

**IN THE MATTER OF THE *ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT*
S.B.C. 2018, c. 51 (the Act)**

AND

**IN THE MATTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CERTIFICATE # E14-02
HELD BY BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND POWER AUTHORITY**

**FOR THE
SITE C CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT**

**AMENDMENT # 11 (AMENDMENT)
TO CERTIFICATE # E14-02**

WHEREAS:

- A. On October 14, 2014, the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations issued Environmental Assessment Certificate # E14-02 (Certificate) to British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority.
- B. The Certificate authorized British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority to construct and operate the Site C Clean Energy Project (Project) approximately seven kilometres south-west of Fort St. John, British Columbia.
- C. Six amendments have been issued under Section 19(1) of the *Environmental Assessment Act*, S.B.C. 2002, c.43:
 - i. On June 22, 2018, the Certificate was amended to modify the design of the generating station and spillway (Amendment # 1).
 - ii. On October 26, 2018, the Certificate was amended to modify the design of the Halfway River bridge (Amendment # 2).
 - iii. On November 14, 2018, the Certificate was amended to allow expanded use of material from the West Pine Quarry for construction (Amendment # 3).
 - iv. On February 12, 2019, the Certificate was amended to allow the use of machines near watercourses in clearing the reservoir area (Amendment # 4).
 - v. On December 13, 2019, the Certificate was amended to change a portion of the realignment of the Cache Creek segment of Highway 29 and the design of the Cache Creek bridge (Amendment # 5).
 - vi. On December 13, 2019, the Certificate was amended to make changes to the worker accommodation camps (Amendment # 6).
- D. Four amendments have been issued under Section 32(1) of the Act (2018):
 - vii. On May 27, 2020, the Certificate was amended to modify the design of the Highway 29 realignment crossings of Farrell Creek, Dry Creek, and Lynx Creek (Amendment # 7).
 - viii. On November 24, 2020, the Certificate was amended to develop and use the Halfway River East Borrow Source (Amendment # 8).

- ix. On May 6, 2022, Condition #40 of the Certificate was amended to relocate the Cache Creek boat launch and day use area to a location east of the Halfway River (Amendment # 9).
- x. On June 30, 2022, the Certificate was amended to allow the use of haul trucks on a contingency basis to transport material from the 85th Avenue Industrial Lands to the dam site area (Amendment #10).
- E. On February 23, 2023, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority requested an amendment under Section 32(1) of the Act to allow for certain temporary structures to permanently remain within the reservoir and become submerged only if retaining the structure would not have an adverse effect on fish or fish habitat.
- F. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Act (2018), the Chief Executive Assessment Officer has delegated to the undersigned, powers and duties under the Act, including the power to consider requests for certificate amendments.

NOW THEREFORE,

I amend the Certificate as follows:

1. The first bullet of Condition #4 of Schedule B of the Certificate which reads:

- Remove temporary structures as soon as they are no longer required.

Is repealed and replaced with:

- Temporary structures must be removed as soon as they are no longer required except if a QEP retained by the Holder assesses that:
 - Removing the structure will result in harm to fish and fish habitat; or
 - Retaining the structure will provide a benefit to fish; or,
 - The risk of removing the structure poses the same risk of harm to fish and fish habitat as retaining the structure.
- 15 days prior to reservoir filling, the Holder must provide the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) a report containing the final list of temporary structures to be retained in the reservoir for inundation including a summary of the QEP assessment for each structure. The report must be produced by a QEP. The report must be to the satisfaction of the EAO.
- Only temporary structures within the reservoir and that have been included in the Holder's report submitted to the EAO may be retained for inundation.

2. Add the following paragraph to Condition #4 of Schedule B of the Certificate:

- Any updates to the Final Plan as a result of Amendment #11 must be provided by the Holder to the EAO, Ministry of Forests, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Aboriginal Groups for review. The updates must be to the satisfaction of the EAO.



Chris Trumpy
Deputy Chief Environmental Assessment Officer
Environmental Assessment Office

Issued this 28 day of July, 2023