

MONTHLY FIELD STUDIES SUMMARY

June 2013

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

BC Hydro filed its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in January 2013 as part of this process. 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 June 2013. Helicopters may be required for some of the work listed below.

Overview

Socio-Economic Studies

- Heritage Study Program
- Forestry Surveys

Engineering Investigations

- Geotechnical Investigations for Road Upgrades
- Traffic Counts
- Topographic Surveys
- Instrumentation Monitoring

Wildlife Studies

- Waterfowl Survey
- Jackfish Lake Moose and Elk Monitoring Program

Physical Environment Studies

- Geomorphology and Sediment Transport Studies
- Climate and Air Quality Monitoring

Current and previous field study activities are available at **bchydro.com/sitec** 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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June 2013

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Study Name	Description	Timing
Socio-Economic Studies – Heritage Study Program	Starting in June and running through October, BC Hydro will be continuing the Heritage Study Program of the Site C project area. The assessment will identify, record and evaluate archaeological, historical and palaeontological sites located within the proposed Site C project area; assess potential impacts by the Site C project to these sites; and recommend mitigation options. The majority of the work will be shovel tests, as well as visual inspections of areas with good soil exposures, such as freshly tilled fields. Crews will be primarily on foot, with land access by road or boat, supported occasionally by helicopter or all-terrain vehicles.	June – October 2013
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Socio-Economic Studies – Forestry Surveys	Forestry surveys will be completed on the south bank at the proposed dam site. Survey teams, comprising two technicians per team, will be using topographical equipment and a global positioning system (GPS) to conduct the forestry sampling. Survey results will be used to update the forestry inventory. Access will be by road, boat and helicopter.	May 2013
Engineering Investigations – Geotechnical Investigations for Road Upgrades	BC Hydro is conducting geotechnical investigations during the month of June on Old Fort Road, between Highway 97 and 240 Road; and 271 Road, between the Wuthrich Quarry and Highway 97. BC Hydro representatives will be using an auger to drill holes between approximately 150 to 200 mm in diameter and up to 5 m deep. 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. Drilling will be completed on the road shoulder or in the ditch line. Traffic management (flagging), will be provided, where necessary; however, no road closures are anticipated.	June 2013



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Study Name	Description	Timing
Engineering Investigations – Traffic Counts	BC Hydro is conducting traffic counts in Fort St. John to record volumes of vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians.	June 2013
	Crews, comprising four technicians, will be located off to the side of the roadways. Traffic operations will be recorded with a video camera at select locations. This activity will not disrupt traffic or traffic activities.	
	Traffic counts will be conducted at the following locations in Fort St. John: - 100 Avenue at W. Bypass Road (just north of Highway 97), 108 Street, 100 Street, W 86 Street and 79 Street - 100 Street at 112 Avenue, 93 avenue and 85 Avenue - 86 Street at 89 Avenue - 96 Street at 93 Avenue - Old Fort Road at 242 Road, 85 Avenue, 240 Road - 85 Avenue at 269 Road - Highway 97 at Old Fort Road, 100 Street, 96 Street, 85 Avenue, and 86 Street Traffic counts will typically be conducted between Monday and Friday during the following periods: 6:00 a.m 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m 7:00 p.m.	
Engineering Investigations – Topographic Surveys	BC Hydro is conducting topographic surveys on Jackfish Lake Road, starting at the Highway 29 intersection and for approximately 16 kilometers north. The surveys are gathering data to advance the design of the shoulder widening for Jackfish Lake Road. Crews, typically comprised of two or three technicians, will inspect the general topography of the existing road and surrounding areas, including taking photographs, inspecting slopes, creek, and drainage channels. Work will include completing topographical surveys, and establishing primary control by marking the route using 2" by 2" wooden markers and tie ribbons.	June – July 2013



-4-June 2013

Study Name	Description	Timing
Engineering Investigations – Instrumentation Monitoring	BC Hydro is continuing instrumentation monitoring in the proposed dam site area. 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.	June 2013
Wildlife Studies – Waterfowl Survey	BC Hydro is conducting a waterfowl survey on the Peace River from Hudson's Hope to the B.C Alberta border. The survey will involve using a low-flying helicopter that will fly slowly over the river to perform an inventory of waterfowl present. The survey will take place once a month in mid-March, mid-April, mid-May and mid-June and will take place over the course of six hours per day.	March – June 2013
Wildlife Studies – Jackfish Lake Moose and Elk Monitoring Program	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 transmission corridor right-of-way. 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 collars. Phase II involves tracking collared animals for up to two years, and phase III, the final phase, will involve removing the collars from the study animals following the monitoring period.	December 2012 – April 2015 Phase II, tracking collared animals, occurs between May 2013 and April 2015.
Physical Environment Studies – Geomorphology and Sediment Transport Studies	BC Hydro is continuing geomorphology and sediment transport studies started in 2010, and continued in 2011 and 2012 to characterize baseline river geomorphology, or shape of the river channels, and sediment transport rates at sites along the Peace River and its tributaries. BC Hydro will continue maintenance and operation of four turbidity monitoring stations located on either	April – December 2013



-5-June 2013

Study Name	Description	Timing
	river bank both upstream and downstream of the Site C dam site. In addition, BC Hydro will continue suspended sediment data collection during freshet for the Moberly River and will install new turbidity monitoring stations just upstream of the town of Taylor and at the Spectra gas plant water intake. Regular site visits will take place between May and December 2013 to collect data, check equipment and perform maintenance. Field crew access will be by boat and foot.	
Physical Environment Studies - Climate & Air Quality Monitoring	BC Hydro is collecting climate and air quality data from seven monitoring stations on private and BC Hydro owned land between Hudson's Hope and Old Fort, south of Fort St. John, as well as seven climate monitoring stations throughout the Peace River watershed.	Ongoing monitoring from February 2009.
	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 and Halfway River.	
	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.	
	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.

