

## FIELD STUDIES INFORMATION SHEET

### Rare Plants Study: July - September 2011

The Site C Clean Energy Project (Site C) is now in Stage 3, the environmental and regulatory review phase, which will include an independent environmental assessment. Stage 3 work includes conducting environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River between the Williston Reservoir and the Alberta border. BC Hydro formally entered the environmental assessment process in May 2011 with the submission of a Project Description Report to the provincial and federal environmental assessment agencies.

BC Hydro is conducting rare plant surveys to collect additional baseline data on locally, provincially, nationally and globally rare plants within the proposed project area. Surveys will occur within the Peace River valley, within and adjacent to sites that will be directly affected by the proposed project, along the transmission line, and within the broader Peace Region between July and September 2011.

This field study will build on the rare plant surveys BC Hydro conducted in 2005, 2006 and 2008. Sampling will be conducted by a professional botanist and field technician. The focus will be on areas containing high-probability features within and immediately adjacent to project footprints. Additional sampling will be conducted within the broader region for species believed to be extremely rare on the landscape.

Rare plant surveys will take place over a minimum of two sample periods, widely-separated across the growing season, to ensure that plants with different times of emergence and flowering are sampled in their prime condition.

Specimens will be collected for later confirmation of field identification. Photos will be taken to record occurrences and when it may not be appropriate to remove a specimen due to small numbers of individual plants.

Accessing properties for the field studies will be through a mix of road, quad and foot. A boat may be required to access some portions of the river where there are no roads to access the requisite locations.

For further information, please contact:  
Kate O'Neil, Community Relations  
Site C Clean Energy Project  
Community Consultation Office  
Fort St. John  
Office: 250-785-3415 Cell: 250-793-5416

#### RARE PLANTS STUDY July - September 2011

- BC Hydro is conducting a rare plant study in the Peace Region
- Specimens will be collected and photographed
- BC Hydro will obtain permissions before land is accessed
- Keystone Wildlife Research is leading the work