

OIL, GAS AND ENERGY

VOLUME 3, SECTION 22

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) details the environmental assessment undertaken for the Site C Clean Energy project. The EIS includes the project rationale, identifies potential effects and proposes measures to avoid or mitigate these effects. The EIS also describes the benefits Site C would provide for customers, Aboriginal groups, northern communities and the province as a whole.

ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT

The assessment on oil, gas and energy considers the project's interactions with the land base and with oil, gas, and energy industry activity. It analyzes changes in:

- land and resource use for tenured oil, gas, and energy activities, operations, and facilities
- access for oil and gas industry activities

ASSESSMENT AREA

The local and regional assessment area for oil, gas and energy is the project activity zone, which is the area within which the project components and activities will be located or will occur.

SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

POTENTIAL EFFECTS	KEY MITIGATION MEASURES
Change in land and resource use, and oil and gas infrastructure during construction and operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude agreements and implement any agreed to provisions, where appropriate, with third-party tenure holders • Implement monitoring measures for infrastructure that could be affected by the project; if adverse effects are identified, work with affected party to identify and implement appropriate mitigation
Access to oil and gas resources and industry activity during construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to resources would not be restricted. No mitigation required.

MONITORING AND FOLLOW-UP

- BC Hydro proposes to work with industry to develop a monitoring program that would identify changes to Peace River downstream sediment, and to identify changes to water temperature and related adverse effects for the first 10 years of operations. If it is determined that there is an adverse effect on industry operations, BC Hydro will work with industry to develop a mitigation plan.

KEY FINDINGS

- The project would occupy about 0.11%, of the total petroleum and natural gas tenure area in the Peace River Regional District. Small scale hydro, wind power, and biomass energy production projects are not currently proposed within the project area.
- With agreements in place with third party tenure holders as required, implementation of monitoring programs, and if necessary, mitigation measures, no residual adverse effects are anticipated.



ABOUT THE SITE C CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT

Site C is a proposed third dam and hydroelectric generating station on the Peace River in northeast B.C. Site C would provide 1,100 megawatts (MW) of capacity, and produce about 5,100 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity each year – enough energy to power the equivalent of about 450,000 homes per year in B.C.

Site C is undergoing a cooperative environmental assessment by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEA Agency) and the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office (EAO). The environmental assessment process commenced in August 2011 and is anticipated to take approximately three years to complete.

FOR MORE INFORMATION visit bchydro.com/sitec

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