

Site C Clean Energy Project

Regional Community Liaison Committee Meeting

Meeting Summary
June 10, 2020, 1:00 to 4:00 pm
Conference Call

<p>ATTENDEES</p> <p><i>Regional Community Liaison Committee Members</i></p>	<p>Tamara Wilkinson, MLA Assistant, for MLA Dan Davies, Peace River North</p> <p>Mayor Dave Heiberg, Hudson's Hope</p> <p>Mayor Rob Fraser, Taylor</p> <p>Mayor Lori Ackerman, Fort St. John</p> <p>Director Karen Goodings, Area B, Peace River Regional District</p> <p>Director Brad Sperling, Area C, Peace River Regional District</p> <p>Director Dan Rose, Area E, Peace River Regional District</p> <p>Shawn Dahlen, CAO, Peace River Regional District</p> <p>Stephanie Rocheleau, McLeod Lake Indian Band</p> <p>Dave Conway, BC Hydro</p> <p>Shanna Mason, BC Hydro</p> <p>Nancy Pepper, BC Hydro</p> <p>Chris Waite, BC Hydro</p> <p>Neil Kelly, BC Hydro</p> <p>Greg Scarborough, BC Hydro</p> <p>Ben Rauscher, BC Hydro</p> <p>Emily Stringer, BC Hydro</p> <p>Kate O'Neil, BC Hydro</p> <p>Maria Eviston, BC Hydro</p>
<p>ABSENT WITH REGRET</p>	<p>Terri Paulovich, Constituency Assistant, Peace River South</p> <p>Mike Bernier, MLA, Peace River South</p> <p>Ranish Shakya, Blueberry River First Nation</p> <p>Jane Calvert, Blueberry River First Nation</p> <p>Mayor Allen Courtoreille, Chetwynd</p> <p>Carol Newsom, CAO, Chetwynd</p> <p>Mayor Dale Bumstead, Dawson Creek</p> <p>Blair Lekstrom, CAO, Dawson Creek</p> <p>Jennifer McCracken, Doig River First Nation</p> <p>Director Leonard Hiebert, Area D, Peace River Regional District</p> <p>MLA Dan Davies, Peace River North</p> <p>Chris Cvik, CAO Hudson's Hope</p> <p>Nathan Prince, McLeod Lake Indian Band</p> <p>Mayor Lorraine Michetti, Pouce Coupe</p> <p>Christopher Leggett, CAO, Pouce Coupe</p>

	Betty Ponto, Taylor Andrew Young, CAO, Taylor Mayor Keith Bertrand, Tumbler Ridge Aleen Torraville, interim CAO, Tumbler Ridge Councillor Nathan Parenteau, Sauleau
INVITED GUESTS	
ATTENDED	Brian Hussain, ATCO Ann Danilevich, AFDE Jamie Bodnarchuk, PRHP Adriana da Costa, MoTI

Documents Distributed

- RCLC Meeting Agenda
- RCLC Presentation Slides
- RCLC Action item log
- RCLC April Workforce Report
- RCLC Q1 Business Report
- Overview of the Site C Environmental Programs for the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program - June 2020 Draft
- RCLC Indigenous and Traditional Use Fund Summary for RCLC Meeting, 5 June 2020 RCLC Enquiries & FAQs Report March & April
- RCLC Enquiries Report May
- BC Hydro Agriculture Fund Virtual Annual Public Meeting Notice

1. Opening / Welcome / Agenda

- a) Dave Conway welcomed the Committee members to the meeting.
- b) Dave acknowledged that the meeting was taking place in the traditional territory of the Treaty 8 First Nations, and those joining from other traditional territories.
- c) Dave reviewed teleconference etiquette.
- d) Introductions were conducted with all members.

2. Review of Agenda & Action Items

- a) Dave Conway reviewed the agenda and made a request for any additional items.
- b) No changes or questions.
- c) Dave reviewed the action item log and asked if the Committee had any changes or additions.
 - a. Diversion notification to Hudson’s Hope (Item # 2019-023): Shanna stated that diversion has progressive stages, and so this item will be ongoing, and that BC Hydro will be communicating in an ongoing way on this item, this will not be a single point of time communication.
 - b. Clayhurst boat launch (Item 2020-005):

- i. PRRD Area B stated this item should be taken care of by BC Hydro and the water comptroller due to increased traffic to the boat launch due to Site C, BC Hydro's decision should be reconsidered.
 - ii. Shanna said that her team has gone back to BC Hydro internally to understand the history of this talking going back to the original commitment wording, as Site C and the RCLC was not part of that decision-making. The BC Hydro decision makers on this item are outside of the RCLC.
 - iii. PRRD Area C asked what ministry the water comptroller is part of.
 - iv. Fort St. John stated they are disappointed that this issue has to keep being raised.
 - v. Taylor stated they feel no one is listening so they are speaking out where they can, and they intend to pursue this with the province.
 - vi. PRRD Area B stated that cost is not a good enough reason to not do it.
 - vii. Shanna stated there are multiple factors which contributed to the decision to not go forward, and she has dug into this and consulted with those who were involved in preparing the letter provided to the RCLC.
 - viii. PRRD Area B appreciated the work Shanna has done, but the item will continue to be brought up.
- c. GHGs
- i. PRRD Area B asked if there be documentation on the results of the annual GHG monitoring required under EAC 65?
 - ii. Nancy stated that annual reports will be posted.
 - iii. Shanna added that monitoring programs for all programs are provided and often written by the subject matter experts. Once there is 3-4 years of post-impact data, we can start to see if there is a trend, and then plan to present the findings in a way that is more accessible to the public.

3. BC Hydro Project Update

Dam On-site Construction Update

Chris W introduced himself and provided the on-site construction update.

- a. Outlined the upstream and downstream cofferdams and the diversion tunnel inlet and outlet cofferdam updates.
- b. Gave updates on work fronts for progress of work that were slowed down in March due to COVID-19.
- c. Displayed a close-up of the penstocks to show progress as of when the work in this area stopped. Work fronts are beginning to restart based on government directions.
- d. Stated the area where roller compacted concrete is being laid down will resume in July and August this year.
- e. Videos on the May construction update, and river diversion were played.
- f. Dave said the link to the videos will be sent with the minutes. Videos are publicly posted.
- g. Dave asked if there are any questions for Chris W.
- h. No questions.

Dam Off-site Construction Update

Neil Kelly introduced himself and provided the dam off-site construction update:

- a. Substation is about 95% complete
- b. Limited progress on transmission line since the last RCLC meeting due to spring break-up. Over 70% of one of the lines has been strung as of the end of May.
- c. Cache Creek West – restarted work in May. Expect work to be complete by August 2020
- d. Lynx Creek has had a lot of progress, work expected to be completed later this month.
- e. Tender for the Lynx Creek grading, paving and bridge will be issued later this month and is expected to close in July.
- f. Increase in activity at Portage Mountain Quarry. Blasting is expected to occur from May 16-Sept 15. Once processed, material will be taken to the loading pile.
- g. Hudson's Hope Shoreline Protection request for proposal (RFP) is posted and expected to close in July.
- h. There has been limited clearing activity since March. 2020-2021 clearing season design work and procurement has been the focus.
- i. Taylor asked about the Farrell Creek Road hill and the Highway 29 realignment. Wondering if the realignment design will impact the stability of the hill.
- j. Chris W responded that the design of the highway takes into account the slope stability issue. The embankment and the berm are designed to stay away from the slope toe and instead build the highway out without digging into the slope. The stability embankment is built below to protect the slope and protect from effects of the reservoir.
- k. Taylor asked if there are more detailed photos or drawings of the work being done.
- l. Chris W stated there are a series of slides that show the progression of the construction with details, of why it is being constructed the way it is, that discuss the slope stability. Stated that BC Hydro can share these.
- m. MOTI added that the berm is being built to protect the current highway and everything is being constructed to be away from the slope.
- n. PRRD Area B agreed that drawings would be helpful to understand the work.

Action:

1. BC Hydro to share the drawings or cross sections of the Farrell Creek highway redesign works with regard to accommodating or managing the slope stability with the Committee.

Diversion Fish and Wildlife Programs Update

Greg Scarborough introduced himself and provided fish and wildlife program updates. Greg gave a summary for mitigation in the headpond area, which will be formed as part of the river diversion stage. It is an area that can change over time, that will have flooding of terrestrial landscape. His team has been talking with the public and First Nations about the impacts of the headpond, and this is a summary of the mitigation planned:

- a. Work to discourage animal use of dens will start in August and continue in phases.
- b. A study on beaver movement in response to headpond formation will be done and reviewed with First Nations partners to decide next steps on mitigation efforts.
- c. Draft results on the beaver study will be available after the fall, and a final study by summer 2021.
- d. Shanna described that the netting that has been applied is suspended above the water and never touches the water where it could be an entanglement risk and it has been used on the dam site before and works well to exclude bank swallows.
- e. PRRD Area B asked where the bank swallows will go without these areas.
- f. Greg stated that there is lots of habitat in the Peace River for bank swallows based on BC Hydro information and Environmental Board information. They will find other nesting areas outside of the inundation area. In the future, natural erosion will occur to replace the habitat that is inundated by the headpond and then the reservoir.
- g. The fish passage facility will be in operation in the fall.

Mitigation Update

Nancy Pepper provided mitigation updates.

- a. Fort St John seniors care foundation received funding through the most recent GO Fund intake.
- b. The purpose of the Indigenous and Traditional Use Fund is to mitigate the impacts of the project on the current use of land and resources for traditional purposes by Indigenous groups affected by the Site C Project. This is the first year of the fund implementation.
- c. BC Hydro Peace Agricultural Compensation fund is having a virtual public meeting next week on June 23, 2020. The meeting date and link to register to attend were provided in the Notice in the RCLC package.

Job and Business Update

Kate O'Neil presented the business update.

- a) April 2020 Site C Jobs snapshot shows an all-time peak of total workforce in March 2020, with a drop of 1,867 workers to April 2020 due to ramp-down of workers due to COVID-19. Similar drops in BC resident workforce numbers and in PRRD resident jobs occurred April.
- b) Q1 Regional Business Participation numbers for January 01- March 31, 2020 show numbers affected by winter being a slower season for these numbers, and the March 18 reduction of work focusing on critical river diversion construction activities.
- c) Dave pointed out the FAQ information that was emailed in the package to the meeting attendees.

4. Contractor Updates

- a) PRHP stated their main focus has been around diversion. Inlet and outlet construction is complete. Fishway concrete and metal structures are complete, now focusing on electro-mechanical work.
- b) AFDE stated they scaled back work in mid-March. Debris control piles are completed. Following health recommendations from the Province and BC Hydro. AFDE will increase their workforce as it is safe to do so.
- c) ATCO stated the majority of work is operating lodge and expanded cleaning. Have continued on Phase 2 of ATCO lodge expansion.

- d) MoTI stated Cache Creek is going to tender and Lynx Creek will go for tender soon. Confirmed Neil covered the latest highlights.

5. Roundtable

A roundtable update occurred from the local community representatives:

- a) McLeod Lake Indian Band had no additional updates.
- b) MLA – Peace River North had no additional updates.
- c) PRRD Area E stated they are looking forward to the number of PRRD workers going back up as site worker numbers go up
- d) PRRD Area B had no additional updates. They are looking forward to Farrell Creek Highway 29 design update.
- e) PRRD Area C had no additional updates or questions.
- f) Taylor asked for an update on signage about diversion for boaters at Peace Island Park. Appreciates the emergency management planning work together and tabletop exercise.
 - a. Nancy confirmed that signage on diversion is being installed at boat launches in the last week or so on Peace Island Park.
 - b. Shanna confirmed that she has a photo of what has been installed,
 - c. Dave reviewed additional communications updates in place related to diversion.
 - d. Taylor thanked BC Hydro for the update.
 - e. PRRD Area B asked for a direct link to the information.
 - f. Dave said he will provide the exact links.
- g) Hudson's Hope stated restart is ramping up in Hudson's Hope to support the highway realignment work. The community has been working with Community Engagement Committee to mitigate community concerns. Will be interested in the results of the bank swallows report.
- h) Fort St John had a community measures meeting last week. Nothing from the project came up as impacting the community. Searching for a new CAO. They have a new Economic Recovery Committee. Working with Doig River First Nation on an urban reserve.

6. Next Steps

- a) Appreciate any feedback on the conference/WebEx format for the meeting.
- b) Shanna and Dave thanked everyone for their time on the meeting