

Site C Clean Energy Project

Regional Community Liaison Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary
September 13, 2023, 1:30 to 3:30 pm MST/PDT
Meeting via MS Teams

ATTENDEES <i>Regional Community Liaison Committee Members</i>	<p>Mayor Lilia Hansen, City of Fort St. John</p> <p>Mayor Allen Courtoreille, District of Chetwynd</p> <p>Mayor Travous Quibell, District of Hudson's Hope</p> <p>Director Dan Rose, Area E, Peace River Regional District</p> <p>Steve McLain, CAO, District of Chetwynd</p> <p>Chris Cvik, Interim CAO, District of Hudson's Hope</p> <p>Margaret McDonald, BC Hydro Liaison, McLeod Lake Indian Band</p> <p>Milo MacDonald, CAO, City of Fort St. John</p> <p>Councillor Tashana Winnicky, District of Hudson's Hope</p> <p>Kevin Henderson, CAO, City of Dawson Creek</p> <p>Moira Green, CAO, District of Taylor</p> <p>Jim Morgan, ATCO</p> <p>Shanna Mason, BC Hydro</p> <p>Bob Gammer, BC Hydro (RCLC Chair)</p> <p>Dave Hunter, BC Hydro</p> <p>Greg Scarborough, BC Hydro</p> <p>Jerry Muir, BC Hydro</p> <p>Ben Rauscher, BC Hydro</p> <p>Chris Waite, BC Hydro</p> <p>Kate O'Neil, BC Hydro</p> <p>Wendy Laluk, BC Hydro</p> <p>Frances Pedroso de Almeida, BC Hydro</p>
INVITED GUESTS	
ATTENDED	Kelvin Ketchum, BC Hydro
ABSENT WITH REGRET	<p>Mayor Brent Taillefer, District of Taylor</p> <p>Councillor Betty Ponto, District of Taylor</p> <p>Jennifer McCracken, Lands & Resources Manager, Doig River First Nation</p> <p>Mokles Rahman, CAO, District of Hudson's Hope</p> <p>Naiomi McKinnon, McLeod Lake Indian Band</p> <p>Stephanie Rocheleau, Land & Stewardship Director, McLeod Lake Indian Band</p> <p>Dan Davies, MLA, Peace River North</p> <p>Tamara Wilkinson, Constituency Assistant, Peace River North</p>

	<p>Mike Bernier, MLA, Peace River South</p> <p>Lisa Ward, Constituency Assistant, Peace River South</p> <p>Councillor Raymond Johnston, Village of Pouce Coupe</p> <p>Aleen Torraville, Interim CAO, District of Tumbler Ridge</p> <p>Chief Justin Napoleon, Saulneau First Nations</p> <p>Shawn Dahlen, CAO, Peace River Regional District</p> <p>Troy Van Bostelen, AFDE</p> <p>Jamie Bodnarchuk, PRHP</p> <p>Adriana DaCosta, MOTI</p> <p>Patricia, Blueberry River First Nations</p> <p>Director Jordon Kealy, Area B, Peace River Regional District</p> <p>Mayor Darcy Dober, Dawson Creek</p> <p>Director Leonard Hiebert, Area D, Chair, Peace River Regional District</p>
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Documents Distributed for the September meeting:

- RCLC Meeting Agenda
- RCLC Action Item log
- RCLC Q2 Business Report
- RCLC June 7, 2023 Meeting Notes

Opening / Welcome

- Bob welcomed all attendees.
- Round table introductions and acknowledgment of traditional territories.

Review of Agenda & Action Items

Bob reviewed the agenda and action items.

BC Hydro Project Update

Dam On-site Construction Update

Chris Waite provided updates about on-site construction activities.

Off-Site Construction

Katrina Kelly provided an update on off-site construction activities.

Reservoir Filling and Operations – David Hunter, Project Manager and Kelvin Ketchum, Principal Engineer

NOTE: Information in this update was based on the latest project schedule available and was accurate on the date it was reported and is subject to change.

- Dave provided an update on the Site C reservoir filling timeline including an update on key work fronts supporting potential start of reservoir fill between mid-October to mid-November, Peace River System operational requirements including downstream ice and minimum flow

requirements, compliance with environmental regulations such as spring to summer bird nesting window and outstanding regulatory approvals from the Comptroller of Water Rights.

- Dave reconfirmed that, for safety reasons, the reservoir, including new boat launches, will be inaccessible for at least one year after filling while we monitor for slope stability.
- Anticipating fall start of reservoir fill, the Halfway River boat launch will remain open via a gravel access road from Highway 29 for the 2023 season until Saturday, September 23.
- Dave provided an update on Reservoir Filling Wildlife Mitigation & Monitoring including discussion the many Project measures to avoid, reduce, or off-set potential impacts on wildlife in the reservoir area. Many of these, which are regulatory requirements, were developed through extensive discussion through Indigenous nations and regulators. Despite these mitigations, reservoir filling will impact some animals such as reptiles, amphibians, rodents and bears.
- To minimize impacts on hibernating bears, most of the reservoir vegetation has been removed. As well, Indigenous nations and BC Hydro crews are removing bear dens in the reservoir area.
- B.C. Conservation Officer Service and cultural monitors will be available to monitor the reservoir area during filling for displaced, or distressed animals through aerial and ground surveys.
- Contact the B.C. Conservation Officer Service through the Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) Hotline at 1-877-952-7277 for animals in the reservoir areas during filling that require support. Kelvin explained how the Site C dam will operate after completion.
- Moira asked how downstream communities are notified in regard to their potable water system.
 - Kelvin explained that the Site C team is working with communities.
 - Shanna offered that downstream water levels fluctuate hourly. In discussions with downstream communities, BC Hydro can determine at what level discharge they wish to be notified.
- Shanna asked everyone if they understood the period of time between reservoir filling and producing power. There will be a point in time when the reservoir begins to fill. Once the diversion tunnels are closed, the spillways will pass flows until enough turbines are in place to produce power without spill. This could take a number of months. There will be a continuous flow of water in the river downstream of the project of at least 390 m³/s and usually more.
- Kelvin confirms that the reservoir level is expected to be closer to its regular range by February to April 2024. Under the current schedule, the first turbine could be ready by February with the last one about 10 to 12 months later.
- Dave Hunter added that when the first generating unit is in service, the spill will be reduced and will reduce further with each subsequent unit.

ATCO Decommissioning Update – Shanna Mason, Director Regulatory and Environmental

- The project will be reaching its end soon and the Worker Accommodation camp assets will need to be repurposed. Our objective is to minimize the waste of these assets. Our contractor, Colliers has been reaching out to do a market sounding and Jocelyn Paul's team has been in discussions with First Nations communities as well as crown corporations and government. Third parties also have ideas of how they'd like to see these assets used.
- A few exciting updates. BC Hydro has been in discussion for a number of years with Treaty 8 First Nations. They are looking for locations and options to have a cultural centre and the core camp may be a good option. Part of BC Hydro's commitment to First Nations is to have a cultural centre. The 2,200-person camp won't be needed by Treaty 8. Industrial users are interested in the dormitory facilities.
- It has been very helpful to know there is interest in these assets. BC Hydro will continue to work with Colliers to engage and continue market sounding until January 2024.

Communications Update - Bob Gammer, Community Relations Manager

- BC Hydro has been working to spread safety information regarding reservoir filling which could occur as early as this fall. Staff have hosted a number of information sessions in May in Fort St. John and Hudson's Hope as well as a virtual session.
- Team members were recently out in the community to do outreach regarding reservoir filling by attending the North Peace Fall Fair, the Chetwynd Harvest Festival and the Moose FM Block party in Fort St. John.
- In earlier presentations, BC Hydro has made announcements on major milestones such as the dam completion in July and tunnel conversion last week.

Jobs and Business Update Kate O'Neil, Stakeholder Engagement Advisor

Kate provided an update on Site C jobs and business participation.

Contractors Update

Jim Morgan, ATCO

- ATCO will continue to support the local workforce until the dam is completed. No more recruitment is needed as we look to reduce our staff numbers.
- ATCO is working with its employees who are PRRD residents to help locate other work options for them. A large number of workers will be required for a new project in Saskatchewan. We are looking to have continued employment for our workforce.

Round Table

- Dan Rose thanked BC Hydro for the updates, it is nice to see the project wind down. The community will miss the local jobs, but not for a while yet.
- Lilia Hansen thanked BC Hydro for the updates and shared that Fort St. John is looking to recruit and retain health care workers. 100th Street has reopened after upgrades. The new RCMP detachment office grand opening is this Friday, everyone is welcome to join the barbeque. Budget work for 2024 continues.
- Moira Green and staff have been working with Ben and Jerry to plan the back up water system for Taylor.
- Chris Cvik has been working on the water treatment plant as Hudson's Hope is currently on a temporary water system. The District has a meeting during UBCM scheduled with BC Hydro to discuss a permanent solution.
- Maggie McDonald reports that the McLeod Lake wellness centre is coming along nicely and looks spiffy. Maggie looks forward to the RCLC meetings and seeing other members.
- Kevin Henderson reports that the City of Dawson Creek has spent the majority of the summer recruiting to fill vacancies and now most are filled. The City's capital projects are doing well as the weather has been cooperative. Dawson Creek is also in full swing of budget season and will be attending UBCM next week.

Next Steps & Closing

The next meeting will be virtual on Wednesday, December 6, 2023.