# BC Hydro Peace Canyon Dam HAZARD BUOYS

# **Notice of Works**

Canadian Navigable Waters Act

March 22, 2024

# Submitted to:

Transport Canada Suite 620-800 Burrard Street Vancouver BC V6Z 2J8

# Submitted by:

British Columbian Hydro and Power Authority Site C Clean Energy Project 333 Dunsmuir Street Vancouver BC V6B 5R3

#### INTRODUCTION

The Canadian Navigable Waters Act (CNWA) regulates works that are in, on, over, under, through or across any navigable water in Canada. The CNWA includes a schedule of navigable waters requiring regulatory approval for works that risk a substantial interference with navigation. As part of the CNWA, the Minor Works Order is used to identify works "that are likely to slightly interfere with navigation." The Minor Works Order requires proponents to deposit a Notice of Work with Transport Canada. In accordance with this requirement, this Notice of Works describes the installation of five buoys approximately 1 km downstream of the Peace Canyon Dam (PCN) as described below.

#### **PUBLIIC USE AND HAZARDS**

The PCN Dam is located approximately 6 kilometres upstream from the town of Hudson's Hope. Approximately 1 km downstream of the dam, several naturally occurring rock bedding planes extend into the river at an elevation of 459m. These bedding planes are sometimes referred to as "river fingers", "riverine fingers" or "river spits" ("The Fingers").

During periods of higher flows from the PCN Dam, the Fingers are inundated and currents in this location become stronger, posing a risk to boaters and fishers using the channel. Currently, BC Hydro has an audible public warning system and signage cautioning boaters and fishers to evacuate the channel during these high flow periods.

The Site C reservoir, once operational, will have a Minimum Normal Reservoir Level (MNRL) operating range of 460m. The Fingers will be permanently flooded and will no longer be used for fishing. The areas will however become a submerged hazard for boaters due to its 1 metre elevation below the MNRL operating range of 460m. In order to address this hazard, BC Hydro is proposing to install five safety buoys to warn the public of the hazard. The proposed locations of buoy installation, approximate distance between buoys, as well as contour information, are shown in Appendix A.

In addition to the safety buoys, BC Hydro will continue to operate the public warning system, and will install new signage approximate 2.5 km downstream of the dam identifying the hazards and the associated buoys. The locations of the signs will be determined based on local topography.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF WORK AND ACCESS**

The proposed hazard buoys will be installed during low flows when the Fingers are exposed. Each buoy will be individually moored to sound bedrock in the riverbed with a chain and anchor. The buoys are 76cm diameter steel spheres painted orange with a diamond symbol. As shown in in Appendix A, the distance between the buoys ranges between approximately 65 m and 112 m, allowing boaters to navigate through in case of emergency. Construction specifications, details of the anchor plates, rock anchor and buoy layouts are shown in attached Appendix B Issued for Construction drawings. Access and transport of equipment and materials to the Fingers will be by boat. BC Hydro will sourcing all equipment and materials that will meet the minimum Transport Canada and Canadian Coast Guard guidelines.

All information set out in the Component Application Package is based on construction planning at the time of application. Activities may be somewhat different depending on final design and procurement, including contractors' preferences for equipment, sequencing of activities and construction means and methods. All activities will be carried out in accordance with the Site C Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://www.sitecproject.com/sites/default/files/construction-environmental-management-plan-CEMP-rev-11 0.pdf

### **LOCATION**

### **Buoy Location coordinates:**

HB1: Lat: 55.9950392 Long: -121.976698246 HB2: Lat: 55.9942500 Long: -121.977969630 HB3: Lat: 55.9947233 Long: -121.978694645 HB4: Lat: 55.9957112 Long: -121.977546279 HB5: Lat: 55.9951599 Long: -121.979340478

#### **SCHEDULE**

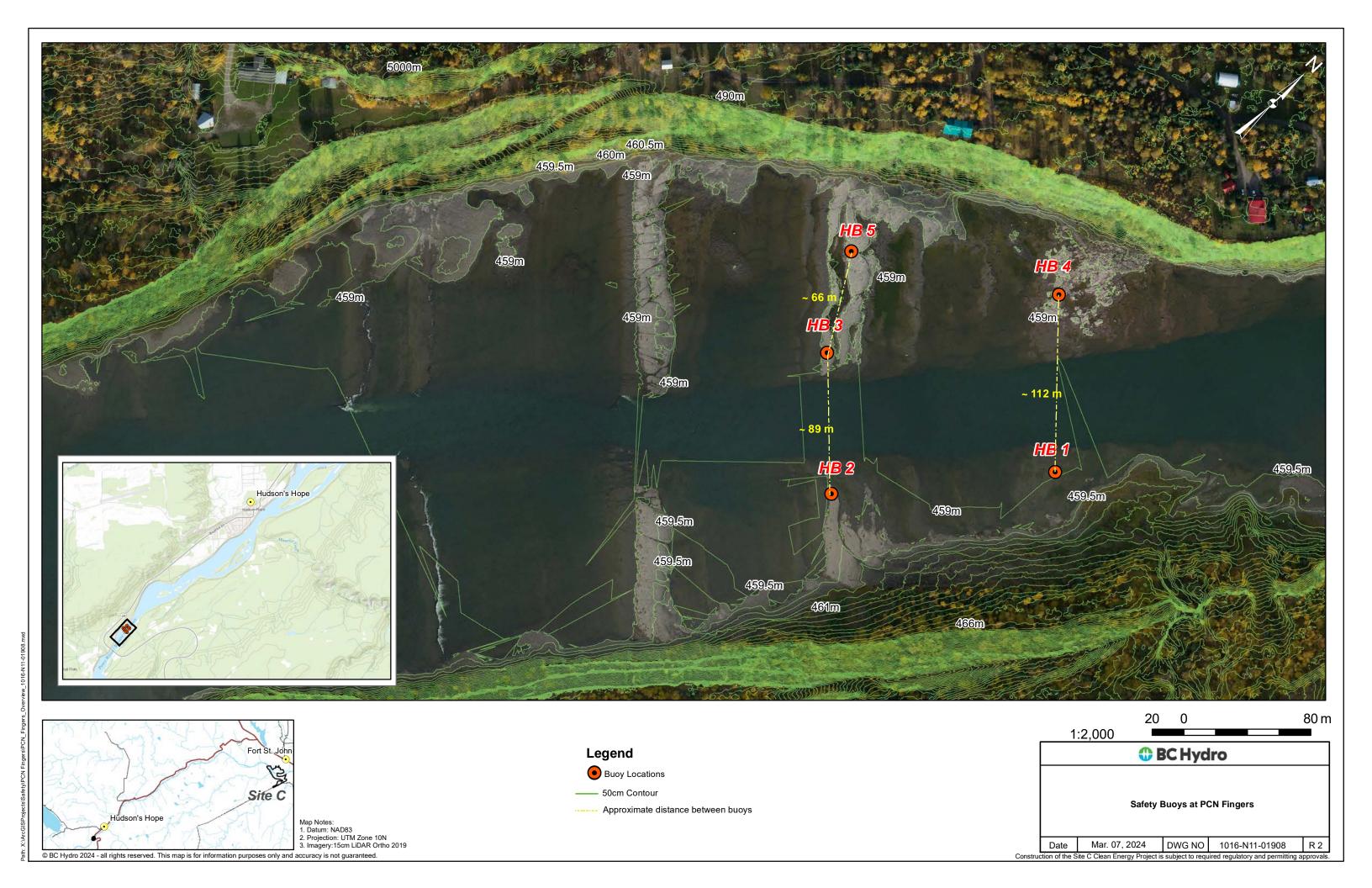
The hazard buoys and their anchors will be constructed and installed between April and June of 2024 during periods of low flows in the Peace River.

#### **PUBLIC BOATER ACCESS**

Communication to boaters will be done in accordance with the Boater Communication Protocol<sup>2</sup> set out in the Project's Construction Safety Management Plan and forthcoming Operations Safety Management Plan, as well as conditions included as part of any issued CNWA or Conditional Water Licences approvals.

 $<sup>{}^2\ \</sup>underline{\text{https://www.sitecproject.com/sites/default/files/construction-safety-management-plan-revision-2-20220309.pdf}}$ 

# Appendix A 1016-N11-01908 Location and Contour Map



# Appendix B Issued for Construction Drawing

