

Site C Clean Energy Project

Regional Community Liaison Committee Meeting

*Meeting Summary
December 7, 2016, 12:00pm to 2:00pm
Fort St. John*

<p>ATTENDEES <i>Regional Community Liaison Committee Members</i></p>	<p>Brenda Apsassin, Blueberry First Nations Louise Cardinal, Blueberry First Nations Norma Pyle, Blueberry First Nations Mayor Merlin Nichols, Chetwynd Doug Fleming, CAO, Chetwynd Mayor Dale Bumstead, Dawson Creek (By phone) Mayor Lori Ackerman, Fort St. John Moira Green, Director of Strategic Services, Fort St. John Councillor Dave Heiberg, Hudson's Hope Tom Matus, CAO, Hudson's Hope Area B Director, Karen Goodings, Peace River Regional District (By phone) 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 Charlette McLeod, CAO, Taylor Siobhan Jackson, BC Hydro Dave Conway, BC Hydro Mike Clark, BC Hydro Matt Drown, BC Hydro Glenda Carson, BC Hydro Wendy Laluk, BC Hydro</p>
<p>ABSENT WITH REGRET</p>	<p>MLA Pat Pimm, Peace River North Georgia Green, Constituency Assistant, Peace River North MLA Mike Bernier, Peace River South Cindy Fisher, Constituency Assistant, Peace River South Jim Chute, CAO, Dawson Creek Cec Heron, Doig River First Nation Dianne Hunter, City Manager, Fort St. John Mark Diffin, Land Referral Office Manager, McLeod Lake Indian Band Chris Cvik, CAO, Peace River Regional District Mayor Lorraine Michetti, Pouce Coupe Christopher Leggett, CAO, Pouce Coupe Mayor Don McPherson, Tumbler Ridge</p>

	Jordan Wall, CAO, Tumbler Ridge Bob Peever, BC Hydro Edie Thome, BC Hydro
INVITED GUESTS	Amber Harding, Peace River Hydro Partners

Documents Distributed (via email on December 6, 2016)

Agenda - December 7, 2016

Action Items Tracking Log – December 6, 2016

Site C Project Update Presentation – December 7, 2016

Workforce Report – September 2016

BC Hydro Site C Public Enquiries Report October - November 2016

1. Opening / Welcome / Agenda

- a) Blueberry River First Nations elder provided an opening prayer for the meeting.
- b) Review of Agenda and request for any additional items by Siobhan Jackson. Edie Thome sends her regrets. Roundtable introductions were done to welcome new members.

2. Review of Action Items

- a) 2016-014 and 2016-041 are still in progress.

3. BC Hydro Project Update

Mike Clark discussed the current and upcoming construction activities on the Site C project.

- a) West Pine Quarry mobilization will begin mid-December.
 - a. A member asked for clarification on the location of the quarry.
 - b. BC Hydro clarified that it is located approximately 60km south west of Chetwynd, on Highway 97.
 - c. A member asked when the first trains will pass through Chetwynd from the quarry.
 - d. A member asked where the crew working at the quarry will stay.
 - e. Amber Harding responded that a crew of 25 will be working at the quarry. Employees who do not live in Chetwynd will be staying in Chetwynd hotels.
 - f. Siobhan Jackson confirmed that the commitment to conduct a traffic analysis has been completed.
 - g. A member commented that hauling from West Pine Quarry could begin by truck, instead of by rail, and that the number of trucks could impact Chetwynd.
 - h. Amber Harding responded that trucks will not be used for hauling from West Pine Quarry.
 - i. A member commented on the condition and use of Jackfish Lake Road.
 - j. BC Hydro stated that if upgrades and repairs are needed on Jackfish Lake Road for the project, they will be completed. BC Hydro is implementing additional pavement monitoring, which will identify damage to roads and support the need for repairs.

Action: BC Hydro will provide the Committee with a timeframe for when trains traveling from West Pine Quarry to the dam site will start traveling through Chetwynd.

Matt Drown discussed the current and upcoming transmission work for Site C.

- b) Current and upcoming transmission work.
 - a. A member asked about measures that would be in place to prevent the spread of noxious weeds related to the project and concerns with the recent BC Hydro Dawson Creek/Chetwynd Area Transmission (DCAT) project.
 - b. BC Hydro shared that there is a requirement to control noxious weeds. Contractors will be required to control noxious weeds, which would include washing vehicles and possible removal or treatment of noxious weeds. More details will be available once the environmental protection plans are received from the contractors.
 - c. A member mentioned that the Peace Region has an invasive plant committee and that BC Hydro would be welcome to attend.
 - d. Siobhan Jackson responded that BC Hydro has been pleased to attend in the past and will look into attending an upcoming meeting.
 - e. A member asked about the swamp mats that may be used on the transmission line project and the potential for the mats to spread noxious weeds.
 - f. A member asked about the maintenance of access roads and if the access roads would be temporary or permanent.
 - g. BC Hydro shared that the access to the transmission line will use existing access roads, which will be returned to the same condition as they were prior to BC Hydro using them for the project. For example, if they were previously decommissioned, they will be returned to a decommissioned state. Any re-seeding of roads would be done with a mix of native seeds, not a forestry mix, and this activity would not lead to a spread of noxious weeds. Native seed mix is also used at the dam site.
 - h. Siobhan Jackson added that BC Hydro chose to use existing access roads outside of the right-of-way rather than constructing new roads. New access roads on the right-of-way constructed for the tree clearing will be re-used for line construction.
 - i. A member raised a concern with the snow fencing used on the DCAT project, which was not strong enough to prevent livestock from getting into the excavations (dugouts) around the foundations. Should similar work be required on Site C, more suitable fencing should be used.

Action: Members are encouraged to forward any additional lessons from the construction of DCAT, in case there are lessons that can be applied to the Site C project.

Mike Clark continued the presentation on current and upcoming construction activities.

- c) Topics included the 85th Avenue Industrial Lands and conveyor belt, the Moberly River bridge, the need for roller compacted concrete (RCC) and the handling of materials.
 - a. A member asked if the Moberly River bridge is being constructed by the same company as the temporary Peace River construction bridge.
 - b. BC Hydro shared that a different company is building the Moberly River bridge.
 - c. A member asked if more recent construction photos are available.
 - d. BC Hydro shared that updated photos are posted to the Photo & Video gallery on the [Site C website](#) on a monthly basis.
- d) Glenda Carson provided an overview of the Site C worker accommodation lodge.

- a. Siobhan Jackson mentioned that in the planning stages for the project, BC Hydro was aware of the competition for skilled workers and was advised to build the camp to attract and retain skilled workers. BC Hydro also aims to provide workers with access to diverse recreation and medical services to promote their well-being and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Siobhan Jackson provided information on procurement, regional business participation and employment.

- e) A member commented on the low number of businesses from outside of Fort St. John who are working on the project, sharing a statement from the project website that says BC Hydro is committed to working with Peace Region communities to provide local contracting and employment opportunities.
- f) Siobhan Jackson shared that BC Hydro must abide by the inter-provincial trade agreements that are in place.
- g) A member asked if some of the Fort St. John businesses were legitimate local businesses.
 - a. BC Hydro has provided a list of local and regional companies that are working on the project.
- h) Dave Conway shared that BC Hydro has held business liaison meetings in Peace Region communities, to promote business opportunities on the project, since 2011.
- i) A member commented on the potential competition between Peace Region communities for contracts on the project.
- j) A member requested that prices for awarded contracts be shared so local businesses can be more competitive with future bids.
- k) Siobhan Jackson reminded Committee members that the list provided by BC Hydro is comprised of local and regional businesses who are sub-contractors with BC Hydro's contractors. Peace River Hydro Partners would have to confirm how they communicate with businesses.
 - a. Amber Harding shared that Peace River Hydro Partners has to source some specialized work outside the Peace Region. Peace River Hydro Partners is working to update their website with information about larger procurement opportunities available in 2017. Committee members are encouraged to have local businesses send information electronically to: procurement@prhp.ca
- l) Dave Conway shared that BC Hydro continues to encourage businesses to register with the Site C business directory, which is shared with the project's contractors, and to contact the contractors listed on our website directly.
- m) A member asked how many sub-contractors are working on the project, in total.
- n) Members commented on the percentage of Peace Region workers on the project and asked why less than half of Site C employees are from the region, when local unemployment numbers are high. The goal for regional employment on the project should be higher than 60%.
 - a. BC Hydro shared that ATCO has advertised for positions in the region but has not received the response they needed locally.
 - b. Peace River Hydro Partners shared that some local operators do not have the required qualifications to work in the type of sloped conditions found at the dam site. They have also decided to change their current work schedule from 21 days on and 7 days off to 14 days on and 7 days off, which should help retain local workers.
 - c. Peace River Hydro Partners has a relocation policy and many employees in the office are planning to purchase homes in the Fort St. John area.

- d. A member stated that the goal of 60% local employment on the project needs to be supported by local communities and information on Site C employment opportunities should be shared.
- o) Siobhan Jackson shared that the Generating Stations and Spillways – Civil Works contract will be awarded in 2017 and it is the project's second largest contract. BC Hydro's forecast for peak employment is in years 5 and 6.

Action: Dave Conway will contact Dawson Creek to discuss how BC Hydro has engaged local businesses to promote opportunities on the project. This information can also be shared with the Committee, as other members expressed interest in this information.

Action: BC Hydro will provide the total number of sub-contractors working on the project.

4. Public Enquires and FAQ Report

Siobhan Jackson reviewed the report and asked for feedback on the usefulness of the information.

- a) Since May, the project has received approximately 200 enquiries per month – 75% regarding jobs. Approximately six to ten enquiries per month are related to construction concerns and have been focused on the public road improvements.

5. Community Concerns and Solutions Discussion

- b) BC Hydro is preparing for upcoming construction activities and will provide residents located in the vicinity of the work with information on the construction activity, prior to its starting. The information will be provided by mail drop and notices in local publications, like Coffee Talk.
- a) There is an opportunity for Committee members to connect with their community to inform them of upcoming activities and direct them to BC Hydro if they have further questions.

6. Roundtable

- a) Karen Goodings asked if the project has a decommissioning plan.
 - a. Siobhan Jackson responded that BC Hydro does not plan to decommission Site C and was therefore not required to submit a plan in the Environmental Assessment process.
- b) Dan Rose thanked BC Hydro for providing the employment and business numbers. They are important and he would like to see more locals being hired. All of the communities should provide the same message to BC Hydro and its contractors, while also encouraging community members to apply. Dan would also like to see the number of sub-contractors from the Peace Region increase.

7. Next Meeting

- a) A date for the next meeting was discussed. The preference is for a Wednesday in early March. Melanie Dame will contact the committee with a few date options.
- b) The action items will be sent to the committee.