# CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

BC Hydro Power smart

December 10, 2021

# Site C Construction Schedule: December 11, 2021 – January 6, 2022



A view of the dam construction site with the approach channel pictured on the left. See more project photos in the image gallery.

#### News and highlights

- Happy Holidays from the Site C project team! Please note: There will be no Construction Bulletin on Friday, December 24. The next bulletin will be issued on January 7, 2022.
- Northern Development approves more than \$500,000 for 19 projects through the BC Hydro Peace Agricultural Compensation Fund. <u>Learn more</u>.
- A public comment period will take place from December 10 to January 14, regarding BC Hydro's application to amend its Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Site C project. The application is for the relocation of the proposed Cache Creek boat launch and day use area to a location east of the Halfway River. Learn more.
- BC Hydro is burning debris in Site C project areas, pending suitable venting and ground conditions. Learn more.

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#### **COVID-19 update**

Information about the number of active COVID-19 cases, the number of people in isolation, and the
overall number of cases at Site C continues to be updated on our website <u>here</u>.

### Dam site area - north bank and south bank

- The conveyor system used to transport earthfill dam material from the 85th Ave. Industrial Lands to site for placement in the dam has paused for the winter season. The conveyor has transferred 2.5 million tonnes of material to date as planned (from 2020 to 2021), allowing for 790,000 cubic metres of placement in the dam core this year, and a stockpile at site of 200,000 tonnes for placement next year.
- Excavation of the approach channel, drilling and grouting, and underground works on the north and south drainage features are underway. Placement of earthfill dam shell material continues.
- Powerhouse, spillway, and dam and core buttress construction continues. This includes concrete placements at the powerhouse, intakes and spillways. Installation of penstock segments also continues. Construction will pause from December 22 to January 6.
- Installation of steel piles continues as part of the <u>right bank foundation enhancements</u>. The piles extend the foundation further into the bedrock. As of November 30, 23 piles had been installed. Construction will pause from December 22 to January 6.
- Turbine and generator components and materials continue to be delivered to site for storage and installation. The turbine-embedded components installation for all six units is underway, and preassembly of larger components is ongoing in the main service bay of the powerhouse. The remaining four turbine runners are scheduled to be delivered to site over the coming months.
- Drainage improvements on the Site C transmission line right-of-way above the substation are on hold until transmission line stringing has been completed.
- Caution should be exercised at the shoreline upstream of the dam site area due to the headpond. Water levels could increase or decrease rapidly without warning. Learn more about headpond formation: <u>sitecproject.com/diversion</u>.

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Crews install the unit 1 pit liner and spiral case inside the powerhouse. See more project photos in the image gallery.

# Hudson's Hope shoreline protection berm

- The <u>construction of a 2.6-kilometre-long berm</u> to protect the shoreline of Hudson's Hope is in progress. Work includes producing, hauling and placing berm filter and riprap to bring the berm up to the design elevation. Riprap will be hauled to site from Portage Mountain Quarry. Construction work will pause from December 21 to January 4.
- Excavation, crushing, processing and stockpiling of aggregate within the berm site will occur. Construction will also pause from December 21 to January 4.
- The removal of the District of Hudson's Hope decommissioned water intake will begin.
- Water quality monitoring has been installed in the Peace River and a swift water rescue team is operating in the river during the work. Boaters are asked to obey signage and stay clear of the work area for safety reasons.
- BC Hydro continues to work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the road maintenance of Canyon Drive.

#### **Portage Mountain Quarry**

- Processing and stockpiling of riprap will continue, and then pause from December 21 to January 4.
- Rock hauling will continue from the Portage Mountain Quarry and stockpile areas to the berm worksite and to work areas along Highway 29.

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# **Highway 29 realignments**

- <u>Visit our website</u> for Highway 29 schedules, maps and construction updates.
- Cache Creek East (596-metre-long bridge and six-kilometre-long highway realignment)
- Construction of the highway grade has wrapped up for the season and will restart next spring.
- Steel bridge girders will continue to be delivered and assembled on site and installed on the foundations. This may require 24-hour work or into the night.

Halfway River (1.05-kilometre-long bridge and a three-kilometre-long highway realignment)

• Construction is paused for the winter and will resume next spring.

Farrell Creek East (3.5-kilometre-long highway realignment)

- Traffic has been moved onto the new highway alignment.
- Construction is paused for the winter and will resume next spring.

Farrell Creek (417-metre-long bridge and 1.9-kilometre-long highway realignment)

- Construction of the highway grade has paused for winter.
- Steel girders will continue to be delivered and stored on the site. Steel girder installation will begin in January.
- Single lane alternating traffic will be required periodically.

Dry Creek (158-metre-long bridge and 1.5-kilometre-long highway realignment)

- Concrete bridge parapet construction will occur, including installation of formwork and rebar. Concrete will be poured in multiple lifts, and may require 24/7 operation.
- Following parapet installation, construction will be paused for the winter.

Lynx Creek (152-metre-long bridge and 8.5-kilometre-long highway realignment)

- Highway construction will continue until mid-December and then pause for the winter.
- A traffic detour at the east end of the work site has been completed and will be in place until 2022. Periodic traffic stoppages will occur to allow off-highway haul trucks to cross the highway.
- Clearing and mulching of trees and vegetation adjacent to Highway 29 will occur.

# Reservoir area

- Road construction and logging activities are occurring between Cache Creek and Peace Canyon on the north and south banks of the Peace River and on its islands. Boats and helicopters are being used to support clearing activities. Merchantable timber is being hauled to local mills in Chetwynd, Fort St John and/or Dawson Creek.
- Helicopters will be transporting timber between Cache Creek and Peace Canyon as part of Site C reservoir clearing work being conducted from now until late March 2022. Learn more.
- Burning and processing of waste wood will continue this month. Burning will only occur when venting and ground conditions are suitable. <u>Learn more.</u>
- Access road improvements and foundation construction will occur in the Halfway River region for the rerouting of the existing transmission line that crosses the Halfway River, which will be impacted by the new reservoir.
- Field investigations may occur.

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## **Transmission works**

- Conductor stringing will continue on the transmission line between Site C and Jackfish Lake Road. Construction will pause from December 17 to January 4.
- Surveying, foundation painting, site clean-up and restoration activities will continue.

# WHAT TO EXPECT

Work will take place during the day, night, and on the weekend, until the project is completed. During this time, residents can expect:

### Boating

• The Peace River near the dam site is permanently closed to boater traffic. Being on or near the water around the Site C construction area presents a serious safety risk to river users. Boaters are urged to stay away from the area and observe and obey all signage and beacons.

### Traffic – please use caution and obey safety signage

- Old Fort Road: Near Gate B to the dam site, drivers may encounter loose gravel and increased commercial traffic. Due to equipment delivery, there may be <u>occasional short road closures</u> along Old Fort Road.
- **Highway 29:** Construction-related equipment will travel along Highway 29 and Highway 97. Drivers on the road are reminded to travel at a safe distance behind construction vehicles particularly near the Highway 29 road realignment sections. Learn more at <u>drivebc.ca.</u>
- Other areas: Trucks with heavy loads will be accessing the dam site and other project areas, using public and resource roads.

#### Equipment, noise, vibration and visibility

- Heavy machinery will be in the transmission line corridor. Please stay clear of the work areas.
- Helicopters and commercial drones may be used to support investigative and construction works.
- Some noise and vibration may occur near the dam site and work areas, including the quarries.
- There may be smoke and lower visibility in areas where wood debris burning is occurring.

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