

**IN THE MATTER OF THE *ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT* S.B.C. 2002,
c.43 (ACT)**

AND

**IN THE MATTER OF
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATE #E14-02
HELD BY BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND POWER AUTHORITY**

**FOR THE
SITE C CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT**

**AMENDMENT #4 (AMENDMENT)
TO CERTIFICATE #E14-02**

WHEREAS:

- A. On October 14, 2014, the Minister of Environment, and the Minister of Energy, Mines, Petroleum Resources, issued Environmental Assessment Certificate #E14-02 (Certificate) to British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority.
- B. The Certificate authorized British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) to construct and operate the Site C Clean Energy Project 7 km south west of Fort St. John, BC.
- C. On June 22, 2018, the Certificate was amended (Amendment #1) to revise the design of the generating station and spillway of the Site C Clean Energy Project.
- D. On October 26, 2018, the Certificate was amended (Amendment #2) to lengthen Halfway River Bridge to address geotechnical concerns.
- E. On July 24, 2018, the Certificate was amended (Amendment #3) to allow the use of aggregate material from West Pine Quarry for the purposes of construction of the Highway 29 realignment, shoreline protection near Hudson's Hope, and areas along the reservoir requiring protection during reservoir filling.
- F. On November 27, 2018, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority submitted an application to amend Conditions #4 and #13 of Schedule B of the Certificate (Amendment #4). The application seeks to permit the use of machines for reservoir clearing in riparian areas when worker safety is at risk.
- G. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Act, the Executive Director has delegated to the undersigned, powers and duties under the Act, including the power to consider requests for certificate amendments.

NOW THEREFORE,

I amend the Certificate as follows:

The second bullet of Condition #4 of Schedule B shall read:

- Maintain a 15 m machine free zone adjacent to watercourses during reservoir clearing (as measured from the Ordinary High Water Mark), **except where worker safety prohibits manual tree falling and vegetation removal methods and as addressed in a site-specific prescription prepared and endorsed by a QEP. The rationale for the safety exemption must be documented in the prescription.**

The fourth bullet of condition #13 of Schedule B shall read:

- Retention of non-merchantable trees and vegetation in riparian areas within a 15 m buffer from the Ordinary High Water Mark. Merchantable trees and vegetation that may protrude above 455 m elevation may still be removed using clearing practices to maintain a 15 m machine-free zone from the OHWM, **except where worker safety prohibits manual tree falling and vegetation removal methods and as addressed in a site-specific prescription prepared and endorsed by a QEP. The rationale for the safety exemption must be documented in the prescription.**



Scott Bailey
Assistant Deputy Minister, Environmental Assessment Operations
Environmental Assessment Office

Issued this 12th day of February 2019