

File: 9000076

January 14, 2016

Bettina Sander Regulatory Manager BC Hydro and Power Authority Four Bentall Centre 1100-1055 Dunsmuir Street Vancouver, V7X 1V5

Dear Bettina Sander:

<u>Re:</u> River Level Gauge Station for Peace River - Notification for Changes In and About <u>Stream</u>

On December 9, 2015, the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations received a Water Act – Notification Application # 9000076 from BC Hydro Power Authority to install a River Level Gauge Station within the Peace River for monitoring water levels to facilitate management of instream construction activities. The proposed works associated with the installation of a water level measuring device are consistent with *Water Regulation, Sec. 44 1(e)* - *the construction, maintenance or removal of a flow or water level measuring device in a stream by the Crown in right of either Canada or British Columbia, or their agent.*

It is the Ministry understanding that instream works will be undertaken as prescribed within application submitted and;

- The site location of the river level gauge station is not found within a high value fish and fish habitat: spawning and rearing area.
- Sediment control measures / best management practices will be implemented, including installation of a turbidity curtain to isolate the work area to minimize and maintain turbidity levels at minimum during operations.
- Within 30 days of commencement of instream works, BC Hydro is to provide the Independent Environmental Monitor (IEM) a copy of the Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) document, including a description of a sediment control plan and water quality monitoring plan including any subsequent revisions to these documents. The IEM will be given adequate time to review, accept, and sign-off the associated EPP document (including EPP revisions) prior to commencement of any works; of which BC Hydro shall implement and make the necessary changes to the EPP document as requested by IEM.



- Provide the ministry, upon request, a copy of a sediment and erosion control plan detailing measures to protect the environment in the form of an "Environmental Protection Plan" document.
- Ensure an assessment of Heritage Resource features has been completed on the proposed area and notify the Independent Environmental Monitor if any new Heritage Resource Feature values have been identified during the completion of any pre-construction surveys or ongoing works.

BC Hydro and Power Authority will continue to follow best management practices, provincial, and federal legislative requirements for instream works.

All works in and about a stream must be compliant with applicable provincial, federal and municipal legislation/regulations including; but not limited to, the <u>Water Act</u>, <u>Water Regulation</u>, <u>Peace Terms and Conditions</u>, and Site C – Clean Energy Project – Construction and Environmental Management Plan requirements. It is also expected that all work will be consistent with the <u>Standards and Best Practices for Instream Works</u>.

The effective date of this Notification is January 14, 2016. If you have any questions and/or concerns regarding this communication, I can be contacted at (250) 774-5530.

Míke D'Alnía

Sincerely

Mike D'Aloia, RFT, RBT Water Officer Northeast Region