowed to enter the wetted perimeter as a result of the project activities.
  - 9) All machinery and equipment operating within or near the Peace River will require the use of environmentally sensitive grease, oil and fluids that are non-toxic to aquatic life and are readily or inherently biodegradable. This equipment and machinery shall be clean and free of external grease.
  - 10) Fueling and servicing of machinery and equipment must occur a minimum of 30 meters away from all streams, lakes and waterbodies. An emergency spill response kit shall be kept nearby on-site at all times and on-site staff trained in its use. Immediately report any spill of a substance that is toxic, polluting, or deleterious to aquatic life of reportable quantities to the Dangerous Goods Incident Report 24-hour phone line at **1-800-663-3456**.
  - 11) Care shall be exercised during all phases of construction to minimize sediment laden water entering the Peace River.
  - 12) All material utilized during construction shall be contoured and placed in a stable area above the high water mark of the Peace River such that it is not able to mobilize and managed to avoid entry into any stream or watercourse.
  - 13) The works shall not result in depressions that have the ability to trap fish and other aquatic life.
  - 14) The holder of this approval shall take reasonable care to avoid damaging any land, works, trees, or other property and shall make full compensation to the owners for

any damage or loss resulting from the exercise of the rights granted with this approval.

- 15) Riparian areas which are disturbed by the works shall be restored to their original condition and protected from erosion.
- 16) All work shall be carried out in accordance with the Provincial "*Requirements and Best Management Practices for Making Changes In and About A Stream in British Columbia (2022)*" <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/working-around-water/wsa-cias-requirements-bmps.pdf?msclkid=295e67c4c1ae11ecadd4ff4606dd7f6e> and "*A Users' Guide for Changes In and About A Stream in British Columbia (2022)*" [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/working-around-water/wsa-cias-users\\_guide.pdf?msclkid=92f2e4dbc1b011ec95c005b94d9b874d](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/air-land-water/water/working-around-water/wsa-cias-users_guide.pdf?msclkid=92f2e4dbc1b011ec95c005b94d9b874d).
- 17) The holder of this Approval must comply with all other applicable Provincial and Federal Legislation.
- 18) This Approval, or a copy of it, must be kept or posted on the work site so that it may be shown to a Ministry official upon request.



Suzan Lapp  
Assistant Water Manager  
February 18, 2026