

INFORMATION SHEET

SITE C PROPERTY ACQUISITION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Property acquisition for the Site C project began in 1977 and is expected to be complete in 2023. It includes either the purchase of private lands (in many cases, a portion of private lands only), and/or the compensation for establishing “rights” within private lands through statutory rights-of-way.

Following the completion of the project and a period of shoreline monitoring, some of the land acquired for the project may be deemed surplus.

This Information Sheet is intended to provide insight into both the approach and timing of property and/or property rights acquisitions, as well as any potential future property sales.

Property acquisition process

1977 to 2015

BC Hydro implemented the Voluntary Passive Land Acquisition Policy, through which property owners could voluntarily sell their land to BC Hydro if the land was potentially impacted by Site C. Between 1977 and 2015, BC Hydro completed approximately 80 transactions under this program, including much of the land required for the dam site.

2015 to 2019

Following project approval in 2014, BC Hydro began acquiring required lands and rights for Site C with priority of locations where works would first occur – for example at the dam site, along the transmission line corridor, and in the eastern reservoir area.

In 2015/2016, BC Hydro focused on the dam site, the conveyor corridor and previous Cache Creek/Bear Flat highway realignment.

2020 to 2023

Going forward, BC Hydro will continue to acquire property in advance of scheduled construction work, with a focus on the western portions of the reservoir, the Hudson’s Hope shoreline protection and Highway 29, as well as any remaining areas impacted by reservoir filling and shoreline preparation.

Acquisition of lands and rights for the project is expected to continue through to 2023.

Field Studies

In addition to property or rights acquisition, BC Hydro undertakes numerous field studies and investigative programs each year. These studies relate to project-wide programs (e.g. environment and wildlife studies), informing final design for Highway 29 and shoreline protection (e.g. geotechnical and heritage investigations), and permitting and preparation for construction and reservoir filling (e.g. forestry).

Each winter and spring, BC Hydro determines the field season requirements on private land, BC Hydro-leased land and crown land with tenures on it. BC Hydro shares these details and seeks permission from owners, tenants and tenure holders, where required.

Potential Future Lands Sales

Following the filling of the reservoir in 2023 and the project coming into service in 2024, BC Hydro will undertake a multi-year shoreline monitoring program and may continue to identify and implement mitigation measures for the project as a result of reservoir impacts.

Any potential residual lands will be considered against land use priorities to determine their suitability for various potential uses, including land required to mitigate project effects. Consideration will be guided by ongoing conditions associated with project approvals, including vegetation and wildlife habitat compensation, agricultural land use interests and Indigenous interests.

As a result, the identification of land that may be surplus to BC Hydro's requirements will not begin until 2029. Any lands deemed surplus and suitable for disposal will be managed following our property acquisition and disposals process.

More information can be found in the [Property Acquisition Process Guide](#).

BC Hydro-owned lands will continue to be managed in a responsible manner that supports, as appropriate, agricultural land use and wildlife habitat, and continues to ensure a responsible approach to noxious weed management.

For further information about the land and rights acquisition process for the Site C project, please contact BC Hydro at SiteC@BCHydro.com or 250 785 3420.