

Site C Clean Energy Project

Regional Community Liaison Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary
November 28, 2018, 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm
Pomeroy Hotel, Fort St. John

<p>ATTENDEES</p> <p><i>Regional Community Liaison Committee Members</i></p>	<p>Tamara Wilkinson for Dan Davies, MLA Peace River North Mayor Allen Courtoreille, Chetwynd Mayor Dave Heiberg, Hudson's Hope Arlene Solonas, L & R Consultation Coordinator, McLeod Lake Indian Band Mayor Lorraine Michetti, Pouce Coupe Director Karen Goodings, Area B, Peace River Regional District Director Brad Sperling, Area C, Peace River Regional District Director Leonard Hiebert, Area D Peace River Region District Director Dan Rose, Area E, Peace River Regional District Mayor Rob Fraser, Taylor Andrew Young, CAO Taylor Mayor Keith Bertrand, Tumbler Ridge Moira Green, Fort St. John</p> <p>Steve Abbey, BC Hydro Dave Conway, BC Hydro Shanna Mason, BC Hydro Ken McKenzie, BC Hydro Nancy Pepper, BC Hydro Ben Rauscher, BC Hydro Lindsay Routledge, BC Hydro Chris Waite, BC Hydro Adelle Yott, BC Hydro</p>
<p>ABSENT WITH REGRET</p>	<p>Mike Bernier, MLA, Peace River South Jane Calvert, Blueberry River First Nation Ranish Shakya, Blueberry River First Nation Carol Newsom, CAO, Chetwynd Mayor Dale Bumstead, Dawson Creek Duncan Redfearn, CAO, Dawson Creek Cec Heron, Doig River First Nation Mayor Lori Ackerman, Fort St John Dianne Hunter, City Manager, Fort St. John Chris Cvik, CAO Acting Hudson's Hope Fay Masear, McLeod Lake Indian Band</p>

	Christopher Leggett, CAO, Pouce Coupe Shawn Dahlen, CAO, Peace River Regional District Jordan Wall, CAO, Tumbler Ridge Councillor Nathan Parenteau, Sauleau
INVITED GUESTS	Kahsha Patterson, ATCO Jamie Bodnarchuk, Peace River Hydro Partners John Denison, Peace River Hydro Partners Gabriel Letourneau, Voith Hydro Scott Marshall, AFDE Ann Danilevich, AFDE Troy Van Bostelen, AFDE

Documents Distributed (via email on November 26, 2018)

Meeting Final Agenda
 Site C Project Update Presentation
 BC Hydro Site C Public Enquiries Report for September-October 2018
 September 2018 Workforce Report
 Site C BC Business Summary (Q3)
 GO Fund 2018 Information Sheet
 Site C Fish and Aquatic Program Brochure
 Site C Wildlife Program Brochure
 RCLC Action Log- Updated November 26, 2018

1. Opening / Welcome / Agenda

- a) Dave Conway welcomed the Committee members to the meeting.
- b) Dave acknowledged the Treaty 8 people and the territory within which the meeting was held. A Treaty 8 member, Arlene Solonas, who was present at the meeting was recognized, and thanked for attending.
- c) A round of introductions occurred for those new to the Committee.
- d) The agenda was reviewed and a request for any additional items was made by Dave Conway.
 - a. No additional agenda items were added.

2. Review of Action Items

- a) Dave Conway reviewed the action item log and asked if the Committee had any questions.
 - a. The Committee did not have any questions on the action item log.
- b. Dave acknowledged an ongoing action item to have an Executive member of BC Hydro present at the RCLC meeting, and that at this meeting, Ken McKenzie, Executive Vice-President, Site C, was present completing this action item for the year.

3. BC Hydro Project Update

2018-2019 Site C Update

Ken McKenzie introduced himself as the Executive Vice President of Site C, and thanked the attendees for the opportunity to present to the Committee. Ken provided an update on his background as an engineer and his career with BC Hydro, which extends over 30 years and started as a geotechnical engineer back in 1988.

Ken outlined BC Hydro Site C key objectives including: completing the project safely, upholding environmental and social commitments, upholding commitments to First Nations and stakeholders, to focus on quality, to complete the project on time, and to complete the project within budget.

Milestones from 2018

Ken outlined a number of 2018 Site C Milestones, including:

- a) Placement of roller-compacted concrete (RCC) on the right bank, which he explained is to provide a stable and safe foundation for the powerhouse, the spillways and the dam itself. This project was completed ahead of schedule in early October, a significant accomplishment which allows the Site C GSS civil contractor to begin construction of the powerhouse.
- b) Completion of the north bank excavation; works that had been underway since 2015 and involved the removal of 11 million m³ of earth (enough to fill BC Place six times).
- c) Diversion tunnel excavation began in August with two drilling machines known as road headers drilling from the inlet portal on the upstream side of the dam. In the winter, concurrent excavations are scheduled to begin from the outlet portal downstream. Ken explained that the diversion tunnels will temporarily allow BC Hydro to reroute the Peace River through two tunnels on the north bank, so that the construction of the dam across the main river channel can be completed. The river diversion milestone can only happen in September of any year because of low river flows.
- d) Highway 29 realignment work was initiated at Cache Creek West. Up to six highway segments (approximately 30 km in total) will be realigned; the first section covers 4 km in the area of Cache Creek West.
- e) The Site C substation was another 2018 milestone which includes construction of the transmission line and transmission line clearing activities.
- f) The final 2018 milestone discussed was a progress report on non-construction activities including some of the social and environmental commitments that BC Hydro has advanced.

Video Played: Drone Video of Site C was played. Link: <https://youtu.be/GtQCcy83V5EI>

Looking Towards 2019

Ken outlined a number of 2019 Site C activities, including:

- a) With 641 days to go until diversion, BC Hydro is focusing on meeting the river diversion timeline of September 2020.
- b) Excavation of the diversion tunnels on the north bank will continue at the dam site.

- c) Development of the 85th Avenue industrial site and the construction of the conveyor belt to transport materials to the dam site.
- d) BC Hydro substation construction and transmission line work.
- e) Highway 29 construction work continuing, as will the conclusion of some larger procurements related to this work. BC Hydro will continue to work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI), as well as, the District of Hudson's Hope and other key stakeholders with a focus on impacts from the highway construction work to the communities.
- f) Clearing work will continue in the reservoir and along the transmission line corridor throughout the winter season. BC Hydro is committed to keeping the communities informed with respect to truck movements, hauling of wood and eventually the burning of debris.

On-Site Update

Steve Abbey introduced himself as the on-site Construction Environmental Risk Manager and stated he was filling in for Ross Turner, Acting Director, Site C Construction Management. Steve provided an update on on-site construction for Site C for the rest of 2018 moving into 2019.

- a) Steve discussed the backfill and excavation activities still on-going at site.
- b) Steve stated that the tunneling for the outlet portal is scheduled to begin December 7, 2018 and that two additional machines have been shipped to site to have four in total.
- c) Steve discussed the south bank powerhouse and spillway, what will be an 800 m long structure, and also the right bank drainage tunnel which is just over 1 km in length, of which approximately 900 m has been excavated with the remaining excavation to be completed in January.
- d) Also addressed was the powerhouse buttress and the amount of roller-compacted concrete used this year: specifically, 240,000 m³ in the powerhouse buttress, 70,000 m³ in the tailrace wall, and 135,000 m³ in the spillway apron and west wall.
- e) The spillway excavation was outlined, roughly 450,000 m³, which is anticipated to be complete by April 2019 to allow for RCC placement.
- f) No questions were asked about on-site dam work.

Off-Site Update

Chris Waite, the Director for Highway 29 Realignment, Transmission and Reservoir Clearing provided an update on the timeline and areas of construction located outside of the dam site, including the Highway 29 realignment, reservoir clearing, transmission line, and the substation.

- a) Chris stated that once complete, the Site C Substation will be the largest in BC Hydro's fleet at 400m x 800 m, with two 500 kv lines.
- b) Six step-down transformers are installed and will feed Fort St. John and Taylor, through two 138 kv transmission lines, once energized and the first new 500 kv line is installed.
- c) Pending work includes clearing of 192 hectares of the western portion of the transmission line corridor, which will start in December.
- d) Chris mentioned that 120 towers are anticipated to be constructed between now and the spring of next year. A total of 405 towers are required to be installed for both 500Kv lines.
- e) The two steel structures have been erected at the Peace Canyon switchyard where the two 500 kv lines will connect. The civil work for the outdoor switchyard is complete.

Electrical equipment will arrive over the winter and installation of equipment is expected to be completed by the end of next summer.

- f) For Highway 29 realignment, Chris mentioned that up to six segments may need to be aligned. He shared that BC Hydro is starting work on the Environmental Assessment Certificate Amendment for the new alignment at Cache Creek/Bear Flat, and it will be developed over the winter with the plan to submit it by the end of March. He stated that there will be a 580 m long bridge at Cache Creek.
- g) Chris discussed the Cache Creek West alignment, a 4-km segment that construction started on this fall. The contractor is currently producing aggregate for the highway construction and has constructed a haul road that connects the borrow area to the new highway right-of-way alignment.
- h) Chris outlined the reservoir clearing schedule and indicated the regions on the map where clearing will be done before diversion in 2020 in advance of inundation scheduled for 2023. Chris mentioned that debris has been piled in the lower reservoir and BC Hydro is currently waiting for appropriate venting windows before starting burning activities within the reservoir.
- i) A question was asked by McLeod Lake Indian Band as to whether the warmer fall 2018 temperatures impacted the construction schedule. Ken McKenzie answered this question and stated that the fall temperature helped with the construction schedule and that BC Hydro was able to get more work done, including the roller-compacted concrete placement.
- j) A statement and question was asked by Fort St. John as to BC Hydro's procurement plans for paving and Highway 29 contracts because local governments and the airport may be completing with BC Hydro for contractors. Chris Waite answered that for Highway 29, the next large procurement will be the Halfway River segment and will be done by MoTI, and that we will have multiple procurements between 2019-2020.

Action Item: BC Hydro will provide its upcoming procurement schedule for paving or highway type contracts to the RCLC so local governments and the airport can take that into account in planning their procurements.

- k) A question was asked by PRRD regarding reservoir clearing; specifically that the photos provided showed evidence of regrowth, and wanted to know BC Hydro's plans to deal with the regrowth? Chris Waite responded that the BC Hydro forestry is looking into that issue and that they are consulting with our engineers. The aspen should not grow enough to pose a problem; however, woody debris could come down from the Halfway River. Steve Abbey stated that debris booms will be put in place to help control this.

Action Item: BC Hydro will update the RCLC about the clearing schedule which will include any activities required to address regrowth if needed.

- l) Follow-up statement from Taylor regarding invasive species/weeds control, as well as concerns on woody debris. Taylor wanted to know what BC Hydro was doing to control this. Steve Abbey explained that BC Hydro has an invasive species program on construction sites, which includes vehicle wash stations. If BC Hydro's footprint is in an invasive species-laden area, then BC Hydro has mandatory requirements for all vehicles to be washed as an invasive species control measure.
- m) Follow-up question by Taylor as to who on the ground is enforcing the procedures with respect to invasive species control and whether there was someone enforcing this or if it

was up to the contractors. Steve explained contractors monitor compliance against their environmental protection plans and that BC Hydro staff also monitor compliance with the Construction Environmental Management Plan. In addition to those monitors, both provincial and federal regulators are on-site monthly examining these issues and ensuring that BC Hydro meets compliance.

- n) A question was asked by PRRD regarding the Highway 29 realignment map slide and whether this slide was reflective of where the realignment is taking place, noting that it looks to be right in the river. Shanna Mason explained that the map in the slide was meant to highlight those segments of the highway that will need to be realigned as a result of the reservoir (and why it appears with the reservoir overtop of these segments), versus the new location of the segments.
- o) Hudson's Hope stated that the map is good with general proximity, but that it is not specific as to where we are going. Hudson's Hope stated that the community is interested in seeing the final alignments once complete.

EAC Amendments and Program Update

Shanna Mason, the Director of Regulatory Environment, Social, Properties and Communications, Site C, provided an update on EAC amendments and environmental programs.

- a) Shanna explained that EAC Amendments are required for Site C if the design change is outside what was described in the Project Description of the **Environmental Impact Statement**. Shanna stated that previously there was an amendment for the spillway and that this was shared with the RCLC in early 2018.
- e) Shanna outlined current amendments related to the Site C project.
- f) Shanna discussed two new Site C Project information brochures provided to the RCLC; a fish and aquatic program brochure, and a wildlife program brochure. Shanna stated that BC Hydro will be producing more of these brochures and for the local governments to notify us if they have suggestions for topics. BC Hydro is planning a brochure to provide archeological program information.
- g) A question was asked by McLeod Lake Indian Band regarding the BC Hydro Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, and if there is going to be a similar program for the Site C Dam. Shanna stated that \$10 million has been set aside for Site C with intention for this to be used for high priorities in aquatic or wildlife, as determined in consultation with First Nation groups. Shanna stated that BC Hydro has not established how they are going to administer these funds, but would be engaging soon on this topic including with the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Fund committee.

Community and Social Mitigation Update

Nancy Pepper introduced herself as the Manager of Community and Social Mitigation, Site C.

- a) Nancy outlined some of the community and social mitigation projects that have recently been occurring.
- b) A recap of the Generate Opportunities "GO" Fund was given along with a handout of the 2018 GO Fund award recipients.
- c) The BC Affordable Housing Project was discussed and Nancy shared that Fort St. John had organized a tour of the Passivhaus project under construction for local construction companies to share knowledge about the energy efficient building standard.
- d) McLeod Lake Indian Band asked which communities were able to apply for GO Fund funding. Nancy stated she would follow up with an answer to McLeod Lake Indian Band.

Action Item: BC Hydro to provide the list of communities that are able to apply for GO Fund funding to McLeod Lake Indian Band.

4. Jobs and Businesses

Dave Conway provided a job and business update.

- a) Recent procurements underway or in the future were discussed, including GSS Balance of Plant in RFSQ, Highway 29 realignments, and supporting works.
- b) The Workforce Report for September, 2018 was provided to the Committee and discussed. Employment continues to increase on the Project as work ramps up as shown in the workforce report. A total of 3,746 workers were reported in September, 748 of which were from the PRRD.
- c) The Public Enquiry and FAQ report was provided to the Committee and reviewed.
- d) The Q3 business report was provided to the Committee and discussed. The report lists 448 companies engaged by BC Hydro and Site C contractors to provide goods and services to Site C construction from July-September 2018.
- e) PRRD asked if BC Hydro had any long-term plan to relocate BC Hydro employees in the Peace region to Prince George. Ken McKenzie stated that he is not aware of any movement of employees out of the region, and that BC Hydro will take this as an action item to respond to the Committee on this.
- f) Hudson's Hope stated that there was a commitment to retain people in the community and that they are engaged in communications regarding this important topic with BC Hydro.

Action Item: BC Hydro will follow-up with the PRRD and Hudson's Hope on whether there is a long-term plan to relocated Peace region staff to Prince George.

5. Contractor Updates

- a) PRHP provided an update and stated that the RCC had wrapped up for this season, and that they were focusing on the inlet and outlet tunnels, working on spillway excavation, getting ready for 85th avenue and till conveyor.
- b) ATCO provided a contract update and stated that there were about 1400 workers at camp, that they were not hiring until January, and that there were some upcoming projects that they were looking for suppliers for.
- c) AFDE provided a contract update that they had started work on the powerhouse, that there were six units in the powerhouse, and that 13,000 cubic meters of concrete had been laid.
- d) VOITH provided an update. Chetwynd had a question regarding if there were any welders from the Peace River Area working for Voith, and the qualifications necessary.

Action Item: BC Hydro to provide to Chetwynd the number, if any, of welders that Voith Hydro employs from the Peace River Area, and the required licence.

6. Roundtable

- a) Taylor provided an update that they were pleased local contractors and suppliers were being used and used well. Taylor expressed concerns regarding if BC Hydro was providing any contractual guarantee that subcontractors would be paid in accordance with their contracts. BC Hydro responded that this is a matter between subcontractors and their employers but BC Hydro would follow-up with a contractor to confirm contracts are being followed. Taylor asked if there are any securities by BC Hydro. BC Hydro responded that subcontractors would negotiate that as part of their contract but BC Hydro does not cover contractor's subcontractors.
- b) Fort St. John stated that they were pleased to hear about the extra policing and happy about the progress with the housing project. It was stated that Fort St. John would be working closely with municipal and the airport on a paving project. Also mentioned was the Site C hospitality shuttle and that the city has received very positive feedback on the program.
- c) PRRD stated that they are not sure why south Taylor is not eligible for GO Fund funding.
- d) Chetwynd stated that they felt it is important to employ more local people for key management and decision-making roles, not only as labourers.
- e) PRRD stated that even for technical roles they hope that BC Hydro will be able to retain local workers long term. Thanked BC Hydro employees for Jackfish Lake Road meeting and stated that the local residents appreciated it.
- f) Hudson's Hope stated that they were looking forward to participating in the traffic management plan. Hudson's Hope would like updated mapping of the Highway 29 alignment in Hudson's Hope.

Action Item: BC Hydro will involve and meet with Hudson's Hope to discuss the traffic management plan.

Action Item: BC Hydro will follow-up with Hudson's Hope on mapping for the Highway 29 realignment in the District.

7. Next Steps

- a) The Committee discussed possible dates for the next meeting. Two options were discussed for review:
 - i) Wednesday, March 13
 - ii) Wednesday, March 20
- b) Concern was raised with March 20th being the spring break.
- c) The action items will be sent to the Committee.