

June 2017

# Re: Notice of Site C Construction Activities: July to September 2017

This letter describes the construction activities planned from July 1 to September 30, 2017. Please note that the following activities are based on our current construction schedule and plans and could change based on, among other things, direction from the provincial government. Should the project proceed as planned, the upcoming construction activities are provided below in this letter.

For the upcoming three-month period, construction is planned to focus on the advancement of earthworks at the dam site and continued preparation for work in other project areas. Work areas will include the dam site, the eastern, middle and lower reservoir, public roads used to access the dam site, segments of Highway 29, Hudson's Hope, Wuthrich Quarry, West Pine Quarry, Portage Mountain Quarry, and the transmission line corridor and access roads.

For all of the activities described in this letter, the necessary permits, authorizations, licenses or government approvals have been or will be obtained as required to proceed with the work. Geotechnical site investigations, air quality monitoring, heritage and other field studies are ongoing. BC Hydro will continue to provide annual field study notices of these activities. In all of the identified work areas, geotechnical site investigations, including the drilling of test holes, may be required.

### July to September 2017

The following construction-related activities are expected to commence, continue, or be completed in the period from July to September 2017:

### Dam site area

- <u>Clearing and debris management</u>: Vegetation and tree clearing may continue on the north and south banks. Wood waste and debris will be disposed or removed from site.
- Access roads: Crews will continue to maintain the dam site access roads and existing south bank resource roads, including the petroleum development roads. The main civil works contractor will construct and maintain access roads for their work areas.
- Excavation and material relocation: Excavation will continue on the north and south banks. Excavated materials will be moved to the designated relocated surplus excavation material (RSEM) sites on both the north and south banks. Dikes will be constructed for the RSEM sites and some dredging may be required. Work will continue as required to address the tension crack on the north bank of the dam site.
- Main civil works: The main civil works contractor will continue their construction activities
  on site during this period. In addition to the excavation mentioned above, this work will
  include:
  - Continued mobilization of crews, equipment and materials
  - Continued construction of site infrastructure
  - o Installation of geotechnical instrumentation on the north and south banks

- The continuation of earthworks on the north and south banks, including north bank slope stabilization and excavation for the powerhouse
- Blasting on the north and south banks
- Construction of the south bank drainage tunnel
- The initiation of excavation for the diversion tunnels.
- Continued excavation for the south bank approach channel
- Material will be crushed for the roller-compacted concrete (RCC) buttress on the south bank
- o Concrete batching will occur at the contractor's on-site batching facilities
- The foundation for the powerhouse buttress will be prepared and buttress construction will occur
- Construction of the RCC buttress
- Construction of the inlet and outlet cofferdams
- Construction of the north bank cofferdams
- Riprap placement along the cofferdams
- Ongoing excavation for the Site C substation
- Excavation will begin for the earthfill dam
- <u>Dam site security</u>: Security fences and signs will be installed and maintained. A security boat will patrol the Peace River.
- <u>Viewpoint</u>: Construction of the north bank viewpoint, and the access road leading to the viewpoint, reached substantial completion in fall 2016. Paving, landscaping and the installation of display and directional signs will occur in spring and summer 2017.
- <u>Turbines and generators contractor</u>: The turbines and generators contractor will continue to mobilize crews and equipment to their work area on the south bank and will continue construction of their temporary on-site manufacturing facility. Material required for the construction of the turbines and generators will be shipped to site by rail.
- <u>Distribution line</u>: Work may occur to extend an existing distribution line from Old Fort Road to the entrance of Myca Pit.
- <u>Site C substation:</u> Investigative works will occur for the Site C substation. The substation construction contractor will mobilize crews and equipment to the work area. Work to prepare the foundation for the substation equipment may begin.

# **Public roads and highways**

- <u>Public road upgrades:</u> Upgrade work for 271 Road and Old Fort Road, including paving, will be completed during this period.
- Highway 29 at Cache Creek/Bear Flat: During this time, structures may be moved at sites along the right-of-way. Heritage and geotechnical will be ongoing. In late summer 2017, the contractor(s) for the Cache Creek/Bear Flat segment of the Highway 29 realignment will mobilize to site and begin work. This could include additional clearing and grubbing. Merchantable logs will be decked and transported to local mills.

- Highway 29 at Halfway River, Farrell Creek East, Farrell Creek, Dry Creek and Lynx Creek: Survey work, geotechnical investigations and heritage monitoring may occur as required to support detailed design development.
- <u>Distribution relocations</u>: Investigative work may occur along Highway 29 for distribution line relocations required as a result of the planned Highway 29 realignments.

#### Peace River/reservoir

- Fish habitat enhancement project: The contractor for the fish enhancement project may mobilize and begin work in and around the side channels of the Peace River to the east of the dam site. As part of this work, access roads will be constructed from the dam site to the work areas.
- Reservoir clearing: The reservoir clearing contractor will continue clearing in some areas
  of the lower and eastern reservoir. This clearing is required now to prepare the area for
  the work that will facilitate river diversion in 2019. In the coming period, planned work
  areas include (please see map for more detail):
  - Clearing on the north bank of the Peace River from the dam site to Tea Creek and from Wilder Creek to Cache Creek. Clearing will also take place on the south bank of the Peace River from the dam site to Cache Creek. This will include the construction of new access roads and the upgrading of current access roads, as required.
  - Field assessment work planned for the middle reservoir (from Cache Creek to Halfway River), including terrain stability assessment and layout work.
- <u>Timber removal:</u> Merchantable logs in all clearing areas, including the Moberly River valley, will be decked and transported to local mills. Waste wood will be disposed. Some burning may occur.
- Halfway River debris boom: Survey work and geotechnical investigations will occur to support the design of the Halfway River debris boom. Construction of the boom is planned to commence in summer or fall 2017.

# **Transmission works**

- Access road upgrades: Portions of existing access roads, including Highway 29-1,
  Peace Hill Road, Trapper Main Road, Medicine Woman Road, Boucher Lake Road,
  Monias Road and Ice Bridge 3 Road, will continue to be upgraded to provide safe
  construction access to the transmission line right-of-way. This work may include clearing
  and brushing, construction of ditches and vehicle pullouts, installation of bridges,
  subgrade reconstruction, culvert installation and final surfacing.
- <u>Clearing work</u>: Tree clearing and vegetation removal may occur in the transmission line right-of-way, and in a 14-metre-wide area on the north side of the right-of-way, between the dam site and Peace Canyon generating station. This work will include the construction of temporary and permanent access roads within the right-of-way.
- <u>Peace Canyon generating station</u>: Some clearing may occur on BC Hydro-owned land at the Peace Canyon generating station to prepare the site for the expansion of the 500 kV switchyard, which is where the two new 500 kV transmission lines will connect to the BC Hydro system.

- Survey and investigative works: Surveying and investigative works will continue along the transmission line right-of-way in preparation for the construction of the new 500 kV transmission lines.
- <u>Telecommunication</u>: A temporary communications site will be installed along the transmission line right-of-way to support the contractor's radio communications.

## **Hudson's Hope**

• <u>Site investigations:</u> Survey work and geotechnical investigations may occur in Hudson's Hope to support detailed design development for the shoreline protection project.

## **Production and transport of materials**

- <u>Wuthrich Quarry</u>: Riprap will be produced for use in construction at the dam site. Blasting will occur as part of this work.
- West Pine Quarry: Riprap will be produced for use in construction at the dam site. Blasting will occur as part of this work.
- <u>Portage Mountain Quarry:</u> Access roads will be constructed and trial blasting will occur. Riprap will be produced for use in the Highway 29 realignments and for the future Hudson's Hope shoreline protection project. During this period, riprap may be transported from the quarry to the Cache Creek/Bear Flat area.
- 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue Industrial Lands: The main civil works contractor will continue work at the 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue Industrial Lands during this period. This will include the preparation of offices, a parking lot and laydown/stockpile areas. Work will occur to prepare the Industrial Lands for excavation.
- <u>Conveyor belt system:</u> Preparatory work will continue for the temporary conveyor belt system. This will include continued clearing in the right-of-way for the conveyor and the construction of access points. Fencing will be installed along the conveyer right-of-way. Construction of the conveyor may begin in summer 2017.

#### **Leaves to Commence Construction**

During the course of construction, BC Hydro will apply for a series of Leaves to Commence Construction (LCCs) under its Water Licences in order to construct particular project works or components of project works. Construction-related activities under the LCCs are also independently reviewed by the Independent Engineer (IE) and the Independent Environmental Monitor (IEM) as required by BC Hydro's Water Licences.

To date, BC Hydro has obtained LCCs for:

- Initial works
- Relocated surplus excavated materials (RSEMs) storage areas
- North and south bank excavations
- South bank stage one cofferdam
- Clearing of the eastern reservoir
- North bank cofferdams and diversion tunnel works
- RCC buttress foundation preparation and RCC placement

 Geotechnical investigations for the Hudson's Hope Shoreline Protection and Halfway River Debris Boom

In the upcoming three-to-six month period, BC Hydro will be seeking an LCC for the construction of the earthfill dam and placement of fill materials for the approach channel. BC Hydro will also be seeking an LCC for construction, operation and maintenance of the Halfway River debris boom.

## What to expect

During this time period, the following can be expected:

- There will be truck traffic on public roads as construction crews mobilize and the hauling
  of rock and timber continues. This will include increased industrial traffic on resource
  roads and public roads from Chetwynd leading to the site on the south bank.
- Day, night and weekend shifts will be scheduled.
- Some noise will occur in the vicinity of the dam site, along public roads, in and around
  the transmission line right-of-way and in other work areas as a result of the scheduled
  construction activities.
- Some noise and vibration will result from the periodic blasting that is occurring in Wuthrich Quarry, West Pine Quarry and Portage Mountain Quarry. Material hauling may occur at night.
- Travelling public may experience minor delays on Highway 29 in the Cache Creek/Bear Flat area as a result of planned work.
- There will be construction occurring in and around the Peace River at the dam site and in and around the Moberly River valley.
- There will be construction work, including clearing and access road construction, occurring in and around the transmission line right-of-way. Minor delays are expected on existing access roads in the area.
- Public safety signs and beacons have been installed on the north and south banks of the Peace River, upstream and downstream of the dam site, to mark the boundaries of the active construction area. Until further notice, boaters will be able to pass through the dam site, but will not have shoreline access in the dam site construction area. A security boat will be actively monitoring boat traffic.
- BC Hydro is monitoring air quality in the Site C project area. This data is being added to
  the Ministry of Environment's B.C. Air Quality Monitoring Data
  (<a href="http://www.bcairquality.ca">http://www.bcairquality.ca</a>). 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.

#### Learn more

- Visit the project website: sitecproject.com
- Follow the Site C Twitter account: @sitecproject
- Call the toll-free project line: 1-877-217-0777
- Email the project team: <a href="mailto:sitec@bchydro.com">sitec@bchydro.com</a>
- Send an enquiry or feedback online at: https://www.sitecproject.com/contact-us#enquiry