

Darren Kahl Executive Vice President Site C Clean Energy Project P.O. Box 49260 Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1V5

November 29, 2024

Re: Notice of Site C Construction Activities: January to March 2025

As part of our ongoing commitment to engaging with Indigenous Nations, we consistently share updates about work happening at Site C. This letter outlines construction work taking place from January 1 to March 31, 2025. You can also read this letter online.

With many areas of the project complete, this is our final quarterly construction notification letter. For further project updates, please visit <u>SiteCProject.com</u>.

Site C reservoir filling was completed on November 7, 2024. The new reservoir's depth is about 52m at the dam, 36m at Halfway River, and 18m near Hudson's Hope.

In late October, the first of six generating units at Site C came into operation, following the required testing and commissioning process. The project remains on track to have all six generating units in service by the end of 2025.

Our focus for the upcoming period includes testing and commissioning additional generating units, as well as other work outlined below.

Construction activity overview: January to March 2025

- Monitoring the reservoir for wildlife impacts and slope stability.
- Construction and commissioning of the turbines and generators equipment.
- Construction of the balance of plant (mechanical, electrical, architectural scopes).
- Construction of modular instrumentation mast station buildings and the reservoir level monitoring building.
- Commissioning of the permanent fishway facility.
- Reclamation work in various areas of the project.
- Diversion tunnel decommissioning and backfilling.

For all activities described in this letter, the <u>necessary approvals</u> will have been obtained before work begins. Geotechnical site investigations, air quality monitoring, heritage and other field studies are ongoing. We'll continue to provide <u>annual field study notices</u> of these activities.

For the safety of the public and workers, please use caution when hunting, shooting, or setting traps in Site C project areas.

The following information outlines work taking place in different areas of the project.

Dam site

- Monitoring following reservoir fill completion:
 - Monitoring of the tailrace area for fish impacts from stranding or total dissolved gas is underway.
- Access roads: Crews will continue to maintain dam site access roads and existing south bank resource roads, including petroleum development roads.
- Main civil works and infrastructure:
 - Excavation, hauling and stockpiling of aggregate within the dam site.
 - Permanent dam site road construction.
 - Haul road realignments on the dam site.
 - Ongoing reclamation and recontouring of work areas no longer required for the project.
 - Continued operation and maintenance of the left bank drainage adit and right bank drainage tunnel.
 - Construction activities related to diversion tunnel backfilling will begin.
- **Permanent fishway facility:** Commissioning activities will continue.
- Temporary fishway facility: Decommissioning activities may begin.
- Turbines and generators:
 - Installation of the turbine and generator components in the powerhouse will continue.
 - o Commissioning activities will continue.
- Balance of plant:
 - Installation of electrical and mechanical equipment inside the powerhouse, drainage galleries, intakes and spillways will continue.
 - Construction of control rooms and office space within the powerhouse will continue.

Public roads and highways

- **Highway 29:** Work may occur at the future site of the Halfway River boat launch.
- **D.A. Thomas Road and Hudson's Hope Recreational Site:** Construction is paused for winter and will resume in the spring.

Peace River and reservoir area

- Archaeology: On-call archaeological studies, as required, anywhere on the project.
- **Removals:** Environmental clean-up of found contamination will take place. Acquired properties and structures located within impact lines will be removed or relocated. Construction signage will be removed from the waterway. Fences on acquired properties will be removed.
- Surveys and site investigations: Will take place within the reservoir area.

Environmental Assessment Certificate

Environmental Assessment Certificate #E14-02 for the project consists of Schedule A, the project description, and Schedule B, the conditions under which the project must be built and operated. If we wish to make a change to either Schedule A or Schedule B of the Environmental Assessment Certificate, we are required to submit a written request to the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO). The EAO consults with regulatory agencies, Indigenous Nations and/or the public on the request and issues a written decision on the request.

To date, we have requested and been granted 11 amendments to the Environmental Assessment Certificate. The most recent Amendment allows BC Hydro to retain temporary structures permanently in the reservoir and become submerged if retaining the structures will not have an adverse effect on fish or fish habitat.

BC Hydro is complying with all conditions of the Environmental Assessment Certificate and its amendments.

Water Licences and Leaves to Commence Construction/Diversion

We hold Water Licences for the diversion and use of water, the storage of water, and for the temporary and permanent fish passage facilities. During construction, we have applied for and received a series of Leaves to Commence Construction under the Water Licences to construct project works or components of project works.

These Leaves have authorized construction works, including but not limited to excavations and construction of cofferdams; generating station civil works and spillway civil works; construction of the temporary and permanent fish passage facilities, reservoir clearing and boat launch construction, Hudson's Hope berm construction, turbines and generators installation, balance of plant works, and right bank foundation enhancements.

In May 2023, the Water Sustainability Act Engineer issued a Leave to Commence Diversion under the Water Licences. This Leave authorizes tunnel conversion, reservoir filling, wet testing, and commissioning of the generating units and hydromechanical gates and decommissioning of the diversion tunnels.

Leave to Commence Operations for generating units was issued on October 7, 2024, allowing online testing and operation of all six turbines and generators of the Site C generating station.

Notice of completed activities

View all previously completed work in our construction bulletins and notification letters.

What to expect during construction

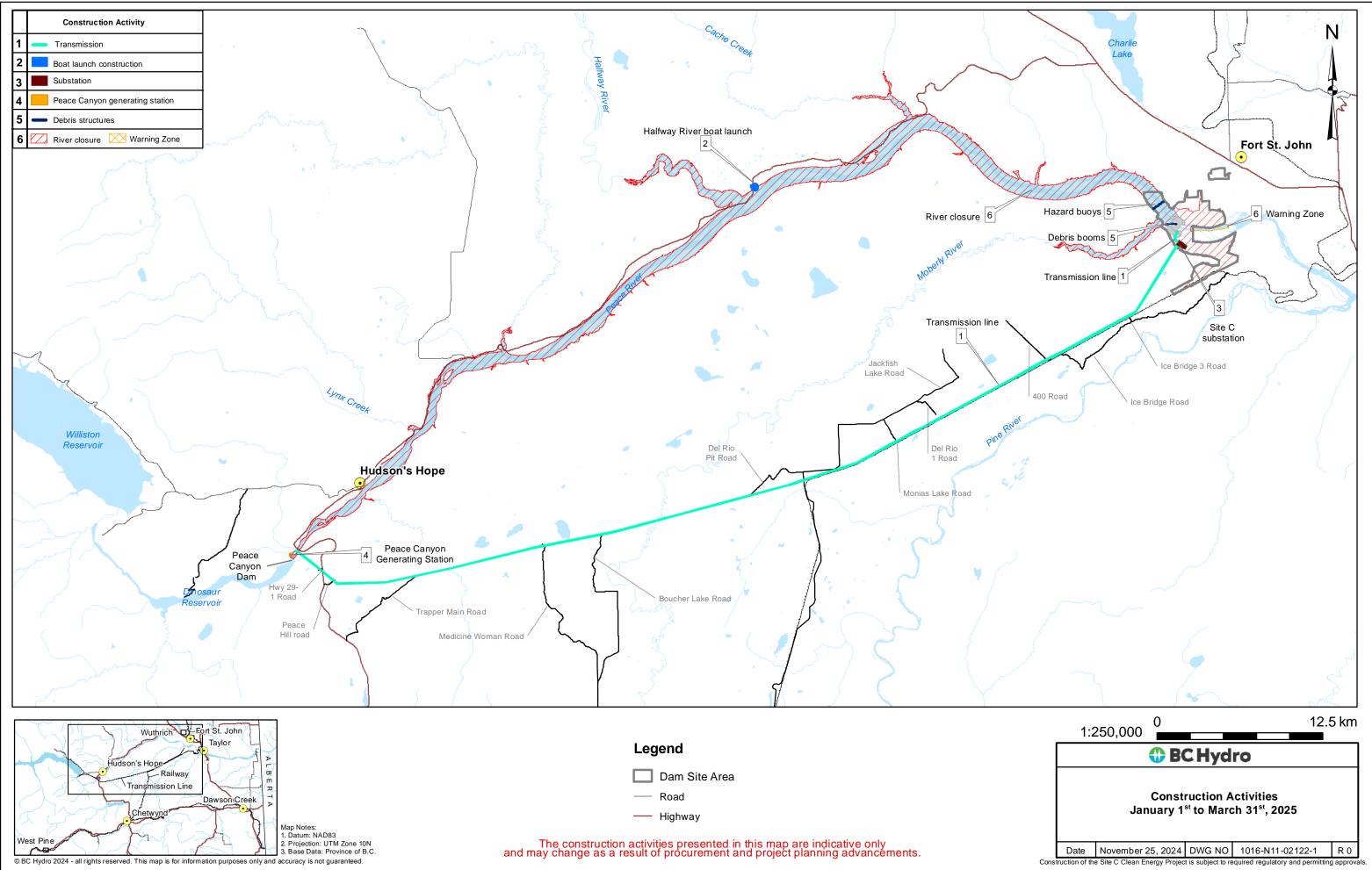
During this period, the following can be expected:

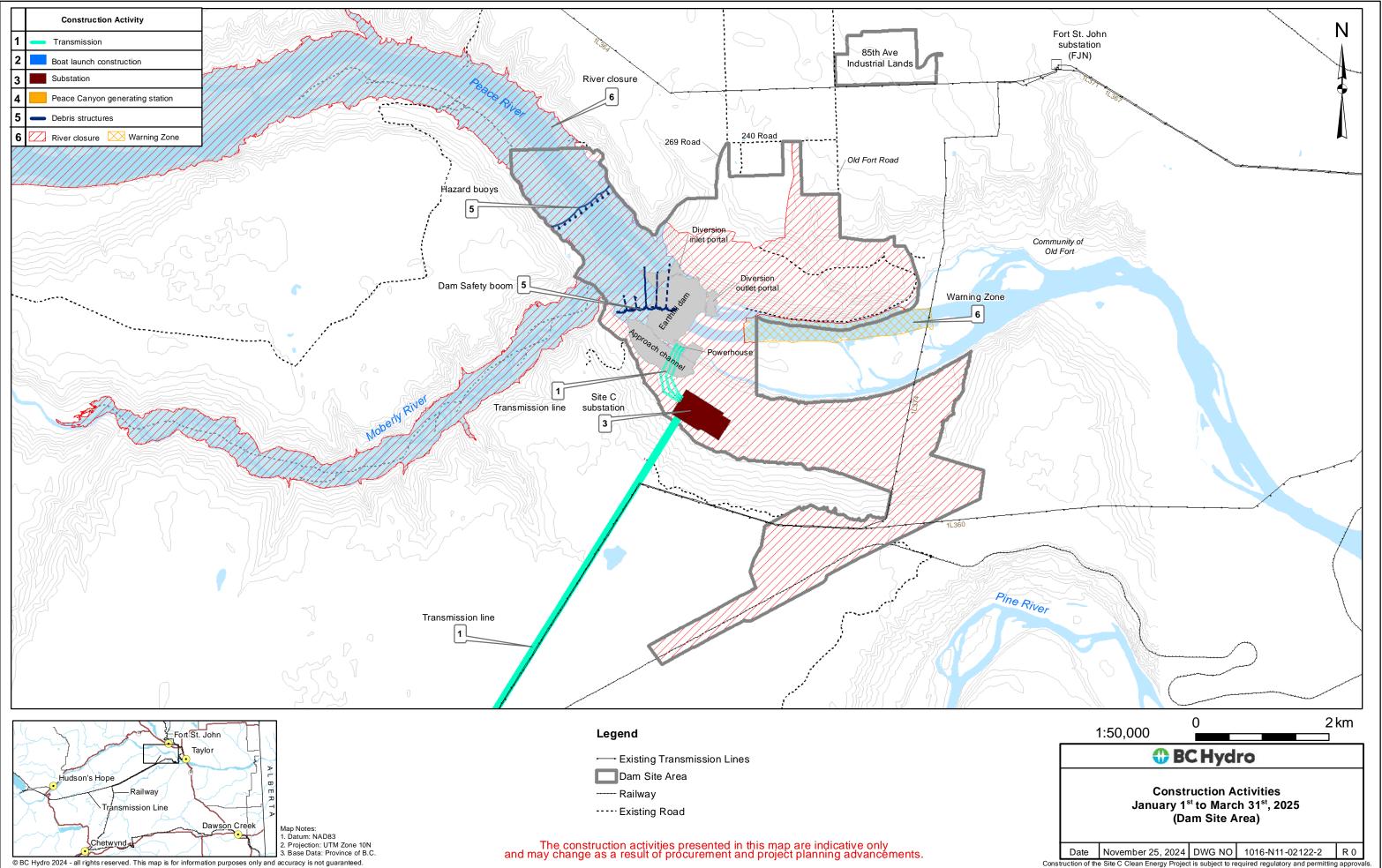
- Hazards on the water and public access: There are new hazards on the water and along the shoreline of the new reservoir. For public safety, access to the reservoir is strongly discouraged.
- **Boat launches:** All existing boat launches along the reservoir are permanently closed. New boat launches will remain closed until at least spring 2026.
- **River closure:** A short section of the Peace River upstream of the Peace River Construction Bridge is permanently closed at the dam site.
- In-river debris management systems: A permanent public safety debris boom is located at the approach channel for regular dam operations.
- Safety signage: Signs are placed around the reservoir to warn the public of hazards.

- **There will be project-related traffic** on public roads leading to the dam site, transmission line corridor, reservoir, and Highway 29.
- We're monitoring air quality in the Site C project area. This data is being added to the Ministry of Environment's <u>B.C. Air Quality Monitoring Data</u>. The Ministry uses this data to report on air quality trends. In the event of poor air quality, the Ministry will release air quality advisories through a notification list. If you're interested in being part of this notification list, please email <u>sitec@bchydro.com</u>.

Kindest regards,

Darren Kahl Executive Vice President, Site C | Clean Energy Project





Path: X:MrcGISProjec