

Site C Clean Energy Project

Regional Community Liaison Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary
April 22, 2016, 9:30am to 12:00pm MST
Fort St. John

ATTENDEES <i>Regional Community Liaison Committee Members</i>	<p>Mayor Merlin Nichols, Chetwynd Doug Fleming, CAO, Chetwynd Mayor Dale Bumstead, Dawson Creek Mayor Lori Ackerman, Fort St. John Councillor Larry Evans, Fort St. John Councillor Byron Stewart, Fort St. John Dianne Hunter, City Manager, Fort St. John Councillor Dave Heiberg, Hudson's Hope Tom Matus, CAO, Hudson's Hope Mark Diffin, Land Referral Office Manager, McLeod Lake Indian Band MLA Pat Pimm, Peace River North Area B Director Karen Goodings, Peace River Regional District Area C Director Brad Sperling, Peace River Regional District Area D Director Leonard Hiebert, Peace River Regional District Area E Director Dan Rose, Peace River Regional District Councillor Andre Lavoie, Pouce Coupe Mayor Rob Fraser, Taylor Dave Conway, BC Hydro Melanie Dame, BC Hydro Siobhan Jackson, BC Hydro Bob Peever, BC Hydro Edie Thome, BC Hydro</p>
ABSENT WITH REGRET	<p>MLA Mike Bernier, Peace River South Cindy Fisher, Constituency Assistant, Peace River South</p>
INVITED GUESTS	<p>Jessica McDonald, President and CEO, BC Hydro Danielle van Huizen, BC Hydro Mike Bebbington, Peace River Hydro Partners John McPherson, Peace River Hydro Partners CK Jang, Peace River Hydro Partners Ardith Brule, Peace River Hydro Partners Amber Harding, Peace River Hydro Partners Danielle Hartley, ATCO Two Rivers Lodging</p>

1. Introductions

Committee members and invited guests introduced themselves.

- a) As a follow up to action items from the March 11, 2016 meeting, invited guests included Jessica McDonald, President and CEO of BC Hydro and representatives from Peace River Hydro Partners, the main civil works contractor, and ATCO Two Rivers Lodging, the worker accommodation contractor.

2. Opening / Welcome / Agenda

- a) Jessica McDonald welcomed everyone, noting that BC Hydro values their engagement in the committee. The committee will help BC Hydro and the communities become more closely linked, handle any issues as they arise and ensure communities get the information they need.
- b) Members asked for clarification on the managed open site labour model for the project, as many are hearing concerns from local workers and contractors about the unions working with the project contractors.
- c) Members were interested in receiving more information on sub-contracting opportunities for local companies, with context around First Nations joint ventures, and asked for information about direct awards to First Nations, including a list of what work has been direct awarded. Members would also like to know how the recent Supreme Court decision recognizing Metis and non-status Indians would affect BC Hydro's direct awards for Site C.
- d) Members asked Jessica McDonald about the long-term role of the committee.
- e) BC Hydro addressed the questions and concerns of the members:
 - a. Site C will have a managed open site and there will be a mix of union and non-union workers on the project. The contractors will decide how to best meet their guarantee to BC Hydro to deliver their work on time and on budget. Work is already occurring on site with non-traditional unions, traditional unions and non-union workers. BC Hydro has an opportunity to address how contractors and workers communicate with each other on these issues.
 - b. There are direct award commitments within the agreements that BC Hydro is making with First Nations regarding Site C. There have been a number of direct awards in the early works, as there was a strong alignment with the capability within the First Nations and the type of work available. To qualify for a direct award, it must be an Aboriginal company, which BC Hydro currently defines as a company that has at least a 51% Aboriginal ownership. These may be joint ventures with non-Aboriginal companies. However, there will continue to be opportunities for local businesses.

Action: BC Hydro will look into creating a list of the work that has been direct awarded.

Action: BC Hydro will address how the recent Supreme Court decision recognizing Metis and non-status Indians will affect BC Hydro's direct awards for Site C at a future meeting.

- c. Jessica McDonald noted that it is important for the committee to have a discussion on the long term role of the committee, and how communities will continue to be engaged after the eight years of construction.
- f) Edie Thome provided an overview of the agenda, noting that in addition to discussion with the contractors in attendance and reviewing the Terms of Reference, there would be time to address any other items of interest.

3. Discussion with Peace River Hydro Partners and ATCO Two Rivers Lodging

- a) Peace River Hydro Partners (PRHP) addressed member's questions about the unions they work with, noting that all types of workers are welcome on site. PRHP will have a Labour Relations representative on site shortly and any issues or concerns related to the unions or members can be reported to that representative. PRHP works with their unions to ensure they understand that the project is an open-managed site.
- b) PRHP clarified that Aboriginal joint ventures or companies are not a requirement to gain work on the project and that there are plenty of opportunities for local companies, Aboriginal companies and joint venture companies.
- c) Members would like to know how workers and contractors receive information on handling certain types of situations with the unions.
 - a. PRHP will provide this type of information in a site orientation.
 - b. BC Hydro recognizes that there is a need to connect contractors and government representatives directly to address issues immediately.
- d) Ensuring there are opportunities on the project for local workers and contractors is a concern for many members and it is important to know how many locals are working on the project.
 - a. PRHP clarified that they are able to hire who they want and are hiring local workers. PRHP provides monthly reports on their job numbers to BC Hydro, which includes information on where the workers are from.

Action: BC Hydro will share data on jobs, including information on the number of workers from the Peace River Regional District, with the committee.

Action: BC Hydro will look into including a section on reporting in the Terms of Reference.

- e) ATCO Two Rivers Lodging provided information on the job and business opportunities that are available. They are looking to hire local workers and encourage their sub-contractors to hire local and Aboriginal workers.
- f) ATCO Two Rivers Lodging addressed questions about how they approached procurement of local fire service for the worker accommodation camp.
- g) ATCO Two Rivers Lodging addressed questions about the hauling of water and sewer along 273 Road, which will end shortly once the on-site water and sewer infrastructure is completed.
- h) Members are concerned about the information that ATCO Two Rivers Lodging is providing to local contractors about unions.
 - a. In relation to the unions that ATCO Two Rivers Lodging is working with, they have agreements around how workers are hired, and noted that sub-contractors are not obliged to be unionized.
- i) Members asked that ATCO Two Rivers Lodging share their monthly job numbers.
- j) Members also asked that ATCO Two Rivers Lodging meet directly with the North Peace Economic Development Commission to discuss business opportunities and the Peace River Regional District's Area C Director to discuss the worker accommodation camp's water and sewer infrastructure.

Action: BC Hydro will share data on jobs, including information on the number of workers from the Peace River Regional District, with the committee.

Action: ATCO Two Rivers Lodging will arrange to meet with the North Peace Economic Development Commission to discuss business and sub-contracting opportunities.

Action: ATCO Two Rivers Lodging will arrange to meet with the Peace River Regional District's Area C Director to discuss the worker accommodation camp's water and sewer infrastructure.

4. Discussion of current issues

- a) At the request of members, two items were added to the agenda:
 - a. Dam site activities and aviation restrictions
 - b. The status of the Fort St. John Community Consultation Office
- b) Bob Peever explained that he initiated a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) due to safety concerns around the dam site. He explained that there will be drilling and blasting at the dam site, as well as in Wuthrich quarry and the West Pine quarry. The NOTAM that was initiated has been lifted but BC Hydro will continue to investigate when NOTAMs may be needed due to public and worker safety issues.
- c) Members commented that they heard concerns from the public about the NOTAM being too broad and that it covered a blanket period of time, i.e. for the duration of construction. There is also concern about the impacts that NOTAMs could have on commercial operators. Members would like more details on how BC Hydro will understand and address the impacts of NOTAMs.

Action: BC Hydro will communicate to the committee when an application is made for a NOTAM, what the application is for and what BC Hydro receives.

- d) Members have heard concerns from the public that they are not able to access the Community Consultation Office due to the door being locked.
- e) Edie Thome provided information on the status of the Fort St. John Community Consultation Office, noting that many of the workers in the office have relocated to the construction site office. BC Hydro is exploring if the Community Consultation Office will remain in its current space, but is committed to finding a solution that balances the need for public availability and interaction with safety and security concerns.

5. Review of Action Items

- a) Members asked for changes to be made to the action item log, including the addition of more details related to the outcome or solution for an action item, as well as ensuring that any follow up discussions related to actions are conducted with all appropriate members.

Action: BC Hydro will update the Action Item Log to incorporate more details in the outcome and solutions to the actions.

Action: BC Hydro will provide an update to the Peace River Regional District's Area E director on the south bank access to the dam site area.

Action: BC Hydro will provide information to the Peace River Regional District's Area C director on the work on the widening of Old Fort Road, as the jurisdiction for part of the road has changed.

6. Discussion of Committee Terms of Reference

The committee discussed the draft Terms of Reference, which will be updated for review and finalization at the next meeting. The topics that were discussed and to be revised include:

- a) Procedure for reporting
- b) Meeting locations and teleconference options
- c) Communications
- d) Chair or co-chair role and responsibilities

7. Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting is Friday, May 27 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The meeting will be held in Fort St. John with the venue to be determined.