

## SITE C CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT

# INFORMATION SHEET PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Public and stakeholder consultation is a key component of planning for the Site C Clean Energy Project (Site C). Comprehensive consultation with the public — including local and regional governments, communities, stakeholders, property owners and the general public — has taken place since 2007 and will continue through project construction.

To date, the project team has led or participated in more than 500 consultation meetings, presentations, local government meetings, community events or open houses.



### Project Definition Consultation

Project Definition Consultation has focused on gathering stakeholder and public input on a range of topics important to project planning and the ongoing environmental assessment.

Multiple rounds of Project Definition Consultation included engaging with the public through stakeholder meetings and open houses. Topics of consultation have included worker accommodation, transportation, clearing, reservoir impact lines and recreation, among others.

### Regional and Local Government Engagement

Since 2007, BC Hydro has engaged local and regional governments to ensure they are kept up to date on the status of the project and are consulted on key issues.

During the project development stage, the Regional and Local Government Liaison Committee provided a forum for BC Hydro and elected officials to share information and discuss community interests, issues and potential benefits related to the Site C project. In addition, BC Hydro's technical staff regularly engage with key municipal staff on a community-by-community basis.

A Community Liaison Committee will be established to provide a forum for engagement through the construction period.

### Property Owner Liaison

BC Hydro provides information to, and gathers input from, property owners and leaseholders in the Site C project area. The purpose of the project's property owner liaison program is to:

- Provide information and update property owners regarding project planning.
- Facilitate two-way information exchange between property owners and the project team.
- Engage with property owners prior to, and during, defined periods of consultation.
- Negotiate and provide compensation for permissions to access private property for the purposes of technical and environmental field studies.

- Work with property owners to acquire the land and rights required for the project.

### Local Area Consultations

BC Hydro conducts area-specific consultations where local issues arise. For example, consultation with the community of Hudson's Hope was held to gather local input about proposed shoreline protection options.

### Business Liaison

BC Hydro has established a business liaison program to keep businesses informed and updated on the project. For example, Site C Business Information Sessions were held, involving local, regional and provincial businesses in 2011, 2012 and 2013. In addition, BC Hydro holds business-to-business networking sessions in the Peace region that provide opportunities for potential contractors to meet local suppliers and potentially form partnerships.

A Site C Business Directory ensures that interested businesses receive information about project opportunities.

### Community Relations

BC Hydro's community relations program will continue through all stages of the project. It includes community meetings, regular presentations and project updates, a project website, and participation in community events.

### How Input is Used

An important part of the Site C consultation process has been the reporting of meeting notes and the preparation of consultation summary reports. Detailed information about how feedback has informed project design and mitigation plans is included in the Environmental Impact Statement for Site C and is publicly available on the regulatory agencies' websites.

### Consultation and the Environmental Assessment Process

In October 2014, the Site C project received federal and provincial environmental approvals following a three-year cooperative environmental assessment process by federal and provincial regulatory agencies.

The environmental assessment process for Site C was thorough and independent and included multiple opportunities for timely and meaningful participation by the public, Aboriginal groups, all levels of government, and other interested stakeholders. The extensive review process included a two-month of public hearing in several regional and Aboriginal communities under an independent Joint Review Panel.

### Construction Information and Notification Program

BC Hydro is committed to providing the public with information about Site C construction activities in a timely manner. A comprehensive construction information and notification program is in place to ensure residents and communities are kept up-to-date on construction activities.