

## MONTHLY FIELD STUDIES SUMMARY

### February 2014

The Site C Clean Energy Project is currently undergoing a cooperative environmental assessment by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEA Agency) and the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office (BCEAO), which includes a Joint Review Panel process.

BC Hydro filed its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in January 2013 and in August 2013, the CEA Agency and the BCEAO determined that BC Hydro's amended EIS was satisfactory. BC Hydro has now entered the Joint Review Panel Stage.

BC Hydro is continuing to conduct environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River between the Williston Reservoir and the Alberta border to inform detailed mitigation planning, prepare project permits, and ensure information is gathered with respect to monitoring programs proposed in the EIS.

This notice provides a list of field work planned for February 2014. Helicopters may be required for some of this work.

#### Overview

#### **Engineering Investigations**

- Geotechnical Investigations for South Bank Access
- Instrumentation Monitoring

#### Wildlife Studies

• Jackfish Lake Moose and Elk Monitoring Program

#### **Physical Environment Studies**

Climate and Air Quality Monitoring

Current and previous field study activities are available at www.sitecproject.com/news-and-information/field-study-notices and in the Community Consultation offices in Fort St. John and in the Pearkes Centre in Hudson's Hope.

Regular and ongoing BC Hydro work may also be taking place on the Peace River and tributaries related to BC Hydro's Peace River water licence requirements or other operations work.

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# February 2014

Study Name	Description	Timing
Engineering Investigations – Geotechnical Investigations for South Bank Access	BC Hydro is conducting geotechnical investigations between February and March on the south bank of the Peace River along a 34 kilometre route primarily within the existing transmission line corridor and parallel to the CN railway.	February – March 2014
	Should the Site C project proceed to construction, this route is a potential corridor for vehicles accessing the south bank dam site and for the movement of dam construction materials and equipment.	
	Contractors will be using an auger to drill holes between approximately 150 to 200 mm in diameter and up to five metres deep under frozen and snow-covered ground conditions.	
	Cuttings generated from the auger drilling will be used to backfill the holes upon completion.	
	All disturbed areas will be restored to the present conditions.	
Engineering Investigations – Instrumentation Monitoring	BC Hydro is continuing instrumentation monitoring at the proposed dam site and along the reservoir shoreline.	February – October 2014
Monitoring	There are approximately 80 sites throughout the reservoir area where geotechnical instruments are installed.	
	These sites are visited approximately every three to six months throughout the year for reading and maintenance.	
Wildlife Studies – Jackfish Lake Moose and Elk Monitoring	BC Hydro is conducting a moose and elk monitoring study on the south bank of the Peace River, around the Jackfish Lake Road area, between the Peace River and Chetwynd, and in the area of the	December 2012 – April 2015
Program	transmission corridor right-of-way.	Phase II, tracking collared animals,
	The first phase of the study took place between winter 2012 and spring 2013, and involved the capture and outfitting of 32 moose and elk with GPS	occurs between May 2013 and April 2015.
	collars.  Phase II involves tracking collared animals for up to	Additional capturing and collaring will occur in winter 2014.

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	two years, and phase III, the final phase, will involve removing the collars from the study animals following the monitoring period. Ground based track surveys will also be conducted to document road crossings.  Capturing and collaring (by aerial net guns) of	
	additional study animals will take place in Winter 2014.	
Physical Environment Studies - Climate & Air Quality Monitoring	BC Hydro is collecting climate and air quality data from monitoring stations on private and BC Hydro owned land between Hudson's Hope and Old Fort, south of Fort St. John.	Ongoing monitoring from February 2009.
Monitoring	Information on various climate parameters is being gathered, including: air temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, fog frequency and density, snow depth and precipitation. Monitoring of particulate matter (mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets in the air) will be conducted at Old Fort, Halfway River and 85 <sup>th</sup> Avenue.	
	These data were used to establish baseline conditions that informed the effects assessment of the Site C project on in-valley climate and air quality in the area. BC Hydro is continuing to collect the data to verify actual changes should the project be built and to forecast periods of high tributary inflows for construction planning.	
	BC Hydro also monitors climate within the Peace River watershed in order to forecast periods of high tributary inflows for construction planning.	
	Stations are visited regularly to retrieve data and for maintenance. Access to the monitoring stations is by vehicle, foot and helicopter.	

Note: Access to public and private land may be required in order to complete study work. BC Hydro will obtain permission from land owners and provide notification to BC Hydro leaseholders before entry onto private or leased lands.

