

FIELD STUDIES INFORMATION SHEET

Clearing Plan Investigations: May – November 2011

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 spring 2011 with the submission of a Project Description Report to the provincial and federal environmental assessment agencies.

BC Hydro is developing an updated clearing plan as part of the reservoir preparation plan work underway. The clearing plan will include a forest inventory, evaluation of clearing access road options, and evaluation of waste wood disposal options.

The clearing plan field investigations will include a field assessment of the feasibility of existing and planned access roads for reservoir clearing activities. The plan will include environmental and social considerations as options are identified and assessed. The field investigations will enable the evaluation of terrain and vegetation conditions in order to investigate the feasibility of access road options, and to support the development of an updated forest inventory.

During the field investigations this spring and summer, forestry professionals will be looking at the terrain and trees to assess the feasibility of existing and planned access routes for clearing activities. This work involves either walking the previously proposed clearing access routes, or by using a helicopter to conduct an aerial assessment of the proposed route. Field crews will be using handheld devices such as compasses and a distance measuring device to measure terrain and vegetation attributes. Crews will take pictures of terrain and vegetation conditions, as well as measurements of vegetation. If previously proposed clearing access routes are confirmed as infeasible then nearby areas would be assessed within the parcel for potentially feasible clearing access.

When the use of helicopter access is determined to be the best method for assessing the proposed route, property owners will be notified in advance.

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

For further information, please contact:
Kate O'Neil, Community Relations
Site C Clean Energy Project
Community Consultation Office – Fort St. John
Office: 250-785-3415 Cell: 250-793-5416

CLEARING PLAN INVESTIGATIONS May – November 2011

- BC Hydro is conducting clearing plan investigations for the Site C project
- An independent contractor is leading the work
- BC Hydro will obtain the necessary permissions before land is accessed and assessment work is performed