

December 2015

## **Re: Notice of Site C Construction Activities: January through March 2016**

This letter provides an overview of Site C construction activities currently planned for the period of January to March 2016. For the upcoming three-month construction period, most of the construction activities will focus on final site preparation to ready the Site C dam site area for the mobilization of the main civil works contractor. As part of this work, construction activities will continue at the dam site area, on public roads, and at Wuthrich Quarry. For all of the work described below, BC Hydro may be required to obtain the necessary permits, authorizations, licences or other government approvals to proceed with the work.

As you may be aware, BC Hydro recently announced that it selected Peace River Hydro Partners as the preferred proponent for the main civil works contract. The information in this letter may change, based on their specific plans and schedules.

In addition to the construction activities described below, site investigations, air quality monitoring, heritage and other field studies are ongoing. BC Hydro will continue to provide monthly field study notices of these activities.

Please do not hesitate to provide us with any questions, comments or concerns you may have.

### **January through March 2016**

The following construction-related activities are expected to commence, continue or be completed in the period from January through March 2016:

#### **Dam Site Area**

- Clearing: Vegetation and tree clearing at the dam site on the north bank and south bank will continue. The north bank clearing will be generally complete during this period.
- Access roads at the dam site: Construction of new access roads on the north bank will continue. Work on the new south bank access roads will pause over the winter and will resume in spring 2016. Crews will continue to make improvements on existing south bank resource roads.
- Worker accommodation: Construction of the worker accommodation camp on the north bank will continue.
- Temporary Construction Bridge: Construction work will continue through the spring on the temporary construction bridge across the Peace River, and will include pile driving. The bridge is expected to be completed during this period, or early in April.
- Excavation and material relocation: Excavations on the north bank will continue, and materials will be relocated to designated sites on the north bank, or used in road construction and improvements. Excavation work in and around the Peace River will be ongoing to construct River Road and the approaches for the temporary construction bridge.
- Distribution lines: Upgrades to the existing electricity distribution lines on the north bank will continue, including upgrades to the existing Fort St. John substation. Work is expected to begin on the south bank distribution lines in March.

- Dam site security: The installation of security fences, gates and guard houses will be completed.
- Main civil works contractor mobilization: The main civil works contractor will mobilize crews and equipment to the dam site area, and may begin some initial exploratory work. Initial mobilization will be complete in March, and work to construct the dam structure will begin in spring 2016.

### **Public Roads and Highways**

- Public road improvements: Work on 269 Road was completed in fall 2015. Work on 240 Road has been paused for the remainder of the winter construction season and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's contractor has demobilized. In late-spring 2016 (date is weather dependent), improvement of public roads on the north bank, including the paving of 240 Road, will continue. Work is expected to begin to upgrade 271 Road during this period.

### **Peace River/ Reservoir**

- Public safety buoys: Installation of the public safety buoys on the Peace River started in December and, once complete, the buoys will remain in place for the duration of construction.
- Work areas: For boater and worker safety, boaters will need to stay clear of active in-river work areas, which will be clearly identified with additional signage and markings.
- Clearing (east end of reservoir): Vegetation and tree clearing in the area in and around the confluence of the Moberly River and along the Peace River is planned to commence. This work will continue through spring 2016. No clearing will occur in the Moberly River Valley during January to March 2016.

### **Production and Transport of Materials**

- Wuthrich Quarry: Production of riprap for use in road construction at the dam site will continue. As part of this work, periodic blasting will occur.
- Portage Mountain Quarry: Access improvements at this quarry may begin to prepare it for future use.
- 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue Industrial Lands: Starting in January 2016, this area may be used for material and equipment staging and storage.

### **What to Expect in January through March, 2016:**

During this time period, the following can be expected:

- There will be additional truck traffic in the area as construction crews mobilize to the dam site, the hauling of rock and timber continues, and as dormitories for the worker accommodation camp are transported to site.
- There will be increased industrial traffic on the resource roads and public roads from Chetwynd leading to the construction site on the south bank, and additional road maintenance activities on the resource roads on the south bank.
- Early morning and/or night shifts may be scheduled, in addition to shifts on the weekends.

- Work to construct the temporary Peace River construction bridge will take place seven days per week, with periodic pile driving.
- Some noise will occur in the vicinity of the dam site and along public roads as a result of the scheduled construction activities, including the pile driving. BC Hydro will monitor noise levels throughout the construction period.
- Some noise and vibration may result from the blasting that is occurring in Wuthrich Quarry.
- There will be construction work occurring in and around the Peace River within the dam site, and in and around the Moberly River confluence.
- As noted above, installation of the public safety buoys will begin upstream and downstream of the dam site area in December. The safety buoys will mark and notify boaters of the dam site construction area and boating restrictions. Until further notice, boaters will be able to pass through the public safety buoys and travel through the dam site construction area, but will not have shoreline access within the dam site construction area. In addition to the public safety buoys, a patrol boat will be actively monitoring boat traffic.

### **Learn More**

- Visit the project website: [sitecproject.com](http://sitecproject.com)
- Follow the Site C Twitter account: [@sitecproject](https://twitter.com/sitecproject)
- Call the toll-free project line: 1-877-217-0777
- Email the project team: [sitec@bchydro.com](mailto:sitec@bchydro.com)