

FIELD STUDIES INFORMATION SHEET

Feasibility Study – Field Trial for Biochar: May - September 2014

The Site C Clean Energy Project is currently undergoing a cooperative environmental assessment by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office. BC Hydro is continuing to conduct environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River between the Williston Reservoir and the Alberta border to inform detailed mitigation and monitoring planning. Project construction will not take place unless Site C receives environmental certification, regulatory permits and authorizations, and approvals to proceed.

BC Hydro has selected Diacarbon Energy Inc. (DEI) as the preferred proponent following a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) issued last year seeking companies to provide innovative and environmentally beneficial solutions to utilize non-merchantable wood fibre. Non-merchantable fibre consists of undersized trees, tree tops, branches, stumps, roots and wood chunks resulting from clearing activities that cannot be sold. Generally, the options to dispose of non-merchantable fibre would include burning, landfill or dispersing.

BC Hydro is seeking options to utilize non-merchantable wood fibre in a way that would minimize the Site C project footprint, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and manage local air emissions. BC Hydro has engaged Diacarbon Energy to undertake a feasibility study for the utilization of non-merchantable fibre for the Site C Clean Energy Project.

Diacarbon Energy is a B.C.-based company that has developed a technology that can process wood waste into biochar which can be used as a drop in fuel replacement for coal or to improve the productivity of agricultural soil.

As part of the feasibility study, DEI will analyze biochar produced from waste wood from the Peace Region for its fuel properties and conduct field trials to test whether biochar can be used to improve the quality of Peace Region soils.

There are three stages to the study. First, wood samples from the Peace River Region are converted into biochar for soil trials, then the soil samples and the biochar produced is tested. The final stage is a field trial in the Peace River Region in an area with soils that could most benefit from biochar application. The portion of land selected for this trial is on the north bank of the Peace River near the Halfway River. The purpose of this field trial is to determine the optimum application rates of biochar on the soils.

Field study updates are available at www.sitecproject.com and in the Community Consultation offices in Fort St. John and Hudson's Hope.

For further information, please contact:
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FEASIBILITY STUDY – FIELD TRIAL FOR BIOCHAR May – September 2014

- Diacarbon Energy is undertaking a feasibility study to identify alternate and higher value uses for the non-merchantable fibre that would be generated by clearing activities associated with Site C.
- A field trial is underway in the Peace River Region in an area with soils that could most benefit from biochar application.
- The portion of land selected for this trial is on the north bank of the Peace River near the Halfway River.
- Diacarbon Energy is partnering with the University of Northern British Columbia to lead the feasibility study.