

## FIELD STUDIES INFORMATION SHEET

### April 2011 – Geomorphology and Sediment Transport Studies

The Site C Clean Energy Project (Site C) is now in Stage 3, the environmental and regulatory review phase, which will include an independent environmental assessment. Stage 3 work includes conducting environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River between the Williston Reservoir and the Alberta border. BC Hydro anticipates formally entering the environmental assessment process in early 2011 with the submission of a Project Description Report to the provincial and federal environmental assessment agencies.

BC Hydro is continuing Geomorphology and Sediment Transport Studies started in 2010. The study will characterize baseline river geomorphology, or shape of the river channels, and sediment transport rates at sites along the Peace River and its tributaries. These studies will be used to assess the potential effects of the Site C project on river geomorphology, and specifically, potential changes in water turbidity, fish habitat and areas of erosion or deposition.

In 2010, BC Hydro installed suspended sediment gauging stations at five sites on the Peace River, Pine River, Halfway River and Farrell Creek. The equipment includes a turbidity sensor anchored to the river bed with a cable running up the river bank to a data logger housed in a metal case.

This spring, equipment will be re-installed at four of the locations established in 2010. At the same time, similar equipment and housing will be installed at two additional sites, one on the Peace River, above the Moberly River, and one on the Moberly River.

Installation of equipment at the six sites is planned for April 2011. Once installed, there will be regular site visits between April and October 2011 to collect data, check equipment and perform maintenance. Field crew access will be by boat and foot. BC Hydro has obtained the necessary permissions for entry onto private land.

For further information, please contact:  
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### GEOMORPHOLOGY AND SEDIMENT TRANSPORT STUDIES April 2011

- BC Hydro is continuing the Geomorphology and Sediment Transport Studies started in 2010
- Monitoring equipment will be installed at 6 sites along the Peace River and tributaries
- Studies will characterize baseline river morphology and sediment transport rates
- This information will be used to assess the potential effects of the Site C project on sediment movement, erosion/deposition, turbidity and fish habitat
- BC Hydro will obtain the necessary permissions before land is accessed
- Knight Piesold Ltd., Consulting Engineers and Environmental Scientists is leading the work