

# Site C Clean Energy Project

## Regional Community Liaison Committee Meeting

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*Meeting Summary*  
*May 27, 2016, 10:15am to 1:45pm MST*  
*Fort St. John*

<b>ATTENDEES</b> <i>Regional Community Liaison Committee Members</i>	<p>Mayor Merlin Nichols, Chetwynd          Doug Fleming, CAO, Chetwynd          Dianne Hunter, City Manager, Fort St. John (Left 12:30pm)          Councillor Dave Heiberg, Hudson's Hope          Tom Matus, CAO, Hudson's Hope          MLA Pat Pimm, Peace River North          Georgia Green, Constituency Assistant, Peace River North          Area B Director Karen Goodings, Peace River Regional District          Area C Director Brad Sperling, Peace River Regional District          Area E Director Dan Rose, Peace River Regional District          Councillor Andre Lavoie, Pouce Coupe          Mayor Rob Fraser, Taylor          Charlette McLeod, Taylor          Edie Thome, BC Hydro          Nancy Pepper, BC Hydro</p>
<b>ABSENT WITH REGRET</b>	<p>MLA Mike Bernier, Peace River South          Cindy Fisher, Constituency Assistant, Peace River South          Mayor Dale Bumstead, Dawson Creek          Mayor Lori Ackerman, Fort St. John          Councillor Larry Evans, Fort St. John          Councillor Byron Stewart, Fort St. John          Mark Diffin, Land Referral Office Manager, McLeod Lake Indian Band          Area D Director Leonard Hiebert, Peace River Regional District          Dave Conway, BC Hydro          Siobhan Jackson, BC Hydro          Bob Peever, BC Hydro</p>
<b>INVITED GUESTS</b>	<p>Mike Bebbington, Peace River Hydro Partners (Left 11:00am)          John McPherson, Peace River Hydro Partners (Left 11:00am)          Amber Harding, Peace River Hydro Partners (Left noon)          Jim Shilling, Peace River Hydro Partners (Left noon)</p>

## **Documents Distributed**

May 27, 2016 Meeting Agenda

Site C Local and Regional Businesses (June 2015 – March 2016)

Public Enquires: Site C Project contact sheet

Action Items Tracking Log – May 26, 2016

Terms of Reference: Regional Community Liaison Committee Draft May 19, 2016

BC Hydro Site C Public Enquiries April 2016 Report

### **1. Opening / Welcome / Agenda**

- a) Review of Agenda and request for any additional items by Edie Thome.

### **2. Discussion with Peace River Hydro Partners**

- a) Peace River Hydro Partners (PRHP) provided an update on the following:
  - a. They are now the Prime contractor for the left (north) bank except the worker accommodation area and they will take over as Prime contractor for the right (south) bank on June 1.
  - b. They are planning to start work in two areas on June 1 and the next 4-6 weeks will be a ramp up of employees. Employees are completing orientation requirements so they can start work immediately.
  - c. PRHP has good neighbour/courtesy policies for their workforce, which are part of their worker orientation.
- b) Members asked PRHP if they could follow-up with applicants who have submitted their resumes, particularly locals. PRHP shared that they have a database of approximately 11,000 resumes with approximately 400 workers pre-qualified from that list. They don't have the capacity to follow-up with thousands of applicants. They keep the resumes in their database for future positions.
- c) Members wanted to see the monthly local employment numbers from PRHP and feel that receiving this information is very important.

*Action: PRHP will present to the RCLC on their good neighbour/worker courtesy policies at the next meeting on June 29.*

### **3. Discussion of current issues**

- a) Members asked if someone from Morgan Construction could attend the next meeting. BC Hydro shared that Morgan will be finishing their work on-site as of June 30, so there is very limited value in inviting them to the next meeting. Morgan will not be invited to the next meeting.
- b) Employment Numbers
  - a. Members want employment numbers each month, broken down by contractor and PRRD, B.C., rest of Canada and Aboriginal workers. The information should be current and provided on a regular schedule, starting as soon as possible.
  - b. Edie Thome explained that BC Hydro is working to make the process for reporting employment numbers faster. Currently data is consolidated about 2 weeks after the end of the month and then goes through the data verification and approval process. BC Hydro is working to verify the employment information and get approval to release it.
- c) Workers Eligible to Stay in Camp

- a. Members asked about a communication from Dave Conway on what workers would be given the option to stay in the worker accommodation lodge and what contractors would not have the option to put workers in the lodge.
- b. Nancy Pepper shared that not all Project Contractors may have access to the lodge for their workforce, as not all work is located at the dam site. Examples are the Hudson's Hope shoreline protection work or some environmental work.
- d) BC Hydro Site C Consultation Office in Fort St. John
  - a. Edie Thome explained that BC Hydro is working on a plan for a space which will support staff safety while providing public access.
  - b. Members stated that they felt that in the absence of the BC Hydro office being open, the public were going to the Fort St. John city office and the Peace River North MLA office and this placed a burden on them due to the Project.
  - c. Members suggested that the Consultation office should have a computer that people could use to submit their resumes for jobs because many people don't have access to the internet.
  - d. PRHP stated that people could drop off their resumes from 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday – Friday, at PRHP's office located in the Western Financial Building (10504 – 100<sup>th</sup> Ave, Fort St. John, Phone 250-263-9920).
- e) BC Hydro Staff Reorganization
  - a. A variety of changes have been implemented to improve internal processes and also as part of the mitigation for the order regarding erosion which was issued in March 2016.
    - i. Siobhan Jackson is now the Manager of Public Affairs and Community Relations.
    - ii. Charlie Weiler will manage the Aboriginal Relations team.
    - iii. Greg Scarborough will manage the reconfigured Environment team which will now include the expanded on-site environmental monitoring staff and the environmental staff in the lower mainland.
- f) Public Enquiries Information Sheet
  - a. Edie Thome explained that the sheets can help the public contact BC Hydro; we would appreciate if members can help provide this information to the public.
- g) List of Local and Regional Business
  - a. Nancy Pepper explained that this list captures companies in the PRRD that have been subcontracted or engaged to provide goods and services to the major contractors on Site C.
  - b. A member asked if there was a list for the rest of British Columbia or if the list could be sorted by contractor.
  - c. Nancy Pepper stated that the information was not being captured which would provide a B.C. list.
  - d. A member asked if A.L. Sims was only hiring workers from Prince George.
- h) The Area C Director asked about his request for support for the clean-up of the lookout. Edie Thome asked that he follow-up with Dave Conway for a response.
- i) Pouce Coupe's member shared that he would be the alternate in the future and their Mayor would be the primary member.

*Action: Siobhan Jackson will provide an update at the next meeting about the channels of communication.*

*Action: BC Hydro will look into the potential to categorize the local and regional business list by ATCO Two Rivers, PRHP and other major contractors.*

*Action: BC Hydro agreed to request a list of A.L. Sims' subcontractors for public roads.*

*Action: Taylor asked that the enquiries sheet be provided to them in a Word document for ease of posting to their website.*

*Action: MLA Pimm will send his summary of the May 27 meeting to Nancy Pepper for distribution to the Committee.*

#### **4. Review of Action Items**

- a) 2016-006 BC Hydro shared an information sheet for members to use to direct the public to BC Hydro for enquiries.
- b) 2016-013 Members asked for more information about how direct awards were issued.
  - a. PRHP shared that their process is still under development.
  - b. Edie Thome shared that BC Hydro uses Request for Qualifications to pre-qualify companies for smaller pieces of work because bidding on small pieces of work places too large of a burden on businesses. BC Hydro also works to implement direct awards with companies with qualifying First Nations partnerships.
- c) 2016-014 Edie Thome shared that it was still early days in understanding the decision but that likely any changes from the decision would be across BC Hydro rather than just the Site C Project.
- d) 2016-016 Members of the NPEDC reported that their meeting with ATCO went well and the relationship is now moving forward.
- e) 2016-017 The Area C Director was not satisfied with ATCO Two Rivers Lodging's plans for the worker accommodation sewage system and requests further follow-up with BC Hydro.
- f) 2016-019 Members asked for changes to be made to the action item log, including the addition of more details related to the outcome or solution for an action item.

*Action: BC Hydro will sort the Action Item list so that Complete Measures are at the bottom.*

*Action: BC Hydro will provide the PRRD employment numbers as soon as they are available instead of waiting for the next meeting. BC Hydro will also identify the date on which employment information will usually be publically available.*

*Action: BC Hydro will develop a template for sharing more information about the results of actions as the results of some actions cannot be summarized concisely to fit in the log format.*

*Action: BC Hydro will follow-up with the Area C Director after speaking with ATCO Two Rivers Lodging about their plans for sewage if there is a problem with the on-site system.*

#### **5. Discussion of Committee Terms of Reference**

The committee discussed the May 19, 2016 draft Terms of Reference. The topics that were discussed and to be revised include:

- a) Add in a reference in section 3.6.3 that the employment data will include (PRRD, B.C., Canada and Aboriginal.
- b) Add "at the call of the chair" to section 3.4 for meeting frequency.

#### **6. Presentation**

- a) A member asked if PRHP was planning to hire drivers or drivers and equipment locally.
  - a. Edie Thome stated that BC Hydro may be hiring local operators and their equipment for some of the other contracts.

- b) The section 34 (a) Order that was issued by the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) on April 4, 2016 regarding water management and erosion in the L3 area on-site was an issue that BC Hydro had already identified with the contractor.
  - a. The L3 area is a ravine which is being infilled with surplus excavated material. A non-classified drainage exists at the bottom of the ravine which eventually connects with potential fish habitat downstream of the worksite before connecting with the Peace River. With the early onset of spring conditions, the EAO was concerned that potential harm to these downstream environments could result if additional measures were not implemented.
  - b. Measures were already being implemented to address the problem when the Order was issued and BC Hydro has submitted a plan and is reporting on progress to the EAO.
  - c. BC Hydro also hired additional staff for environmental monitoring and has moved a senior position to Fort St. John.
  - d. Contracts are being updated to reflect the new standards.
  - e. Monitoring was on-going for the Peace River during the period of non-compliance and the monitoring results from above and below the dam site did not indicate that there was an impact on the Peace River.
- c) The Heritage committee requested that BC Hydro leave some of the eagle nests in place and eagles are using the nests again despite their proximity to the construction site.
- d) Members asked questions about what accommodation was being offered to what First Nations.
- e) Members asked if personal lawsuits were being pursued by BC Hydro as was stated in recent media articles.
  - a. Edie Thome summarized that the injunctions preventing persons from physically blocking construction remain in effect but BC Hydro respects the right to protest and has created safe protest zones both near the entrance to the Site C Project and outside their headquarters building in Vancouver, where protestors can gather during daylight hours to express themselves.
- f) Nancy Pepper shared that the leisure shuttle which would connect workers staying at the lodge with the community's goods and services. The shuttle will start with Phase 3 of the lodge. The route and timing will vary based on use and ridership; however it will start with approximately ten daily one-hour loops between the lodge and Fort St. John.
  - a. Members asked if there was a curfew for workers returning to site.
  - b. Edie Thome stated that while there are quiet hours in the lodge, the gate is not "locked".
  - c. Members asked if there was an opportunity to promote recreation facilities in Taylor as well as Fort St. John.
- g) The Fort St. John Housing project is anticipated for targeted for occupancy in spring 2018. BC Hydro and BC Housing are working to develop a contract for implementation of the development. BC Hydro will provide an update at future meetings.

*Action: BC Hydro will ask PRHP to discuss their approach for procuring or hiring equipment and drivers at the next meeting.*

*Action: BC Hydro will use larger font in the presentations to make it more readable.*

*Action: BC Hydro will identify when the "half-way" point for awarding Project contracts will be reached and if it will be after the Generating Station and Spillways contract is complete.*

*Action: BC Hydro will send its public statement regarding lawsuits and protests from Dave Conway to the members.*

*Action: BC Hydro will connect Taylor staff with ATCO Two Rivers Lodging to support Taylor in sharing information about their recreation facilities and activities.*

*Action: BC Hydro will provide an update on the Fort St. John Housing Project once further detail is available.*

## **7. Next Meeting**

The date for the next meeting is Wednesday, June 29 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. BC Hydro will try to arrange for the meeting to occur at the Construction Office. BC Hydro will arrange a carpool location in the City to meet up before going to site.