SITE C CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT

FIELD STUDIES INFORMATION SHEET

April – September 2011 – Geotechnical Investigations

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 anticipates formally entering the environmental assessment process in early 2011 with the submission of a Project Description Report to the provincial and federal environmental assessment agencies.

To gather more information about shoreline conditions, BC Hydro is initiating geotechnical investigations along the proposed reservoir slopes. The study will begin with surface inspections of the reservoir slopes along the north side of the Peace River area in April. The second step is to conduct subsurface investigations between May and September. This will involve using a drilling rig to drill holes. Prior to the start of any drilling, BC Hydro will carry out archaeological and environmental assessments. In most of the drill holes, geotechnical instruments will be installed to monitor groundwater conditions and movement.

The study area includes the north bank of the potential reservoir from several kilometres upstream of Hudson's Hope to between Wilder and Tea Creek, and sites on the south bank of the Peace River, opposite the area between Lynx Creek and Bear Flat. This program consists of investigations on both private and Crown land.

To maximize safety and efficiency, helicopters will be used to access sites on the south bank during these investigations. For sites at Attachie and across from Bear Flat, it is anticipated that helicopters will be used approximately one hour per day, over a two month period, for mobilization of the field crew to the work sites. At these two sites, BC Hydro will transport supplies and equipment by truck.

For sites across from Lynx and Farrell Creek, helicopter use will be more extensive with up to three hours of flying required each day, over a two month period. Helicopters will be used to transport a heli-portable drill, personnel and supplies to the work site. The use of helicopters avoids the need to upgrade approximately 30 kilometres of existing access roads and the construction of approximately five kilometres of new access roads.

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GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS
April – September 2011

- BC Hydro is initiating reservoir geotechnical investigations in April 2011
- This study includes both surface and subsurface investigations, and the installation and monitoring of geotechnical instruments on both private and Crown land
- BC Hydro will obtain the necessary permissions before land is accessed
- Helicopters will be used to access test sites on the south bank
- BGC Engineering is leading the work

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