

PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS COMMITTEE MEETING

A G E N D A

for the meeting to be held on Thursday, March 17, 2016 in the
Regional District Office Boardroom, 1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC
commencing at 10 a.m.

1. Call to Order: Director Goodings to Chair the meeting
2. Director's Notice of New Business:
3. Adoption of Agenda:
4. Adoption of Minutes:
M-1 Electoral Area Directors' Committee Minutes of February 18, 2016
5. Business Arising from the Minutes:
6. Delegations:
10 a.m. D-1 Noel Millions, PSL, Manager, Surface Land, Encana Corporation regarding proposed Encana Battery Site (South Central Liquids Hub)
7. Correspondence:
8. Reports:
R-1 Chris Cvik, Chief Administrative Officer - Draft Campground Bylaw - for Discussion (referred by the Regional Board)
R-2 February 18, 2016 - Fran Haughian, Communications Manager - Communications Survey
R-3 March 9, 2016 - Fran Haughian, Communications Manager - 'What Not to Flush' Educational Video
9. New Business:
NB-1 March 7, 2016 - BC Hydro - Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan
10. Communications:
CM-1 Community Directory - for Discussion (Director Goodings)
CM-2 Fair Share Allocations - for Discussion
CM-3 Alaska Highway News returns to Weekly Publications - for Discussion
11. Diary:
12. Adjournment:



**PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

M-1

DATE: February 18, 2016
PLACE: Regional District Office Boardroom, Dawson Creek, BC
PRESENT:

Directors: Karen Goodings, Director, Electoral Area 'B' and Meeting Chair
Leonard Hiebert, Director, Electoral Area 'D'
Dan Rose, Director, Electoral Area 'E'
Brad Sperling, Director, Electoral Area 'C'

Staff: Chris Cvik, Chief Administrative Officer
Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community and Electoral Area Services
Bruce Simard, General Manager of Development Services
Bernie Rotors, Environmental Services Coordinator
Fran Haughian, Communications Manager / Commissions Liaison
Barb Coburn, Recording Secretary

Call to Order Chair Goodings called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

February 18, 2016 Agenda

MOVED by Director Rose, SECONDED by Director Sperling,
That the Electoral Area Directors' Committee agenda for the February 18, 2016 meeting,
including items of New Business, be adopted:
Call to Order: Director Goodings to Chair the meeting
Director's Notice of New Business:
Adoption of Agenda:
Adoption of Minutes:
M-1 Electoral Area Directors' Committee Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2016.
Business Arising from the Minutes:
Delegations:
Correspondence:
C-1 February 13, 2016 - Karen Goodings, Director, Electoral Area B - Rural Dividend (Handout)
C-2 February 15, 2016 - Pat Pimm, MLA-Peace River North/Parliamentary Secretary for Natural Gas to
the Minister of Energy and Mines - Organic Labelling (Handout)
C-3 February 16, 2016 - Karen Goodings, Director, Electoral Area B - Baldonnel Post Office (Handout)
Reports
R-1 Chris Cvik, Chief Administrative Officer - Discussion regarding the Bylaw Enforcement Policy
Statement
R-2 February 12, 2016 - Bruce Simard, General Manager of Development Services - Advertising for
Planning Notifications Due to Newspaper Closures
New Business:
NB-1 Northern Health Permits for Hauling to Private Lagoons
NB-2 Prespatou Community Planning
NB-3 Environmental Assessment Process
NB-4 Building By-law
NB-5 Notice of Motion - PRRD Water Facilities
Communications:
Diary:
Adjournment:

CARRIED.

March 17, 2016

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

M-1
EADC meeting minutes of
January 26, 2016

MOVED by Director Rose, SECONDED by Director Hiebert,
That the Electoral Area Directors' Committee Meeting minutes of January 26, 2016 be adopted.
CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB-1
Northern Health issuing
Permits to Haul Domestic
Sewage to Private Lagoons

MOVED by Director Sperling, SECONDED by Director Hiebert,
That the Electoral Area Directors' Committee recommends to the Regional Board that staff be requested to review current zoning to determine whether specific zoning for sewage lagoons is an accepted usage within all zones and, if necessary, to report back to the Electoral Area Directors' Committee with suggested changes to all Peace River Regional District zoning to address concerns regarding sewage haulers taking domestic sewage to private lagoons.
CARRIED.

NB-3
Proposed Community Plan
for Prespatou

In response to concerns expressed at meetings recently held in Prespatou it was recognized that, due to the rapid growth currently taking place in Prespatou, the community would benefit by creating a community plan. Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community and Electoral Area Services will contact residents to determine the level of interest in holding a meeting with Regional District staff to assist with the development of a community plan.

NB-4
Building Bylaw

MOVED by Director Rose, SECONDED by Director Hiebert,
That the Electoral Area Directors' Committee recommends to the Regional Board that a further extension be granted to allow the Electoral Area Directors' Committee more time to prepare a comprehensive report regarding suggested changes to the Peace River Regional District Building Bylaw No. 2131, 2014.
CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Karen Goodings, Chair

Barb Coburn, Recording Secretary

March 17, 2016

March 3rd, 2016

Peace River Regional District
PO Box 810
1981 Alaska Avenue
Dawson Creek, British Columbia
V1G 4H8

Attention: Don McPherson, Board Chair
Cc: Board of Directors, Peace River Regional District

Subject: Clarification regarding proposed Encana Battery Site (South Central Liquids Hub)
Land Location: c-41-G/93-P-9 / SE ¼ 31-25 W6M (Blockline Road)

This letter is being forwarded to provide you with some additional information and background on Encana's proposed South Central Liquids Hub (SCLH) project. It is our understanding that the Board of Directors recently heard a presentation from a residents' delegation from the Blockline Road area regarding the SCLH.

This SCLH is a reflection of Encana's ongoing commitment to, and continued investment in, the world-class energy assets in the Dawson Creek area. We're proposing this project in order to increase development of liquids production in the Dawson South area. This proposed battery site will contain separation equipment that will remove liquids (produced water and condensate) from existing and future natural gas pipelines. The removal of the liquids from the natural gas pipelines enables Encana to continue using existing Dawson South compressor sites originally designed to manage natural gas with limited liquids volumes.

Encana has submitted a licensing application to the BC Oil and Gas Commission (OGC), and as per OGC guidelines, we've been actively consulting area landowners since last fall about this project. We've operated responsibly in the Dawson Creek area for a number of years and are committed to full and open consultation with community members and stakeholders about our development plans.


We recently noted an item in the Peace River Regional District's Board Meeting Newsletter regarding the presentation from the Blockline Road residents' delegation and their concerns about the project. We want to emphasize that this proposal is for a battery site, not a sour gas processing plant as indicated in the newsletter and, as per regulations, it's not subject to an Environmental Assessment. To that end, we respectfully request the below clarification be included in the next edition of the Board Meeting Newsletter.

The Liquids Hub project proposed by Encana in the Blockline Road area is a battery site designed to remove liquids, such as produced water and condensate, from natural gas pipelines. It is not a sour gas processing plant. This project is not subject to the Environmental Assessment (EA) process as outlined by the BC Oil and Gas Commission (OGC) as it does not meet or exceed the EA production threshold of 200 million cubic feet per day. Encana has applied to the OGC for a license for this project and continues to actively consult stakeholders. The company chose this site selection because of its access to existing pipeline infrastructure, current and future area development, topography and the relatively low residential density when compared to other locations. This site will allow for more efficient development of Encana's operations while impacting as few local residents as possible.

March 17, 2016

Thank you in advance for inclusion of the above clarification. Encana remains committed to ongoing dialogue with the community. In addition, we look forward to providing the PRRD Board of Directors with a fulsome presentation and discussion about this proposal in the near future. As always, we welcome your questions and feedback.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N.R. Millions", written over a horizontal line.

N.R (Noel) Millions, PSL
Manager, Surface Land

ENCANA CORPORATION

March 17, 2016

PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT Bylaw No. XXXX Draft, 2015

A bylaw to establish standards for campgrounds for the health and safety of the general and travelling public
Whereas section 694(1) (j) of the *Local Government Act* enables regulation of the construction and layout of campgrounds and facilities therein;

NOW THEREFORE the Regional Board of the Peace River Regional District, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. Title

This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "Peace River Regional District Campground Bylaw No. XXXX Draft, 2015."

2. Application

The provisions of this bylaw apply to privately owned campgrounds within that portion of the Peace River Regional District contained within Electoral Areas B, C, D and E and more precisely as described in the Letters Patent as amended incorporating the Peace River Regional District and do not include, municipal, regional or provincial campgrounds.

3. Administration

The Bylaw Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector, General Manager of Development Services, Local Assistant to the Fire Commissioner or his appointed representative or such other person appointed by the Regional District shall administer this bylaw.

Persons appointed under this section may enter any building or premises at any reasonable time for the purpose of administering or enforcing this bylaw.

4. Definitions

In this bylaw:

Arizona Room: Means a covered patio or covered porch set aside but not attached to the camping unit consisting of a single room enclosed with insect screening. The Arizona Room shall only be used for recreation and outdoor leisure and not for storage purposes.

Camping Unit(s): Means a tent, tent trailer, truck camper, travel trailer, fifth wheel, *park model trailer*, *tiny home*, motor home and any other conveyance designed to travel on a publicly maintained road, which is constructed and intended or equipped to be used as a temporary living or sleeping quarters.

Campground: Means an area maintained with intention to occupy for temporary accommodation of *camping units*, excluding a mobile home park, hotel, motel, marina or *work camp*.

Campground Facilities: Means a use providing for activities associated with the daily function and enjoyment of a Campground, including but not limited to a convenience store (no larger than 2000 ft²), management office, shower and bathroom facilities, maintenance sheds, playground, cookhouse, picnic pavilion, sanitation dump, clothes washing facilities, garbage collection, firewood storage and info kiosks.

Campsite: Means a measure of land that one camping unit will occupy.

Fencing: Means a fence that contains wood, masonry or chain link with privacy slats and encloses the *campground* intended to screen view from the outside of the *campground* area.

Greenspace: A buffer area consisting of planted grass landscaping. Deciduous or coniferous trees or shrubs can be placed within the buffer area. Fencing or screening is permitted. Picnic tables/benches are permitted. **March 17, 2016**

Definitions (continued)

Park Model Trailer: Means a *camping unit* that conforms to the CSA (Canadian Standards Association) Z241 series of standards for park model trailers at the time of manufacturing. A *Park Model Trailer* will meet the following criteria:

- a. it is built on a single chassis mounted on wheels;
- b. it is designed to facilitate relocation from time to time;
- c. it is designed as living quarters for seasonal camping and may be connected to those utilities necessary for operation of installed fixtures and appliances; and
- d. it has a gross floor area, including lofts, not exceeding 50m² when in the set-up mode, and has a width greater than 2.6 m in the transit mode

(Definition taken from CSA Z241.0)

Sanitation Dump: Means a facility for the purpose of providing grey and black water disposal from a camping unit.

Tiny Home: Means a *camping unit* that is towed by a bumper hitch, framed towing hitch or fifth wheel connection and cannot be moved under its own power. It is designed and built to look like a conventional dwelling.

Work Camp (Industrial Camp): means land or premises on which an employer, in connection with a logging, sawmill, mining, oil or gas operation, a railway construction project, a cannery, or a similar thing, owns, operates or maintains, or has established, permanent or temporary structures for use, with or without charge, by employees as living quarters.

(Definition taken from the BC Public Health Act)

5. Owners Responsibility:

- a. It is the responsibility of the owner to comply with all regulations set out within this Bylaw and all relevant Regional, Provincial or Federal legislation.
- b. If this Bylaw or any other Regional regulation is breached, it is the owner's responsibility to take immediate remedial action.

6. General Prohibitions:

- a. No additions shall be constructed for *camping units*, except for skirting surrounding the undercarriage of the *camping unit*, a deck less than two feet high, or an *Arizona room*.
 - i. No more than one *Arizona Room* per campsite.
- b. No campsite shall be used for the parking of non-recreational vehicles or equipment.
- c. No campsite shall be used for storage.
- d. No garbage or refuse will be deposited in areas other than specified garbage and recycling bins.
- e. No camping unit may discharge solid, grey or black sewage into the environment except in an authorized sewerage disposal facility.
- f. No vehicle or *camping unit* shall block or impede roads and accesses within the *campground*.
- g. A home based business shall not be operated from a *camping unit* or *campground*.
- h. A *tiny home* shall not be placed on blocks or any other permanent foundation within the *campground*.

7. General Regulations:

- a. Water supply and sewerage disposal systems must be authorized by the agency having jurisdiction.
- b. A *camping unit* shall be parked only within a designated *campsite*.
- c. A *camping unit* that is placed within a *campsite* will be properly blocked and tied down.

7.1 Solid Waste

- a. Garbage and recycling bins will be provided and must be adequate to contain all garbage and recycling waste.
- b. One garbage bin and recycling bin must be provided per every 8 campsites.
- c. Each garbage bin and recycling bin must be easily accessible and clearly marked.
- d. Garbage and recycling bins must be secure and enclosed to limit spill or wildlife access i.e. bear proof bins.
- e. All Garbage and Recycling bins shall be maintained and in good repair.
- f. All Garbage and Recycling bins must be emptied regularly to minimize overflow and mitigate possible wildlife intrusions.

7.2 Roads:

- a. All access roads shall be either graveled or hard surfaced. Graveled road shall be properly graded to limit potholes and obstructions. Hard surfaced roads must be maintained to limit potholes and obstructions.
- b. All access and roadways will be easily accessible for *camping units* and emergency vehicles.
- c. All roadways and *campsites* must be properly drained and ensure proper road dust suppression.

7.3 Campsite:

- a. Each campsite must be clearly marked and numbered.
- b. The minimum area of each *campsite* shall be 90 m² (969 ft²).
- c. Each *campsite* must contain a *greenspace* with a minimum width of 6 m (20 ft.) between adjacent *camping units*.
- a. Each *campsite* must contain a *greenspace* with a minimum width of 6 m (20 ft.) from any *campground facility*.
- b. A *camping unit* is not permitted within the *greenspace*.
- c. The *greenspace* shall be kept clear off all garbage and dead brush.

7.4 Fire Protection:

- a. All *campgrounds*, *campsites* within the *campground* and *camping units* must comply with the most current **CSA code B-149.2** concerning Propane storage and handling.
- b. Portable fire extinguishers of a type that is approved by an appointed personnel from the Peace River Regional District shall be kept in all *campground facilities* and all other areas specified by the appointed person from the Peace River Regional District.
 - i. All Campgrounds must be in compliance with the most current BC Fire Code.

8. Landscaping/ Buffer Area:

- a. A screening buffer is required between any *campground* that is parallel to a road or highway or along residential zoned properties.
 - i. This screening buffer may consist of fencing, deciduous trees or coniferous trees. If a chain link fence is used, privacy slats must be placed within the chain link.
 - ii. The buffer area does not include the parking area for the *camping unit*.
- b. If deciduous or coniferous trees are planted as referred in section 8(a.i), they must be 6 cm (2.4 inches) in diameter at breast height at time of planting, spaced at maximum 5 metre intervals.
- c. Such buffers may be broken only for entrance ways to the *campground*.
- d. Such landscaped buffers must be at least 3 m (10 ft.) in width.

9. Violations

Every person who does anything that this Bylaw prohibits, fails or omits to do anything this Bylaw requires to be done, or who breaches any provisions of this Bylaw, commits an offence. Each day an offence continues shall be a separate offence.

10. Severability

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this bylaw.

11. Penalty

Every person who commits an offence contrary to the provisions of this Bylaw is liable on summary conviction to the maximum penalty pursuant to the Offence Act in addition to the costs of the prosecution.

READ a FIRST TIME this ____ day of ____, 2015.

READ a SECOND TIME this ____ day of ____, 2015.

Public Hearing held on ____, 2015 and notification mailed on the ____ day of ____, 2015.

READ a THIRD TIME this ____ day of ____, 2015.

ADOPTED this ____ day of ____, 2015.

Lori Ackerman, Chair

Jo-Anne Frank, Corporate Officer

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of "PRRD Campground Bylaw No. Draft, 2015", as adopted by the Peace River Regional District Board on ____, 2015.

Corporate Officer

March 17, 2016



Peace River Regional District REPORT

R-2

To: Electoral Area Directors Committee

Date: March 10, 2016

From: Fran Haughian; Communications Manager

Subject: Communications Survey

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Electoral Area Directors Committee receive and discuss findings of survey.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

This report was received by the PRRD Board and referred to the Electoral Area Directors Committee for discussion.

Communications surveys were distributed at the Water & Sewer Referendum meetings and the volunteer banquet in the fall of 2015.

624 people attended the meetings and the banquet- 154 surveys were returned.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE: NA

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S): NA

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S): NA

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S): NA

March 17, 2016

Staff Initials: FH

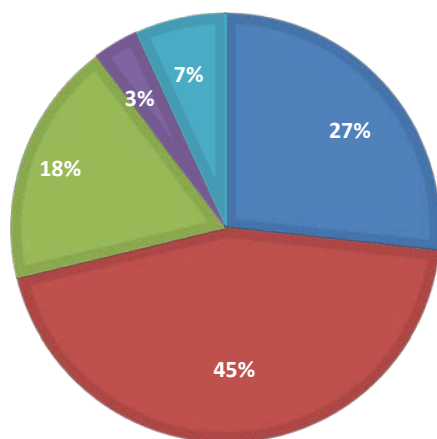
Dept. Head:

CAO:

Page 1 of 5

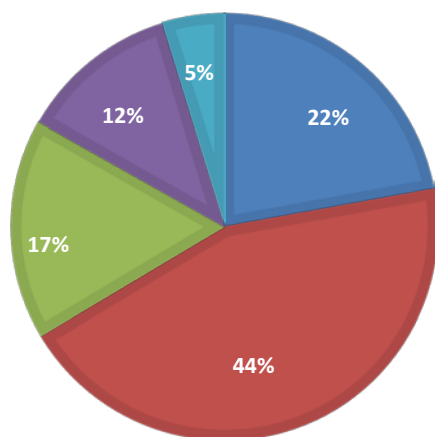
**THE PRRD WILLINGNESS TO HAVE OPEN COMMUNICATION
WITH THE PUBLIC IS:**

■ Very Good ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ Very Poor



**THE LEVEL OF MAKING INFORMATION EASILY ACCESSIBLE
AND AVAILABLE IS:**

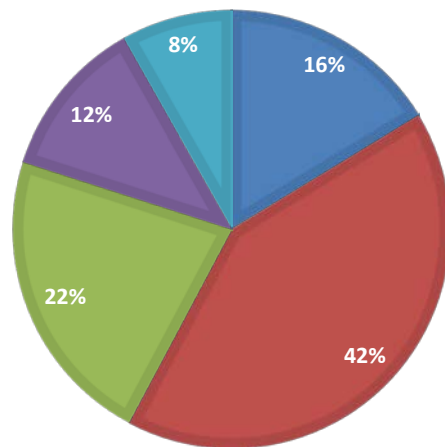
■ Very Good ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ Very Poor



March 17, 2016

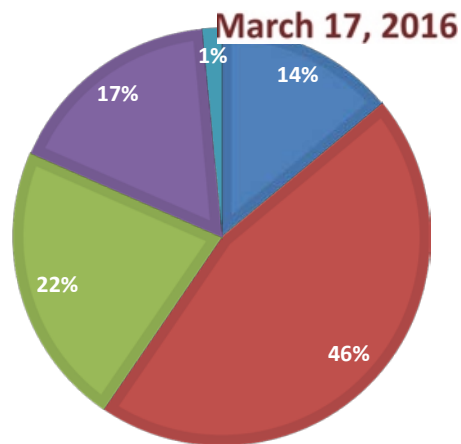
THE RESPONSE TIME TO CITIZENS AND STAKEHOLDERS IS:

■ Very Good ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ Very Poor



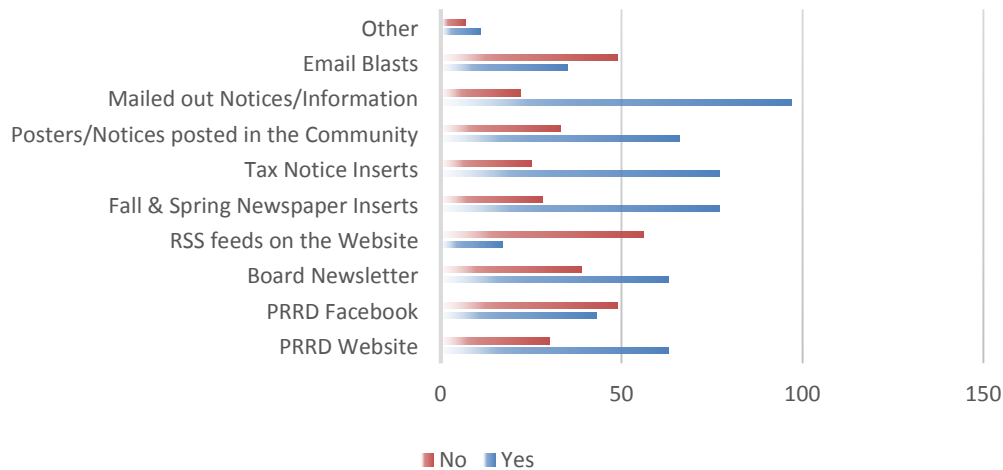
THE BOARD TRACK RECORD OF INFORMING THE PUBLIC BEFORE DECISIONS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS HAS:

■ Greatly Improved ■ Improved ■ Stayed the Same ■ Not Improved ■ Is Worse than Before



March 17, 2016

I KNOW ABOUT THE FOLLOWING METHODS OF COMMUNICATIONS THAT THE PRRD UTILIZES:



Comments:

- Don't know what the response time was to citizens before so didn't comment.
- Haven't asked any questions in the past, so don't know the response time .
- Plan on asking questions after I think about it.
- Haven't paid attention before about the Board's track record.
- Other communication method was verbal.
- Method of communication was word of mouth.
- Didn't know how to respond to response time.
- Didn't know how to respond to Board track record.
- People representing PRRD should be taking notes when questions are asked.
- Want PRRD to work hard to keep oil and gas industry from polluting the aquifer of Farminton Hall well.
- It's harvest time for many in rural areas so some residents couldn't attend the information sessions.
- Need more time before referendum to get information to rural residents.
- Need articles in the area newspapers, like Alaska Highway News and Northeast News.
- Need information presented on CJDC Radio and on the TV News.
- How about more rural domestic gas lines. Use Fair Share to help with this.
- It is very annoying to have multiple pipelines and wells on our property and no domestic gas service.
- Not sure about the PRRD willingness to have open communications with the public.
- Using our input is also important - not just informing us.
- We did not receive any notice in the mail about this meeting.
- We heard about this meeting by word of mouth.
- Sometimes have noticed posters in the community from the PRRD.
- Quick responses have been greatly appreciated in regards to my concerns.
- Romedo Spring should have been discussed with the community.
- I have had quick responses to emails with my concerns and it is appreciated.
- I don't understand the question about the response time to citizens and stakeholders.
- I heard about this meeting from another resident, otherwise I would not have known.
- Maybe make your signs with less fine print so people can read them.
- Communication is difficult in a rural area, but it should be improved.
- Well layed out slideshow. Great Job!!
- This session was not advertised well.
- I would not have know about it unless my neighbour hadn't called me to inform me about it.
- Never knew anything about this, a neighbour called to let me know.
- A neighbour informed me about the meeting
- The other method of communication is telephone.

March 17, 2016

- There is a great deal of confusion and room for corrections and improvement with regards to the 911 system in this region.
- Not always on-line.
- More research should be done!
- Have you considered a potable water facility in the homes of Rolla? Meetings in Rolla?
- Good Presentation.
- The Board track record has slightly improved.
- Don't use Facebook.
- The Board track record has slightly improved.
- Best method is the mailed out Notices.
- Second best method are the tax notice inserts, but they only go to owners, not to the renters.
- I haven't been paying attention to what PRRD has been doing so I can't reasonably answer this survey.
- The other method of communication has been the coffee shop chatter.
- PRRD never meets with anyone.
- Not happy with this.
- This is the first time that I saw you in our community, hopefully that will change
- and that today is the first step in that.
- Kelly Lake does not need this and shouldn't have to pay for it.
- I still disagree when people complain about building permits. You should not have to put it down on paper and sign it
- The community is small so I think you can drive out there and take a look. It might save a big problem down the road
- The problem is it pits neighbour against neighbour and really creates a problem.
- School packages should be done up for Junior and Senior classes.
- Communication to rural residents is extremely difficult and has been for years.
- NE News and Northern Horizon reaches rural residents. AH News does not. PRRDY mailouts reaches all residents.
- Keep up the "improved performance".
- Was a great organization to work with in many years.
- Heard about the meeting via word of mouth and the telephone.
- No complaints.
- I don't know about the Board track record of informing the public before decisions.
- I'm not sure about the Board track record of informing the public before decisions.
- Councilor for D is effective but Board decisions tend not to take rural citizens' concerns seriously especially with oil and gas activity and water issues, etc. Not good!!
- Communication between Trish and our group has improved and is helpful.
- Also bylaw enforcement has improved with new officer. She is quick to check and resolve issues. Thanks
- Your communication with the public and organizations has improved over the past 2 years. I feel this is due to Director Hiebert and his staff.
- Thanks to Leonard the communication between PRRD and organizations has greatly improved. Thank you
- It would be nice to see our PRRD Rep more often in our community (Region E).
- We so appreciate all of the work the Board helps every community with. They are always open to suggestions and I have found them to be quick to carry the ball on any issue and always ready to help. Thanks to all of you
- Thank you for everything.
- Not on Facebook, etc. Don't know what RSS feeds on the Website are.
- Very good supper!
- I don't live in the Regional District so I am unaware of the above. I do think the District does an excellent job. Hurrah! Hurrah!
- Word of mouth is the only communication I know.
- None.

March 17, 2016



Peace River Regional District REPORT

R-3

To: Electoral Area Directors Committee

Date: March 9, 2016

From: Fran Haughian, Manager of Communications
Jeff Rahn, General Manager of Environmental Services

Subject: "What Not to Flush" Educational Videos

BACKGROUND:

The "What Not to Flush" educational videos can be viewed at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtC_HAZiPGPKjB--vUdkf-A

In 2014 staff identified that the costs related to unclog non-disposable waste such as non-flushable wipes, rags and other materials clog household drain pipes, sewer lines and pumps, from pipes in the Regional District owned and operated sewage systems was resulting in costly maintenance and repairs. As well, Regional District staff wanted residents of Charlie Lake to better understand the operation of their sanitary sewer system.

In 2015 staff budgeted for the videos and identified the goals of the "What not to Flush" education program. The cost of the five videos was \$47,000.

Goals of the "What not to Flush" education program

1. Inform about the risks of flushing items down toilets that do not break down when flushed;
2. Educate the public about how Regional District owned and operated systems work;
3. Educate about maintenance of Regional District owned and operated systems;
4. Educate users of the Charlie Lake system about their system and how it works.

In 2015, four short educational videos and one long video were produced, which focus on the risks of flushing items down toilets that do not break down. Items, such as non-flushable wipes, rags and other materials clog household drain pipes, sewer lines and pumps, resulting in costly maintenance and repairs. Flushing hazardous materials such as solvents, antifreeze, and pesticides can result in treatment system degradation, upsets and environmental contamination. The long video is intended to help residents understand how the community sewer system works and provides information on how to maintain their private septic tank equipment.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE: 2.2 Water Security, 3.2 Rural Servicing

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S): In the 2016 \$3500 (designers) has been allocated to design and develop the print materials with the same messaging. \$5000 (promotions) has been budgeted to distribute to TV, web and print mediums.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

A public education plan is being developed in 2016 for the videos that will include distribution on local TV, websites, Facebook and YouTube, at Tradeshows, public events, PRRD meetings and be available to stakeholders. Print materials will also be developed with the same messaging.

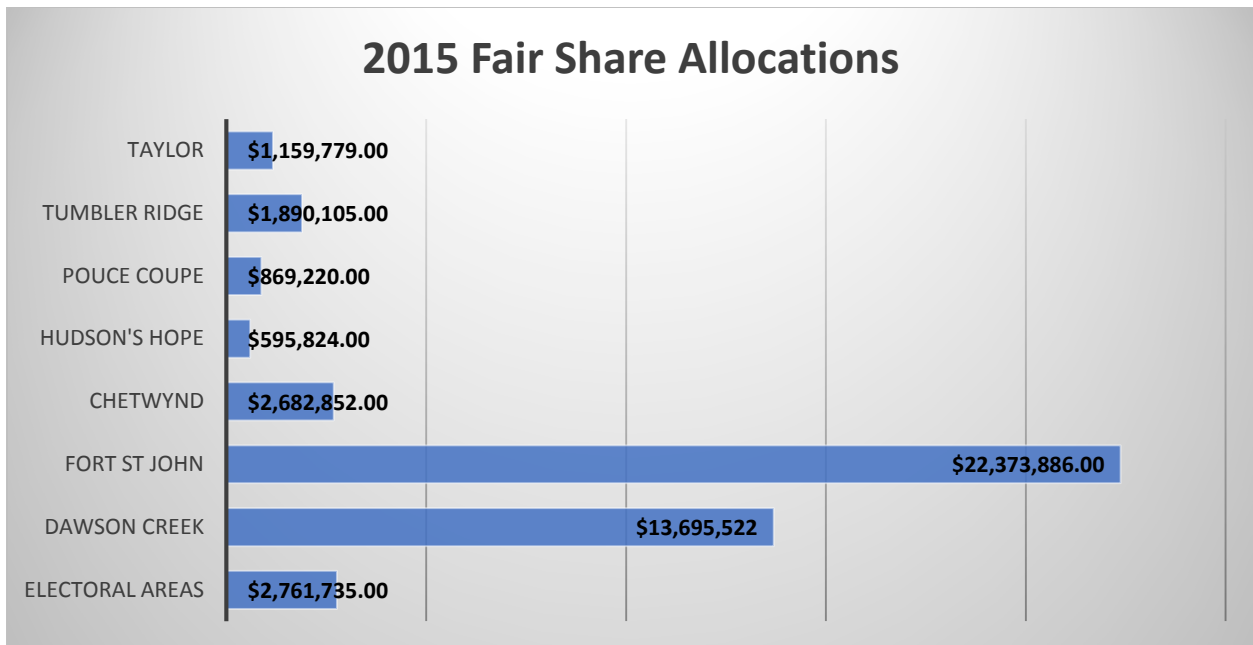
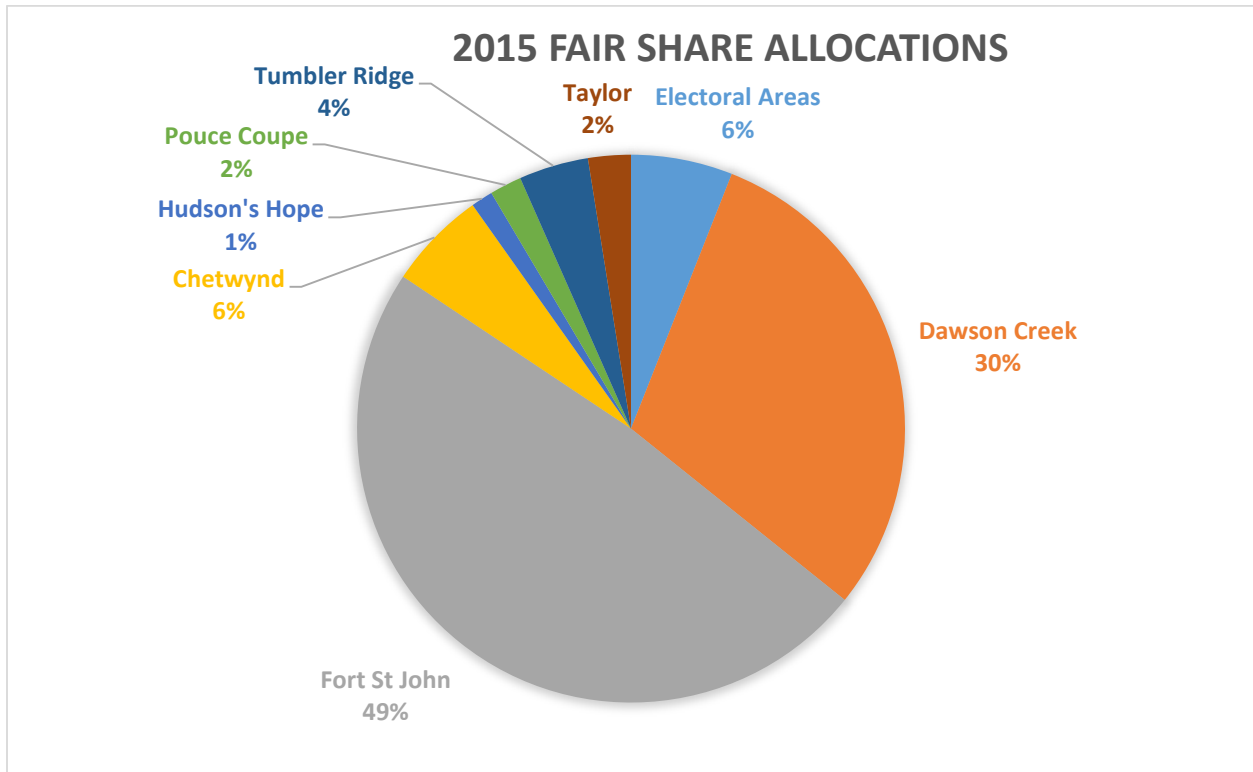
Staff Initials:

Dept. Head: *FFF*
March 17, 2016

CAO:

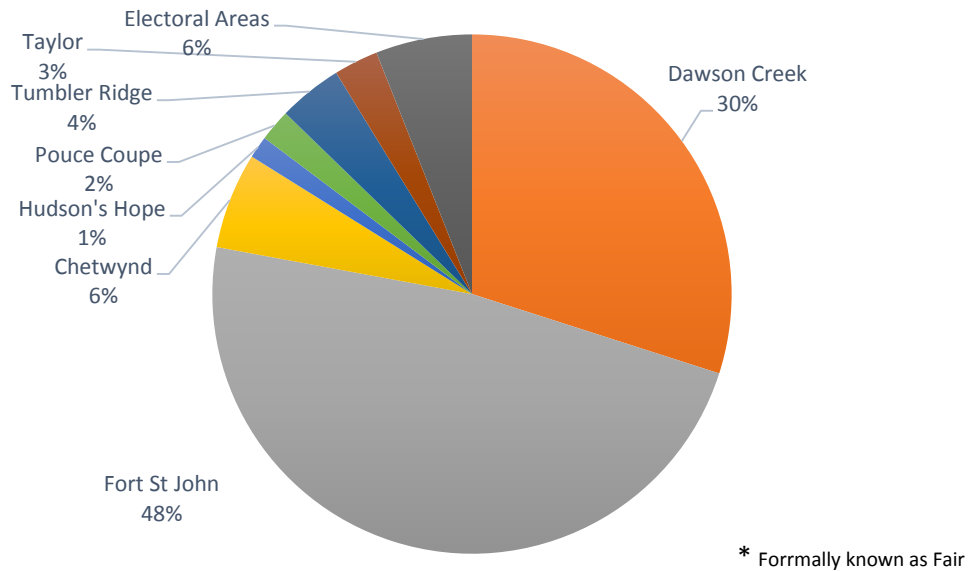
Ch. G. K.

Page 1 of 1



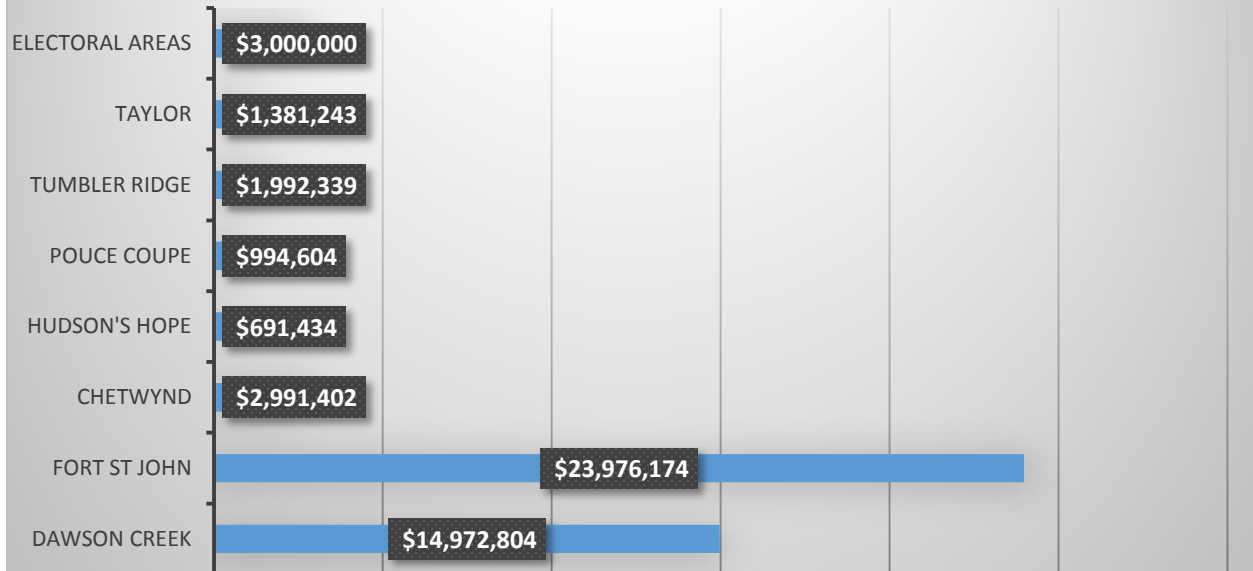
March 17, 2016

2016 *Peace River Agreement Allocations



2016 *Peace River Agreement Allocations

* Formally known as Fair Share



March 17, 2016

Alaska Highway News returns to weekly publication schedule; Mirror to broaden editorial coverage - Alaska Highway News March 10, 2016 12:34 p.m.



The Alaska Highway News is returning to its roots as a weekly community newspaper effective March 31 of this year.

The paper, which was founded as a weekly by George and Margaret "Ma" Murray in 1943, will become a free distribution paper serving Fort St. John and area every Thursday, while the Dawson Creek Mirror will broaden its community coverage using the current Dawson Creek-based editorial staff.

All editorial staff at the paper's current offices in both Dawson Creek and Fort St. John will be retained as part of the changes and will continue to provide daily news coverage online at www.alaskahighwaynews.ca. A new website for the Dawson Creek Mirror will be launched in the coming weeks.

These changes will result in the closure of the AHN printing operations in Dawson Creek. Glacier Media, owner of the AHN, have given 60 days' notice of this change to the union representing the affected workers as required by the BC Labour Code and will be negotiating with them shortly.

"The changes we are making are designed to ensure the Alaska Highway News and the Mirror's continued viability for many years to come," said Publisher William Julian.

"I want to thank all of our departing staff, particularly our pressmen, for their hard work and efforts over the years," Julian said. "The Alaska Highway News has changed many times over its 70-plus years of business. This is part of that necessary change to keep our newspapers sustainable in order to service our communities, our readers and our advertisers."

March 17, 2016

From: Karen Goodings [<mailto:kgooding@pris.bc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 10:55 AM
To: Director Brad Sperling <brad.sperling@prrd.bc.ca>; Director Dan Rose <Dan.Rose@prrd.bc.ca>; Director Leonard Hiebert <leonard.hiebert@prrd.bc.ca>
Cc: Trish Morgan <Trish.Morgan@prrd.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan - Consultation Summary Report

Wondering if it would be a good idea to have this printed off and discussed at the EADC on Thursday? or should each director read and respond? Or maybe Trish has a comment or two?

From: Project Team, Site C [<mailto:sitec@bchydro.com>]
Sent: March-07-16 12:21 PM
Subject: Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan – Consultation Summary Report



Consultation Summary Report Now Available

Stakeholder consultation was held from November 23, 2015 to January 29, 2016 to gather input regarding the development of a Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan for the Site C Clean Energy Project.

Participants provided feedback by attending consultation meetings, completing a feedback form, and providing written submissions.

The consultation summary report summarizing the feedback we received during the stakeholder consultation period is [now available online](#).

The consultation input will be considered, along with technical and financial information, as BC Hydro, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Energy and Mines develop a Framework for the Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan by July 2016, a draft Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan by January 2017, and a final Plan by July 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact us by email at sitec@bchydro.com.

Thank you,

Site C Project Team on behalf of the Consultation Steering Committee

This email and its attachments are intended solely for the personal use of the individual or entity named above. Any use of this communication by an unintended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, any publication, use, reproduction, disclosure or dissemination of its contents is strictly prohibited. Please immediately delete this message and its attachments from your computer and servers. We would also appreciate if you would contact us by a collect call or return email to notify us of this error. Thank you for your cooperation.

March 17, 2016



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

NB-1

Office of Electoral Area Directors B, C, D & E

January 28, 2016

BC Hydro
PO Box 2218
Vancouver, BC V6B 3W2

via email: sitec@bchydro.com

RE: Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan – Stakeholder Consultation Discussion Guide and Feedback Form

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find for your consideration our joint submission of comments regarding the “Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan.”

Should you have any questions regarding our submission please contact Trish Morgan, General Manager of Community & Electoral Area Services, at 250 784-3218 or trish.morgan@prrd.bc.ca.

Respectfully submitted by,

Karen Goodings
Director Electoral Area B

Brad Sperling
Director Electoral Area C

Leonard Hiebert
Director Electoral Area D

Dan Rose
Director Electoral Area E

diverse. vast. abundant.

March 17, 2016

PLEASE REPLY TO:



Box 810, 1981 Alaska Ave, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8 Tel: (250) 784-3200 or (800) 670-7773 Fax: (250) 784-3201 Email: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca
9505 100 St, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4N4 Tel: (250) 785-8084 Fax: (250) 785-1125 Email: prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca

Site C Clean Energy Project

**Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan
Stakeholder Consultation Discussion Guide and Feedback Form**

November 2015 – January 2016



March 17, 2016

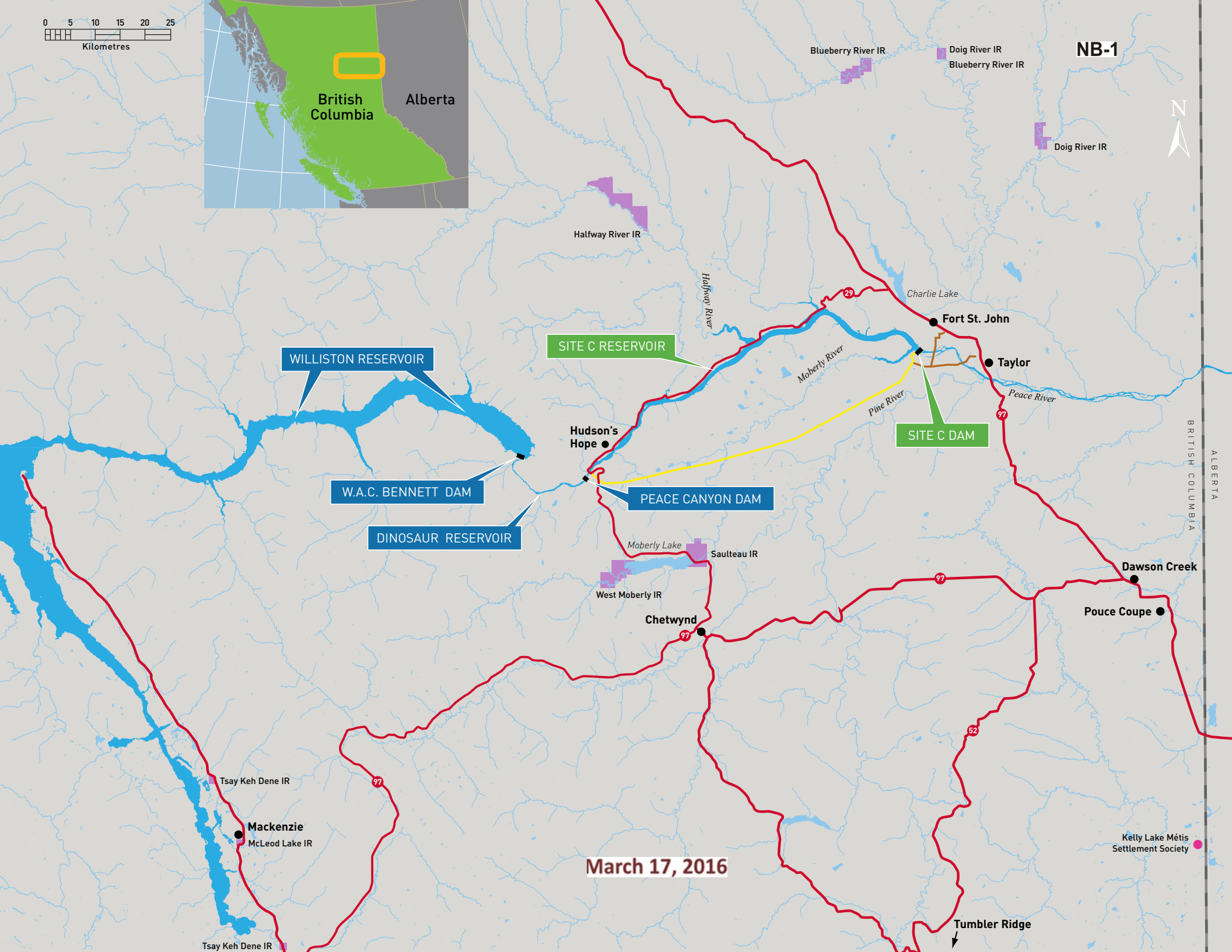


Ministry of
Agriculture



Ministry of
Energy and Mines





NB-1

WILLISTON RESERVOIR

SITE C RESERVOIR

W.A.C. BENNETT DAM

DINOSAUR RESERVOIR

PEACE CANYON DAM

SITE C DAM

Hudson's Hope

Charlie Lake

Fort St. John

Taylor

Peace River

Moberly Lake

Saulteau IR

West Moberly IR

Chetwynd

Dawson Creek

Pouce Coupe

Tsay Keh Dene IR

Mackenzie

McLeod Lake IR

Tsay Keh Dene IR

Tumbler Ridge

March 17, 2016

Kelly Lake Métis Settlement Society

Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan – Stakeholder Consultation

NB-1

(November 2015-January 2016)

Purpose

BC Hydro, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Energy and Mines are seeking your input regarding the development of a Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan for the Site C Clean Energy Project.

This consultation process seeks your input regarding the four parts of the framework:

- A. Implementation of appropriate construction management practices, as they pertain to agriculture
- B. Approach to development of individual farm mitigation plans
- C. Approach to management of surplus agricultural land
- D. Establishment of a \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund

How Input Will be Used

Your input will be considered, along with technical and financial information, as BC Hydro, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Energy and Mines develop a Framework for the Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan by July 2016, a draft Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan by January 2017, and a final Plan by July 2017.

We Want to Hear From You

This consultation period runs from November 23, 2015 to January 29, 2016, so that Peace River agricultural stakeholders across various sectors will have an opportunity to review and provide their input.

As part of the consultation period, regional stakeholder meetings will be held in December 2015 and January 2016. If you are an agricultural stakeholder interested in attending a meeting and haven't received an invitation, please email us at sitec@bchydro.com.

Learn more and provide your feedback by:

- Coming to a stakeholder meeting
- Filling out the feedback form found in this discussion guide at sitecproject.com. Alternatively, you can send your hardcopy feedback form to PO Box 2218, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3W2.
- Sending us an email to sitec@bchydro.com or letter to PO Box 2218, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3W2

Please provide your feedback by January 29, 2016.

March 17, 2016

1. Background

NB-1

About the Site C Clean Energy Project

The Site C Clean Energy Project (Site C) will be a third dam and hydroelectric generating station on the Peace River in northeast B.C. Approved by the Province of B.C. on December 16, 2014, construction of the project began in the summer of 2015. Site C will provide 1,100 megawatts (MW) of capacity, and produce about 5,100 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity each year — enough energy to power the equivalent of about 450,000 homes per year in B.C.

Site C received environmental approvals from the federal and provincial governments in October 2014, and received approval from the Province of B.C. in December 2014. Site C will be a source of clean, reliable and affordable electricity for more than 100 years.

More information about Site C can be found at sitecproject.com.

Provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate – Conditions Regarding Agriculture

The Provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Site C Clean Energy Project includes two conditions specific to agriculture, summarized below:

Condition No.30: BC Hydro will develop an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan addressing the following requirements: establishing a \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund; implementing appropriate construction management practices; developing individual farm mitigation plans; and managing surplus agricultural land.

Condition No.31: BC Hydro will implement an agriculture monitoring and follow-up program for a 10 year period: 5 years prior to operations and 5 years during operations. Condition 31 requires the development of a draft Agriculture Monitoring and Follow-Up Program which has been submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Peace River Regional District, and the District of Hudson's Hope for review. A final Program will be submitted in December 2015, and the monitoring program will begin in January 2016, within 180 days of the start of construction.

Monitoring programs to determine if creation of the Site C reservoir may result in site-specific changes that may affect agricultural operations include the following:

- Reservoir induced effects on crop drying;
- Effects on crop production due to changes in groundwater elevations;
- Effects on agriculture due to changes in wildlife habitat utilization; and
- Climate parameters to estimate irrigation water requirements near the reservoir.

March 17, 2016

2. Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan

NB-1

The Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan will include four components, which are the subject of this consultation process:

- A. Implementation of appropriate construction management practices, as they pertain to agriculture
- B. Approach to development of individual farm mitigation plans
- C. Approach to management of surplus agricultural land
- D. Establishment of a \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund

BC Hydro, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Energy and Mines have established a Consultation Steering Committee to guide consultation with agricultural stakeholders regarding a framework for the Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan. The Consultation Steering Committee is seeking and receiving advice from regional advisors: Hon. Mike Bernier, MLA for Peace River South, and Pat Pimm, MLA for Peace River North.

The Consultation Steering Committee has considered previous input related to agriculture received from consultation regarding the Site C Clean Energy Project and applied it in the development of this discussion guide and mitigation programs.

Process and Timeframe for Developing an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan

BC Hydro is working with the Ministry of Energy and Mines and Ministry of Agriculture to develop the Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan.

The Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan will be developed within the following timelines:

- **Framework (by July 2016):** An Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan Framework will be developed in consultation with affected agricultural land owners and tenure holders, and the Ministry of Agriculture and provided to the Peace River Regional District and the District of Hudson's Hope for review by July 2016.
- **Draft Plan (by January 2017):** A Draft Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan will be provided for review and comment by affected agricultural land owners and tenure holders, the Peace River Regional District, District of Hudson's Hope, Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations by January 2017.
- **Final Plan (by July 2017):** The Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan will be filed with the BC Environmental Assessment Office, Peace River Regional District, District of Hudson's Hope, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations by July 2017.

March 17, 2016

A. Implementation of Standard Construction Mitigation Measures

NB-1

Standard construction mitigation measures are included in the Site C Project's Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). The CEMP outlines the requirements for Environmental Protection Plans, which must be developed by contractors prior to the commencement of construction activities.

These plans include standard mitigation measures for all aspects of construction, including those that may affect agricultural land and operations. Plans related to agricultural land include:

- **Soil Management, Site Restoration and Re-vegetation Plan** – restoration of temporarily affected agricultural land during construction;
- **Borrow and Quarry Site Reclamation Plan** – restoration of temporarily affected agricultural land within quarries and pits developed during construction;
- **Vegetation and Invasive Plant Management Plan** – mitigation of potential effects to agricultural land through protection of vegetation and limiting the spread of invasive plants; and
- **Traffic Management Plans** – mitigation of potential construction effects on individual farm operations as a result of increased traffic and road closures.

Provide Your Feedback

1. Please provide any comments regarding the implementation of standard construction mitigation measures:

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

Soil Management, Site Restoration & Re-vegetation Plan:

- Should be the responsibility of BC Hydro and not funded in any way through this compensation fund.

Borrow and Quarry Site Reclamation Plan:

- Should be the responsibility of BC Hydro and not funded in any way through this compensation fund.

Vegetation and Invasive Plant Management Plan:

- Should be the responsibility of BC Hydro and not funded in any way through this compensation fund.

Traffic Management Plans:

- Should be the responsibility of BC Hydro and not funded in any way through this compensation fund.

All of the above bullets are the direct responsibility of the proponents of this construction. Where there is a need for restoration then the program should be following the Agriculture Land Commission rules and the restoration plan should have been developed prior to any construction start.

The restoration plan should include only the use of locally grown weed free seed.

March 17, 2016

B. Approach to the Development of Individual Farm Mitigation Plans

NB-1

In accordance with Condition 30, BC Hydro *"must evaluate effects on agricultural land owners and tenure holders, and develop mitigation and compensation measures consistent with industry compensation standards, to mitigate effects or compensate for losses."* Also, BC Hydro's plan must include *"funding for mitigation actions for disruptions to agricultural land owners and tenure holders."*

BC Hydro evaluated effects on agricultural land owners and tenure holders as part of the agricultural assessment during the environmental assessment phase. As part of this assessment, interviews were held with potentially-affected farm operators and/or owners in 2011 and 2012. There are 34 farm operations where a portion of the operation is within the Site C project activity zone. Of the 34, 22 owners or operators agreed to participate, and provided information about current and potential future agricultural activities. The results of the interviews were used, along with other information, such as from Statistics Canada and direct observations about farm operations, to inform the agricultural assessment.

Now that Site C has moved into construction, BC Hydro's properties team will discuss with agricultural land owners and tenure holders potential effects of the project on their land and operations, including potential mitigation actions related to disruption of their continuing agricultural operations. Where agricultural land is required for the Project it will be acquired at fair market value, and associated financial losses, including funding of mitigation actions and compensation for those effects which cannot be mitigated, if any, will be reimbursed as described in Section 11.3 of the Site C Environmental Impact Statement (Land Status, Tenure and Project Requirements).

The identification of specific mitigation actions that may require funding related to disruption of each agricultural operation will be identified by BC Hydro in private discussions with agricultural land owners and tenure holders whose land or rights may be affected by the Project. For example, potential mitigation actions may include changes to driveways to address changes to farm access, consideration of changes to unauthorised public

access, relocation of farm infrastructure such as buildings, wells or fencing, or other disruptions to current agricultural operations. Where such effects cannot be avoided, individual farm mitigation plans will be developed to determine compensation for financial losses due to disruptions to agricultural land use, consistent with industry compensation standards. Funding for individual farm mitigation or compensation will be in addition to the \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund.

Provide Your Feedback

2. Please provide any comments regarding the approach to the development of individual farm mitigation plans:

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

This section is between BC Hydro and the landowners and we appreciate the comment that "Funding for individual farm mitigation or compensation will be in addition to the \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund." This leads us to wonder why this discussion is included in the paper re: the \$20 million compensation fund.

It is unfortunate that a Crown Corporation was allowed to use taxpayers dollars to purchase the valley lands with the idea that Site C "must" happen. Even more unfortunate is the knowledge that because of this, the valley has never been developed to its capacity. One doesn't spend the time and money to improve property they don't own.

With that in mind, it is also important to recognize the lost horticultural capability that will be gone forever by the flooding of the valley. Horticulture is defined as "the science and art of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers and ornamental plants." All very important to the wellbeing and economic development of any region.

Appendix "F" of the Agricultural Assessment shows "Class 1" lands are capable of growing a wide variety of vegetables, fruits, and high yield grains used for oils and cereals. It is very important to note that BC Hydro does not recognize the Class 1 lands as such and yet in the assessment the table shows its high capability.

March 17, 2016

C. Approach to Management of Surplus Agricultural Lands

NB-1

In accordance with Condition 30, BC Hydro's Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan must include *"inclusion of suitable land in the Agricultural Land Reserve in consultation with the Agricultural Land Commission"*, and *"when residual parcels are to be sold, consolidate and / or connect residual agricultural parcels with adjacent agricultural land holdings, where practical and when owner(s) and BC Hydro agree."*

These conditions reflect the fact that, through the process of land acquisition for Site C, BC Hydro will end up with surplus land holdings that may be suitable for future agricultural land use.

BC Hydro will be in a position to begin the process of identifying lands that are surplus, or not directly required for the project, approximately five years after the completion of construction. This timeline allows for the results of reservoir shoreline monitoring to inform this process, as well as the establishment of long-term mitigation measures that may include establishment of areas such as wildlife habitat compensation lands or recreation sites. Until that time, 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 responsible approach to noxious weed management.

Surplus lands will be assessed 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 Aboriginal interests, as well as community interests as stated in official community plans and zoning.

For those lands retained as wildlife habitat compensation, there will be management plans developed. Continued agricultural use of these lands is also an objective. BC Hydro will work with government agencies, Aboriginal groups and other potentially affected stakeholders to identify the habitat management objectives, specific actions for the maintenance, creation or enhancement of targeted habitat features, compatible land use

including agricultural practices, and other property-specific management considerations.

BC Hydro-owned land deemed surplus to project or mitigation requirements, and that have continuing agricultural value, may be dealt with in several ways. First, when these land parcels are to be sold, BC Hydro will make efforts to consolidate or connect residual agricultural parcels with adjacent agricultural land holdings, where practical and where owners agree. Secondly, BC Hydro will consult with the Agricultural Land Commission and adjacent landowners to include suitable land in the Agricultural Land Reserve.

Provide Your Feedback

3. Please provide any comments regarding the management of surplus agricultural lands:

Who will have the task of determining what the land use priorities for suitable "other" uses will be? If it takes over 10 years to build the dam and five years before BC Hydro can begin the process of determination, how will the region be compensated for the 15+ years of lost use?

For those lands retained as wildlife habitat compensation, how will agriculture benefit? Wildlife and agriculture have not always been compatible. To encourage the use of the land for agriculture as an objective while working with government agencies, Aboriginal groups and affected stakeholders require separate funding that should not be part of the this \$20 million fund. There is a need for additional funds to be set up by BC Hydro to cover the costs of the meetings and discussions.

To consolidate the surplus parcel with adjacent landholding would be sensible.

To consult with the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) and adjacent landowners to include suitable land in the Agricultural Land Reserve will result in the appearance of mitigating the loss of land, but it will not be comparable to the loss of the prime land in the valley nor the loss of horticulture capability.

- a) Set-up additional funds as this is the responsibility of BC Hydro and should not be funded through the meagre \$20 million fund.
- b) Consult with the local landowners and the ALC on consolidation and future uses for the "surplus" land.

D. Establishment of an Agricultural Compensation Fund

As part of the environmental assessment of Site C, BC Hydro proposed the creation of a \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund for use in the Peace Region. The purpose of the fund is to mitigate the change in agricultural economic activity as a result of Site C.

In accordance with Condition 30, BC Hydro's Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan must include:

"...establishment of an agricultural compensation fund of \$20 million for use in the Peace Region or other areas of the province as necessary to compensate for lost agricultural lands and activities, and an approach for establishing the governance and allocation of funds. The EAC Holder must work with the Ministry of Agriculture to establish a governance structure for the agriculture compensation fund that will ensure funds will be used to support enhancement projects that improve agricultural land, productivity or systems."

BC Hydro is accountable for creating the Agricultural Compensation Fund, and responsible for seeking input from agricultural stakeholders on its objectives, administration, and delivery, which is the purpose of this consultation. Input received on the discussion guide information and feedback questions below will provide content for the development of the Framework, and will be the basis for a detailed Mandate to direct the Fund's future implementation.

The next few pages provide information and ask for your feedback regarding the following topics:

- **Vision:** Why are we creating an Agricultural Compensation Fund? Where should the Fund be targeted and what should it cover?
- **Governance:** How should the Fund be administered? How should projects be reviewed?
- **Eligibility:** Who should be eligible to apply? What is the nature and scope of projects that should be funded?
- **Allocation:** How should funds be allocated and over what time period?



March 17, 2016

D1. Agricultural Compensation Fund Vision

NB-1

Why are we creating an Agricultural Compensation Fund?

The construction and operations of the Site C Clean Energy Project will affect agricultural land and operations in the Peace Region. To mitigate this impact to agricultural economic activity, BC Hydro will create a \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund (the Fund) to support enhancement projects that improve agricultural land, productivity, and systems. As discussed in separate sections, other mitigation is proposed to address other effects, including standard construction management, surplus agricultural land management, and physical monitoring programs for agriculture.

Where should the Fund be targeted and what should it cover?

The Site C Clean Energy Project's physical footprint is in the Peace Region. Therefore it is proposed that the Fund be targeted to activities that will enhance agricultural lands, operations, or agrifoods¹ economic activity in the Peace Region. The geographic target for the Fund will be the area of the BC Peace River Regional District.

Proposed Vision Statement

Based on the information above, the following is the proposed vision statement for the Agricultural Compensation Fund:

"Enhance the Peace Region's opportunity for agricultural production and agrifoods economic activity."

Provide Your Feedback

4. Please provide any comments regarding the proposed vision statement for the Agricultural Compensation Fund:

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

Make it abundantly clear that this fund is intended for the BC Peace River area and to mitigate somewhat the losses of the valley.

This fund should be considered primarily as a fund in perpetuity. Terms of Reference to be developed should show clearly what the fund can be used for.

That the \$20 million be deposited in a lump sum so as to manage the interest that might be accrued.

March 17, 2016

1. Agrifoods refers to agriculture, seafood, and food and beverage processing.

D2. Agricultural Compensation Fund Governance

How should the Fund be administered?

Based on research into effective fund administering organizations, the following are proposed principles to guide fund administration.

Proposed Principles of Fund Administration

- **Fair and Transparent:** The Fund must be administered in a fair and transparent manner so that all projects are reviewed and given equal consideration.
- **Regional Knowledge and Technical Expertise:** Regional knowledge of agricultural strengths, needs, challenges and opportunities combined with technical expertise will assist in good decision-making and assessment of project viability.
- **Professional:** The organization needs to be efficient in order to make timely decisions, it must be effective in document management and record keeping, and have strong communication capabilities to interact with and support Fund applicants.
- **Accountable:** The organization would ensure that the Fund meets the regulatory requirements set out by the Environmental Assessment Certificate Condition 30, and that funding recipients and projects meet the eligibility requirements of the Fund.
- **Inclusive:** The fund must be administered in a manner than recognizes the diversity of agricultural sectors, interests and opportunities in the Peace Region.

Provide Your Feedback

5. Please provide any comments regarding the proposed principles of fund administration:

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

Fair & Transparent: Through a Board made up of local producers where there is EQUAL representation of all sectors regardless of whether there is an association supporting the sector including, but is not limited to grain, cattle, horticulture, sheep and bison.

By having a Terms of Reference that utilizes a scoring system to define and assess the qualification of projects.

Regional Knowledge & Technical Expertise: As above

Professional: The developement of a similar system to that of the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) should be examined. Using an existing organization (such as NDIT) will save on administration costs.

Accountable: The NDIT would be an example of what would ensure accountability.

Inclusive: Agreed that is important and is not to be distributed using a formula of the number of acres or count of cattle, but of the need to be able to utilize our land for the growing of food (horticulture).

March 17, 2016

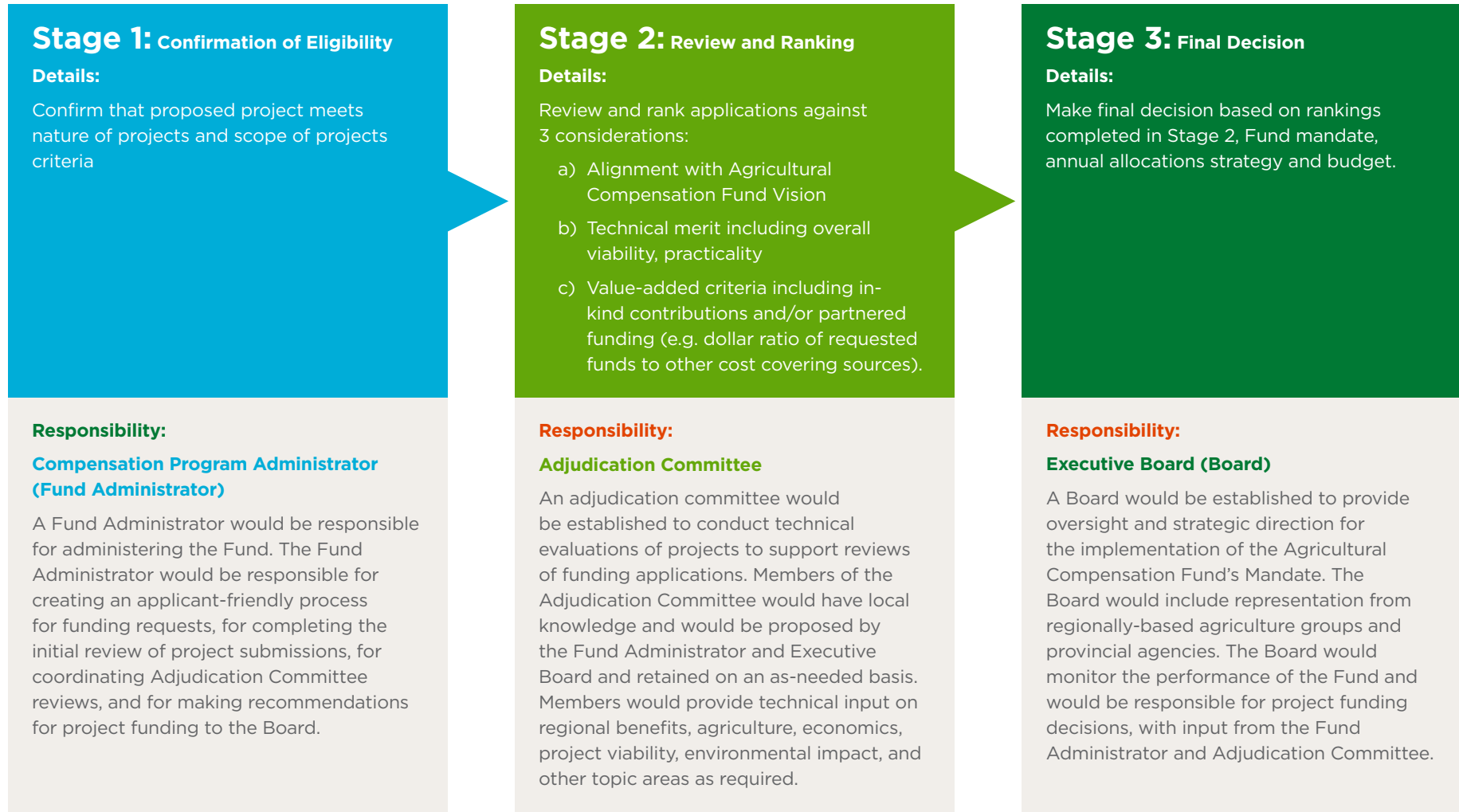
How should the fund be operated?

To achieve the administrative requirements outlined on the previous page, it is proposed that the Fund's organizational structure would include an Executive Board, an independent Fund Administrator, and an Adjudication Committee with agriculture and economic experts. Administration costs would be covered by the Fund. The proposed roles and responsibilities of each are outlined below and the relationship between each group is illustrated in the flowchart.

How should projects be reviewed?

It is proposed that project funding applications would be reviewed using a three-stage process:

NB-1



March 17, 2016

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

[illegible]

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

Provision of Feedback: Needs to have perpetuity built into the TOR. If an application is requesting more than the funds available in any given year, then that application may have to be dealt with on a special plan over several years. Due to the compounded erosion of our valley lands, first in the Taylor area and now in the Bear Flats areas, has resulted in a loss of horticulture producers. This is a serious impediment to food security in our region. Food security must become a much higher priority. This needs to be recognized in the organizational structure for the fund.

Discussion Guide and Feedback Form

D3. Agricultural Compensation Fund Eligibility

NB-1

Who should be eligible to apply?

It is proposed that the following groups be eligible to apply for funds:

- Individuals and/or partnerships (including new entrants to agriculture)
- Non-profit organizations
- Peace Region industry associations, agencies, boards, and councils
- Educational institutions

8. Please rate your level of agreement with the proposed applicant categories noted above:

Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Please provide any comments regarding the proposed applicant categories:

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

Yes - to individuals and/or partnerships (including new entrants to agriculture)

No - to non-profit organizations as this is too broad

Yes - to the Peace Region industry associations and agencies

No - to the educational institutions. If it qualifies through the application process for research in support of agriculture and the commodity group has an agreement with an educational institution to do the research then the application should be considered. However, applications should not be from the institutions themselves.

What is the nature and scope of projects that should be funded?

We are interested in feedback regarding the nature and scope of projects that the agricultural community would like to see eligible for funding. BC Hydro has undertaken past consultation with agricultural stakeholders and the public regarding this topic.

In 2012, as part of public consultation regarding Site C, BC Hydro sought input regarding agriculture, asking consultation participants to rate their level of agreement with using funds from the agricultural compensation program to support the exploration of a range of regional agricultural mitigation project. 61 per cent of participants strongly or somewhat agreed with exploring the following types of projects:

- Crop irrigation research, development and infrastructure to enhance agricultural capability
- Vegetable sector projects, such as vegetable storage and processing facilities near transportation routes, to support development of higher-value agricultural production
- Forage sector projects to increase current forage and grain crop production levels
- Range and pasture sector improvements, such as clearing, seeding, fertilizing, and fencing, to increase capacity and local production
- Regional agricultural programs, such as invasive plant management, agricultural climate adaptation research or local food production programs

It is proposed that the Fund should consider a broad range of project categories to allow for consideration of projects that can provide maximum benefit to the agricultural sector. Based on this approach, the project categories proposed for the Fund include:

- Research and development
- Market development
- Training and education
- Capital investment for industry infrastructure
- Transportation and supply chain

The project criteria would be reviewed annually to ensure that it is current and comprehensive.

10. Please rate your level of agreement with projects in each of the following project categories being eligible for funding:

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Research and Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Market Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training and Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Capital Investment for Industry Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation and Supply Chain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

11. Please provide any comments regarding the project criteria:

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

Research into variety trials for crops including vegetables/fruits would be beneficial, also the ability to use abundant energy sources to heat greenhouses.

What is the nature and scope of projects that should be funded?

Eligible Activities/Project

It is proposed that projects should address one or more of the following scope criteria related to agriculture in the Peace Region, and have demonstrated industry support, to be eligible:

- Land productivity (such as new crops and technology)
- Land base management (such as shelterbelts or windbreaks, weed management programs and improvements to grazing capacity)
- Land base improvements and infrastructure (such as livestock watering facilities, fencing for wildlife control and irrigation)
- Market access and infrastructure (such as regional value-added initiatives, institutions and services)
- Infrastructure and Transportation improvements (such as cleaning and packing, warehousing and storage, and distribution facilities to support vegetable industry)
- Sustainability (adoption of green and alternative technologies in place of fossil fuel-driven energy systems)
- Climate change response (on-farm responses and adaptations)
- New product and practice viability (studies, demonstrations to test new methods)

The list of eligible activities/projects would be reviewed annually and updated as needed to ensure that it is current, comprehensive, and distinct but complementary to other funding programs available to the agriculture sector.

Ineligible Activities

The following activities are proposed to be ineligible for funding:

- Core activities of government or non-government agencies or programs, including lobbying activities
- Development of policy related to land or agricultural management
- Administration of government regulations
- Engagement in enforcement and compliance activities
- Costs incurred prior to formal notification of funding approval

12. Please provide any comments regarding the eligible and ineligible activities noted to the left: **NB-1**

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

Agree with the eligibility and ineligibility activities listed for projects, with the exception of the adoption of alternative technologies in place of fossil fuel driven energy systems. We have existing facilities that would qualify to help including some co-generation and there needs to be recognition that fossil fuels heat many homes and businesses in our region and provide the base for the LNG export facilities.

March 17, 2016

How should funds be allocated and over what time period?

A wide variety of approaches to fund allocation, including consideration of the size of awards, maximum duration of project funding, and frequency of disbursements have been explored.

The preferred approach for the Agricultural Compensation Fund is to retain flexibility to provide funding for projects that would provide the greatest benefits to agricultural production and agrifoods economic activity in the Peace River region. It is proposed that projects requesting over \$20,000 in






funds should have a minimum of one other funding source. The other funding sources could include in-kind contributions or other government or private funding. A second source of funding provides external validation of project value, and also creates a greater commitment by the project proponent to deliver the project. Specific details for fund applications and project requirements will be developed after the Fund Mandate is created.

The table below summarizes options considered by the Consultation Steering Committee for the following topics:

Topic	Options Considered	Research Findings
Fund Duration How long will the Fund be in place?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single project investment (i.e., spend all \$20 million on a major investment such as an Agricultural Research and Development Centre) • Spread payout over a 5-, 10- or 20-year period • Endowment Approach, where only the interest would be allocated to projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determining a specific timeframe for the Fund may limit eligible projects and Fund effectiveness.
Annual Allocation How much would be dispersed from the Fund each year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20 million in one year (i.e., single project investment) • \$4 million per year for 5 years • \$2 million a year for 10 years • \$1 million per year for 20 years • Endowment Approach, which could be continued in perpetuity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-determining annual fund distribution totals may reduce the impact of the Fund by delaying funding of projects with merit.
Duration of Project Funding How long should a project be eligible to receive funding for?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One year only • Multiple years, with an annual reporting requirement to secure funding for subsequent years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the seasonality of agriculture, several growing seasons are often required to understand the benefits of a new program, technology or process.
Project Funding Limits What percentage of a project's cost should be eligible for funding?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No limit on individual project costs • Limited to \$500,000 per project, per applicant, per year • Limited to 50 per cent of a project's cost • Limit the % of in-kind contribution • Requirement of funding from at least one other source. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding from a minimum of a second source provide validation of project value, and creates a greater commitment by the project proponent.
Application Submission Deadlines When should project applications be accepted?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-determined intake periods to focus review process on annual or bi-annual submissions • No deadlines – applications accepted and reviewed continuously 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-determined intakes for large applications assists in review processes, and efficiency of funding awards. • Consider allowance for small funding requests to be considered on an ongoing basis.

March 17, 2016

The fund allocation approach must be stipulated in the Terms of Reference.

Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
				

15. Please provide any additional comments regarding the development of a Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan:

(In consideration of privacy, do not identify yourself or other specific individuals in your written comments. Any comments including self-identification or identification of third parties will be discarded.)

About You

16. Which provincial agricultural region are you from?

- ☒ Peace
- ☐ Omenica Skeena
- ☐ Cariboo Chilcotin Coast
- ☐ Thompson Nicola
- ☐ Okanagan
- ☐ Kootenay
- ☐ South Coast
- ☐ Vancouver Island/Coast

17. What agricultural sector(s) are you active in? (select all that apply)

- ☒ Beef cattle ranching
- ☐ Dairy cattle
- ☐ Fruit and nut tree farming
- ☐ Field vegetables, melon farming and potato farming
- ☐ Greenhouse, mushroom, nursery and floriculture production
- ☐ Hog farming
- ☐ Forages
- ☐ Oilseed and grain farming
- ☐ Poultry and egg production
- ☒ Sheep and goat farming
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

18. What is your role within the agricultural sector? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Primary producer (farmer/rancher)
- ☐ Agriculture industry organization
- ☐ Agricultural service industry
- ☐ Agricultural product processor/marketer
- ☐ Agricultural researcher/educator
- ☒ Government representative
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

19. Please provide your contact information (optional):

Jointly submitted by Karen Goodings, Brad Sperling, Leonard Hiebert
Name: **& Dan Rose**

Organization: **Peace River Regional District Electoral Area Directors**

Position: **Electoral Area Directors for Areas B, C, D & E**

Email Address: **prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca**

Phone Number: **250 784-3200**



BC Hydro, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Energy and Mines
Consultation Steering Committee

Site C Clean Energy Project

Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan

Consultation Summary Report

March 2016

March 17, 2016

Prepared by
Kirk & Co. Consulting Ltd.

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	4
1.1. Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan	4
2. Stakeholder Consultation – November 2015 – January 2016	5
2.1 Purpose – Stakeholder Consultation	5
2.2 Notification	5
2.3 Participation	6
2.4 Consultation Methods.....	6
2.4.1 Discussion Guide	6
2.4.2 Online Consultation	6
2.4.3 Stakeholder Meetings	7
3. Consultation Results	8
3.1 Key Themes from Stakeholder Meetings.....	8
3.2 Results from Feedback Forms	9
3.3 Results from Submissions	28

Appendix 1: Stakeholder Meeting Summaries

Appendix 2: Discussion Guide and Feedback Form

March 17, 2016

1. Introduction

1.1. Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan

The Site C Clean Energy Project (Site C) will be a third dam and hydroelectric generating station on the Peace River in northeast B.C. Site C received environmental approvals from the federal and provincial governments in October 2014, and received approval from the Province of B.C. in December 2014.

The Provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate for the Site C Clean Energy Project includes Condition 30, which requires BC Hydro to develop an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan addressing the following requirements: establishing a \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund; implementing appropriate construction management practices; developing individual farm mitigation plans; and managing surplus agricultural land.

BC Hydro, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Energy and Mines are developing the Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan with input from Peace Region land owners, tenure holders, agricultural producers, and agricultural stakeholders, including local governments and First Nations.

In accordance with the requirements of the condition, the Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan will be submitted to the Peace River Regional District and the District of Hudson's Hope for review by July 2016. A draft Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan will be provided for review in January 2017, and a final plan filed with the BC Environmental Assessment Office, Peace River Regional District, District of Hudson's Hope, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations by July 2017. In addition, the Framework, draft Plan and final Plan will be posted on the Site C website for review, and notification will be provided to affected land owners, tenure holders, agricultural stakeholders, and consultation participants.

BC Hydro, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Energy and Mines has established a Consultation Steering Committee to guide consultation with agricultural stakeholders regarding the framework for the Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan. The Consultation Steering Committee is seeking and receiving advice from regional advisors: Hon. Mike Bernier, MLA for Peace River South, and Pat Pimm, MLA for Peace River North.

March 17, 2016

2. Stakeholder Consultation – November 2015-January 2016

Stakeholder consultation regarding the Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan took place from November 23, 2015 to January 29, 2016. This report summarizes input received during the stakeholder consultation process.

2.1 Purpose – Stakeholder Consultation

During stakeholder consultation, BC Hydro, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Energy and Mines presented content from the draft Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan, and sought input regarding four key components of the Plan:

- A. Implementation of appropriate construction management practices, as they pertain to agriculture
- B. Approach to development of individual farm mitigation plans
- C. Approach to management of surplus agricultural land
- D. Establishment of a \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund

The input received during stakeholder consultation is summarized in this report and will be considered, along with technical and financial information, as BC Hydro, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Agriculture and Mines develop the Framework for the Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan.

2.2 Notification

Notification of opportunities to participate in stakeholder consultation included the following:

- **Invitation and Reminder Emails:** Notification emails were sent to approximately 125 Peace River agricultural stakeholders, encouraging participation in stakeholder meetings and reminding them of the opportunity to participate in online consultation.
 - **Invitation to Participate:** Sent to stakeholder meeting invitees on November 9, November 17 and December 21, 2015 and January 4 and 25, 2016
 - **Thank You and Reminder to Submit Feedback:** Sent to stakeholder meeting attendees on December 17, 2015, and January 1 and January 18, 2016
- **Reminder Phone Calls:** Calls were made in follow-up to the email invitations, inviting or reminding people about meetings and the online consultation.
- **Website:** Information regarding the Agricultural Stakeholder Consultation is available on the Site C Project website (www.sitecproject.com/agricultural-stakeholder-consultation). The consultation discussion guide and an online feedback form were posted on the website on November 23, 2015.

March 17, 2016

2.3 Participation

There were a total of **114 participant interactions** during the stakeholder consultation regarding the Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan:

- 81 people attended four stakeholder meetings
- 30 feedback forms were received
- 3 written submissions were received

It should be noted that some stakeholders participated through multiple methods, such as attending one or more stakeholder meetings, and providing a feedback form or a written submission.

2.4 Consultation Methods

Stakeholder consultation materials were available online at www.sitecproject.com/agricultural-stakeholder-consultation beginning on November 23, 2015. Input and feedback were collected using the discussion guide, online consultation and stakeholder meetings as described below.

2.4.1 Discussion Guide and Feedback Form

A Discussion Guide presented the proposed Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan and additional detail on draft components relevant to the Agricultural Compensation Fund. A Feedback Form included in the Discussion Guide invited comment regarding four key elements of the Plan:

- A. Implementation of appropriate construction management practices, as they pertain to agriculture
- B. Approach to development of individual farm mitigation plans
- C. Approach to management of surplus agricultural land
- D. Establishment of a \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund

The Discussion Guide and Feedback Form was developed by the Consultation Steering Committee with input from the Regional Advisors.

The Discussion Guide and Feedback Form was distributed in hardcopy at four stakeholder meetings, and was available on the Site C Project website, and through web links from the Ministry of Agriculture.

2.4.2 Online Consultation

The discussion guide was available on the Site C Project website (www.sitecproject.com/agricultural-stakeholder-consultation) as well as an online feedback form which could be submitted directly from the website.

March 17, 2016

2.4.3 Stakeholder Meetings

81 people attended four stakeholder meetings. It should be noted that some people attended more than one meeting.

Meetings were held on the following dates:

Stakeholder Meetings		
Date	Time	Location
Wednesday, December 2, 2015	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Hudson's Hope
Thursday, January 7, 2016	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Fort St. John
Tuesday, January 12, 2016	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Dawson Creek
Wednesday, January 13, 2016	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Chetwynd

A Kirk & Co. facilitator attended the stakeholder meetings with the Consultation Steering Committee. At each meeting, participants were provided with the discussion guide and were encouraged to provide a completed feedback form or a submission. Members of the Consultation Steering Committee presented the contents of the discussion guide, focusing on the consultation topics, and participants were invited to ask questions and provide feedback during the meeting.

The Consultation Steering Committee stated during the meetings that it was also seeking guidance from the BC Environmental Assessment Office with respect to the governance and allocation of the Agricultural Compensation Fund and any requirements they would have of BC Hydro in satisfying the EAC conditions.

Key themes from each of the stakeholder meetings are provided in Section 3.1 and summary notes from each meeting are included in Appendix 1.

March 17, 2016

3. Consultation Results

3.1 Key Themes from Stakeholder Meetings

The following are the key themes from the four stakeholder meetings.

Meeting	Key Themes
Hudson's Hope December 2, 2015 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants expressed an interest in refining the Agricultural Compensation Fund's geographic scope to be focused on the Peace River Valley, rather than the Peace Region, because the Peace River Valley is the area that will experience the greatest impact due to the Site C Project. Participants asked that BC Hydro clarify the approach for engaging directly with affected landowners on topics including highway relocation, land acquisition, Statutory Right of Ways, and monitoring plan findings. Participants were interested in establishing a regional working group to provide further input on the Agricultural Compensation Fund framework. Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should not be for use outside the Peace Region.
Fort St. John January 7, 2016 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants stressed the importance of having regional administration of the Agricultural Compensation Fund, and regional decisions on funding awards. Participants discussed various existing fund managers that may be able to play a role in the compensation fund going forward. Participants expressed interest in BC Hydro transferring the full amount of the agricultural compensation fund of \$20 million as a lump sum to enable the fund administrator to accrue interest over time. Some local agriculture producer groups expressed interest in the fund being distributed in larger amounts chunks to have a greater impact Some government representatives expressed interest in annual funding that would last in perpetuity for long term benefit. Participants commented on potential project eligibility criteria for the fund, and in general expressed interest in maintaining a flexible framework to ensure the best projects are selected for funding with examples including agricultural infrastructure projects and low-interest loans. Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should not be for use outside the Peace Region.
Dawson Creek January 12, 2016 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should be regionally managed, and that local agricultural producers should be the final decision makers. Participants expressed interest in creating an executive board to govern the fund, with 1/3 livestock industry representatives, 1/3 crop producers and 1/3 various other minor commodities groups including horticulture. Participants requested that the Fund be allocated in a lump sum endowment of \$20 million. Participants expressed interest in retaining flexibility of eligibility and the criteria for applications, to avoid exclusion of potentially beneficial projects. Participants considered fund eligibility for on-farm investments, multiple-year funding, and interest-free or low interest loans.

March 17, 2016

Meeting	Key Themes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants identified the need to support new, young entrants into agriculture. Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should not be for use outside the Peace Region.
Chetwynd January 13, 2016 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants expressed an interest in creating a new cross-producer society to manage/disburse the fund, and not an adaptation of an existing group or fund manager, to ensure all interested stakeholders are represented. Participants commented on fund governance, articulating the need for an executive board comprised of local agricultural producers, with positions for smaller groups and new entrants. Participants commented that the executive board should have a clear terms of reference to ensure fairness, and that the terms of reference should be reviewed every two to five years. Participants expressed interest in the compensation fund of \$20 million being paid out in a lump sum from BC Hydro, and managed as an endowment, with flexibility in annual payments. Participants commented on criteria and eligibility, expressing interest in ensuring individual producers have ways of participating in the fund – both on advisory board and as applicants. Participants proposed that 30 per cent of each year's funding be available for individual projects. Participants expressed the need for new, young entrants into the farming industry and a need for educational agriculture programming. Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should not be for use outside the Peace Region.

3.2 Results from Feedback Forms

The following summarizes input received through 30 feedback forms. It should be noted that not all respondents provided a response to all questions and that a response may have included more than one theme.

A. Implementation of Standard Construction Mitigation Measures

Standard construction mitigation measures are included in the Site C Project's Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). The CEMP outlines the requirements for Environmental Protection Plans, which must be developed by contractors prior to the commencement of construction activities.

These plans include standard mitigation measures for all aspects of construction, including those that may affect agricultural land and operations. Plans related to agricultural land include:

- **Soil Management, Site Restoration and Re-vegetation Plan** – restoration of temporarily affected agricultural land during construction;
- **Borrow and Quarry Site Reclamation Plan** – restoration of temporarily affected agricultural land within quarries and pits developed during construction;
- **Vegetation and Invasive Plant Management Plan** – mitigation of potential effects to agricultural land through protection of vegetation and limiting the spread of invasive plants; and
- **Traffic Management Plans** – mitigation of potential construction effects on individual farm operations as a result of increased traffic and road closures.

1. Please provide any comments regarding the implementation of standard construction mitigation measures.

The following are the key themes from the 15 responses to this question:

- 7 respondents noted that agricultural transportation needs to be considered during project construction, including suggestions that roads should have wider shoulders and pull outs to accommodate large and slow moving agricultural vehicles, that agricultural and local resident traffic should have priority, and that roads should be connected across the Peace River
- 3 respondents commented on the need to manage weeds and invasive plants, noted that BC Hydro should rely on the experience of local seed producers and local seed companies to determine re-vegetation plans and source local seed, and that equipment should be cleaned before entering construction sites. One respondent noted that “limiting” the spread of invasive plants is not acceptable, and that the goal should instead be preventing the spread of invasive plants.
- 1 respondent stated that highway improvements should be realigned around farms, orchards, gardens and buildings as to not drive farmers away from the valley
- 1 respondent suggested that any disturbed soils should be stockpiled and protected so that it can be returned to its original location, that disturbed areas should be returned to as good or better than they were found, and that attempts should be made to create more agricultural land within disturbed areas through levelling, draining or soil rehabilitation
- 1 respondent stated that standard mitigation measures applied to all construction activities is not adequate, and that there should be individual plans developed for each aspect of construction based on the land base that would be affected
- 1 respondent noted that cumulative effects of construction activities needs to be considered, and that support is needed to facilitate affected landowners to provide input into minimizing daily impacts into landowner activities. Traffic management was provided as an example of an activity that could be resolved through discussion and land owner input
- 1 respondent commented that local environmental companies should monitor the construction sites
- 1 respondent noted that reclamation efforts should be planned and signed off by Ministry of Agricultural agrologists and a third-party agrologist (i.e., not affiliated with BC Hydro)
- 1 respondent noted they are concerned about the destruction of mother earth

March 17, 2016

B. Approach to the Development of Individual Farm Mitigation Plans

In accordance with Condition 30, BC Hydro “*must evaluate effects on agricultural land owners and tenure holders, and develop mitigation and compensation measures consistent with industry compensation standards, to mitigate effects or compensate for losses.*” Also, BC Hydro’s plan must include “*funding for mitigation actions for disruptions to agricultural land owners and tenure holders.*”

BC Hydro evaluated effects on agricultural land owners and tenure holders as part of the agricultural assessment during the environmental assessment phase. As part of this assessment, interviews were held with potentially-affected farm operators and/or owners in 2011 and 2012. There are 34 farm operations where a portion of the operation is within the Site C project activity zone. Of the 34, 22 owners or operators agreed to participate, and provided information about current and potential future agricultural activities. The results of the interviews were used, along with other information, such as from Statistics Canada and direct observations about farm operations, to inform the agricultural assessment.

Now that Site C has moved into construction, BC Hydro’s properties team will discuss with agricultural land owners and tenure holders potential effects of the project on their land and operations, including potential mitigation actions related to disruption of their continuing agricultural operations. Where agricultural land is required for the Project it will be acquired at fair market value, and associated financial losses, including funding of mitigation actions and compensation for those effects which cannot be mitigated, if any, will be reimbursed as described in Section 11.3 of the Site C Environmental Impact Statement (Land Status, Tenure and Project Requirements).

The identification of specific mitigation actions that may require funding related to disruption of each agricultural operation will be identified by BC Hydro in private discussions with agricultural land owners and tenure holders whose land or rights may be affected by the Project. For example, potential mitigation actions may include changes to driveways to address changes to farm access, consideration of changes to unauthorised public access, relocation of farm infrastructure such as buildings, wells or fencing, or other disruptions to current agricultural operations. Where such effects cannot be avoided, individual farm mitigation plans will be developed to determine compensation for financial losses due to disruptions to agricultural land use, consistent with industry compensation standards. Funding for individual farm mitigation or compensation will be in addition to the \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund.

2. Please provide any comments regarding the approach to the development of individual farm mitigation plans.

The following are the key themes from the 15 responses to this question:

- 6 respondents commented that consultation with affected agricultural operators and land owners regarding the development of individual farm mitigation plans must be respectful and meaningful
- 6 respondents noted that funding for individual farm mitigation must be completely separate from the \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund
- 2 respondents stated that individual farm mitigation must be provided on a fair, equal and adequate basis

March 17, 2016

- 2 respondents noted a need for a dispute resolution process, including a suggestion of an independent arbitrator and that BC Hydro needs to address current identified disputes with land owners
- 1 respondent noted that removal of key lands may affect the operability of an entire business, and that BC Hydro should compensate for this
- 1 respondent stated that highways should be fenced to prevent trespassers from accessing private property, that underpasses should be installed to allow wildlife and cattle to cross the highway safely, and that a third-party should evaluate the effects of the reservoir on agriculture, noting that they believe BC Hydro has underestimated the effects of the project on agriculture
- 1 respondent asked that BC Hydro be transparent and not ask for or enforce confidentiality regarding individual rates of compensation
- 1 respondent stated that BC Hydro should give individual farm owners/operators whatever they want
- 1 respondent suggested that BC Hydro provide land not needed for the project to landowners and First Nations as part of compensation
- 1 respondent stated that funding should be provided to the most affected parties and that priority should be given to families losing their livelihood as a result of the project
- 1 respondent suggested that it is too early to determine the impacts of the project
- 1 respondent stated that the creation of the reservoir would increase humidity and fog and asked how this would be mitigated
- 1 respondent stated that they did not want to see any development

C. Approach to Management of Surplus Agricultural Lands

In accordance with Condition 30, BC Hydro's Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan must include *"inclusion of suitable land in the Agricultural Land Reserve in consultation with the Agricultural Land Commission"*, and *"when residual parcels are to be sold, consolidate and / or connect residual agricultural parcels with adjacent agricultural land holdings, where practical and when owner(s) and BC Hydro agree."*

These conditions reflect the fact that, through the process of land acquisition for Site C, BC Hydro will end up with surplus land holdings that may be suitable for future agricultural land use. BC Hydro will be in a position to begin the process of identifying lands that are surplus, or not directly required for the project, approximately five years after the completion of construction. This timeline allows for the results of reservoir shoreline monitoring to inform this process, as well as the establishment of long-term mitigation measures that may include establishment of areas such as wildlife habitat compensation lands or recreation sites. Until that time, 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 responsible approach to noxious weed management.

Surplus lands will be assessed 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 Aboriginal interests, as well as community interests as stated in official community plans and zoning.

March 17, 2016

For those lands retained as wildlife habitat compensation, there will be management plans developed. Continued agricultural use of these lands is also an objective. BC Hydro will work with government agencies, Aboriginal groups and other potentially affected stakeholders to identify the habitat management objectives, specific actions for the maintenance, creation or enhancement of targeted habitat features, compatible land use including agricultural practices, and other property-specific management considerations.

BC Hydro-owned land deemed surplus to project or mitigation requirements, and that have continuing agricultural value, may be dealt with in several ways. First, when these land parcels are to be sold, BC Hydro will make efforts to consolidate or connect residual agricultural parcels with adjacent agricultural land holdings, where practical and where owners agree. Secondly, BC Hydro will consult with the Agricultural Land Commission and adjacent landowners to include suitable land in the Agricultural Land Reserve.

3. Please provide any comments regarding the management of surplus agricultural lands

The following are the key themes from the 15 responses to this question:

- 8 respondents stated that original seller/previous owner should have the first right of refusal for surplus lands
- 5 respondents stated that all tools available should be used to maintain the production of unused agricultural land before, during and after construction
- 4 respondents stated that adjacent land owners should have second right of refusal for surplus lands
- 4 respondents stated that previous renters or adjacent land owners should have second right of refusal for surplus lands
- 1 respondent stated that other agricultural producers should have third right of refusal for surplus lands
- 1 respondent stated that all surplus lands should be in good condition that would allow for immediate use (i.e., no invasive plants or garbage)
- 1 respondent stated that young farmers should have third right of refusal to purchase or lease lands at a low price to encourage farming among young people
- 1 respondent stated that those who have lost the most amount of land should have first right of refusal for surplus lands
- 1 respondent suggested that surplus lands should first be provided to the original owners free of charge, followed by offered to nearby farmers and ranchers free of charge, sold at a low price to family-run market gardens, and lastly turned into a park with some hunting to manage wildlife populations
- 1 respondent stated that flooded owners/farmers should have the first right of refusal for surplus land
- 1 respondent stated that surplus lands should be re-vegetated to prevent growth and spread of weeds
- 1 respondent stated that those in the surrounding Peace Region should have the third right of refusal for surplus land, followed by those outside the Peace region
- 1 respondent suggested that First Nations should be given a high priority for the acquisition of surplus lands to compensate for the loss of areas to practice Treaty Rights in the area
- 1 respondent expressed concern with the timeline regarding the availability of surplus lands, noting that having to wait 15 years could impact the viability of some operations,

March 17, 2016

and suggesting that surplus lands should be identified earlier and used in the interim period

- 1 respondent stated that a last refusal clause should be included to provide the previous occupant with the opportunity to accept any of the offers on the table before their tenure is cancelled
- 1 respondent suggested that input from the Peace Valley Landowner Association is needed to develop fair and equitable processes and options
- 1 respondent stated that the “pipeline” will destroy the land needed for survival

D. Establishment of an Agricultural Compensation Fund

D1. Agricultural Compensation Fund Vision

Why are we creating an Agricultural Compensation Fund?

The construction and operations of the Site C Clean Energy Project will affect agricultural land and operations in the Peace Region. To mitigate this impact to agricultural economic activity, BC Hydro will create a \$20 million Agricultural Compensation Fund (the Fund) to support enhancement projects that improve agricultural land, productivity, and systems. As discussed in separate sections, other mitigation is proposed to address other effects, including standard construction management, surplus agricultural land management, and physical monitoring programs for agriculture.

Where should the Fund be targeted and what should it cover?

The Site C Clean Energy Project’s physical footprint is in the Peace Region. Therefore it is proposed that the Fund be targeted to activities that will enhance agricultural lands, operations, or agrifoods¹ economic activity in the Peace Region. The geographic target for the Fund will be the area of the BC Peace River Regional District.

Proposed Vision Statement

Based on the information above, the following is the proposed vision statement for the Agricultural Compensation Fund: *“Enhance the Peace Region’s opportunity for agricultural production and agrifoods economic activity.”*

4. Please provide any comments regarding the proposed vision statement for the Agricultural Compensation Fund.

The following are the key themes from the 15 responses to this question:

- 8 respondents noted that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should be used only to directly benefit the agricultural sector in the Peace Region and not elsewhere in the province
- 1 respondent stated that the vision statement should be changed from “Peace Region” to “Peace Valley”, noting that the effects from the project are in the Peace River Valley, and that those elsewhere in the Peace Region do not need the money
- 1 respondent stated that BC Hydro must help improve the agricultural land left in the Peace Valley
- 1 respondent stated that a significant percentage of the Agricultural Compensation Fund should be allocated to developing the unrealized potential of the horticultural sector in the Peace Valley

March 17, 2016

- 1 respondent suggested replacing “enhance” to “support”, noting that enhancement is subjective and hard to predict prior to starting a project
- 1 respondent stated that they agree with using the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) boundaries for the area for the fund, but that the PRRD (i.e., elected officials and staff) should have no involvement in the fund or its administration
- 1 respondent commented that the fund should be weighted towards projects and programs that address and mitigate specific losses arising from Site C
- 1 respondent confirmed that the vision statement is separate from individual farm mitigation
- 1 respondent commented that the fund should be paid in one lump sum to a responsible board of agricultural producers
- 1 respondent noted their opposition to development

D2. Agricultural Compensation Fund Governance

How should the Fund be administered?

Based on research into effective fund administering organizations, the following are proposed principles to guide fund administration.

Proposed Principles of Fund Administration

- **Fair and Transparent:** The Fund must be administered in a fair and transparent manner so that all projects are reviewed and given equal consideration.
- **Regional Knowledge and Technical Expertise:** Regional knowledge of agricultural strengths, needs, challenges and opportunities combined with technical expertise will assist in good decision-making and assessment of project viability.
- **Professional:** The organization needs to be efficient in order to make timely decisions, it must be effective in document management and record keeping, and have strong communication capabilities to interact with and support Fund applicants.
- **Accountable:** The organization would ensure that the Fund meets the regulatory requirements set out by the Environmental Assessment Certificate Condition 30, and that funding recipients and projects meet the eligibility requirements of the Fund.
- **Inclusive:** The fund must be administered in a manner than recognizes the diversity of agricultural sectors, interests and opportunities in the Peace Region.

5. Please provide any comments regarding the proposed principles of fund administration.

The following are the key themes from the 15 responses to this question:

- 2 respondents stated that local agricultural producers or producer groups should be administering the Fund, with government providing technical information and guidance
- 2 respondents stated that administration should be inclusive of agricultural people in the Peace Region, and not just large associations, noting that previous funds in the Peace Region have gone to benefit a small number of large associations
- 1 respondent suggested that First Nations be represented in the administration of the Fund
- 1 respondent noted that the Fund should be exclusively for the Peace Region
- 1 respondent stated that the Fund should be administered by a new entity set up for this specific purpose with representation across Peace Valley producers, and not attached to a specific entity or producer group

March 17, 2016

- 1 respondent stated that the Fund should consider providing bursaries for post-secondary education
- 1 respondent noted that the principles should be followed to the letter
- 1 respondent suggested that administration costs should not come out of the Fund
- 1 respondent stated that administration should be made up of local volunteers to keep costs down and that BC Hydro and government should not be involved
- 1 respondent noted their opposition to development

How should the fund be operated?

To achieve the administrative requirements outlined on the previous page, it is proposed that the Fund's organizational structure would include an Executive Board, an independent Fund Administrator, and an Adjudication Committee with agriculture and economic experts. Administration costs would be covered by the Fund. The proposed roles and responsibilities of each are outlined below and the relationship between each group is illustrated in the flowchart.

How should projects be reviewed?

It is proposed that project funding applications would be reviewed using a three-stage process, shown on the next page

March 17, 2016

Stage 1: Confirmation of Eligibility

Details:

Confirm that proposed project meets nature of projects and scope of projects criteria

Stage 2: Review and Ranking

Details:

Review and rank applications against 3 considerations:

- a) Alignment with Agricultural Compensation Fund Vision
- b) Technical merit including overall viability, practicality
- c) Value-added criteria including in-kind contributions and/or partnered funding (e.g. dollar ratio of requested funds to other cost covering sources).

Stage 3: Final Decision

Details:

Make final decision based on rankings completed in Stage 2, Fund mandate, annual allocations strategy and budget.

Responsibility:

Compensation Program Administrator (Fund Administrator)

A Fund Administrator would be responsible for administering the Fund. The Fund Administrator would be responsible for creating an applicant-friendly process for funding requests, for completing the initial review of project submissions, for coordinating Adjudication Committee reviews, and for making recommendations for project funding to the Board.

Responsibility:

Adjudication Committee

An adjudication committee would be established to conduct technical evaluations of projects to support reviews of funding applications. Members of the Adjudication Committee would have local knowledge and would be proposed by the Fund Administrator and Executive Board and retained on an as-needed basis. Members would provide technical input on regional benefits, agriculture, economics, project viability, environmental impact, and other topic areas as required.

Responsibility:

Executive Board (Board)

A Board would be established to provide oversight and strategic direction for the implementation of the Agricultural Compensation Fund's Mandate. The Board would include representation from regionally-based agriculture groups and provincial agencies. The Board would monitor the performance of the Fund and would be responsible for project funding decisions, with input from the Fund Administrator and Adjudication Committee.

March 17, 2016

6. Please provide any comments regarding the proposed organizational structure of the Fund.

The following are the key themes from the 14 responses to this question:

- 8 respondents stated that the proposed organizational structure is top heavy and would lead to high administrative costs
- 7 respondents suggested that a new non-profit group be established to administer the Fund
- 5 respondents provided a suggested structure for the administration of the Fund:
 - Establish an executive board/committee of 7-10 members
 - Executive board/committee to be comprised entirely of agricultural producers from BC
 - Executive board/committee would review and approve all applications, and audit projects
 - Executive board/committee would be supported by an administrative staff person/clerk
 - Executive board/committee could include one ex-officio/non-voting position for a BC Hydro or Ministry of Agriculture representative
 - Producer group to be involved in the development of the terms of reference and composition of the executive board/committee
- 2 respondents suggested that the Fund board be made up of volunteers as to reduce administration costs
- 1 respondent suggested holding a general meeting of landowners in the Peace Valley on an annual basis to elect a board that would meet four times a year to hear pitches from applicants and to discuss/approve projects
- 1 respondent generally agreed with the proposed organizational structure noting that it needs to be cost effective and avoid duplication
- 1 respondent suggested that an administrator should be paid to review applications to ensure they meet basic criteria and then forward them to a board for approval
- 1 respondent stated that the Fund should be used only to pay for “on ground” projects of individual producers, and that producers should be required to provide 50% of funding for their projects
- 1 respondent stated that BC Hydro should assume the cost of administration
- 1 respondent commented that agricultural producers in the Peace Region have the local knowledge to know what is best for agriculture in the region
- 1 respondent noted their opposition to development

7. Please provide any comments regarding the proposed three-stage process for reviewing project funding applications.

The following are the key themes from the 12 responses to this question:

- 7 respondents commented that it should be a priority to keep administrative costs low
- 5 respondents stated that the three-stage process is too top heavy and would result in high administration costs
- 3 respondents provided an alternate process for the review of applications involving an executive board/committee and administrative staff/clerk, without an advisory committee:
 - Administrative staff/clerk to review applications for completeness and eligibility
 - Executive board/committee to make decisions on each application

March 17, 2016

- 1 respondent stated that while it is important to keep administration costs low, that administration must be effective and assist groups with the application process and with timely application approval
- 1 respondent stated that while they did not support including an advisory committee, if an advisory committee was to be established, it should serve a real purpose and decision-making role
- 1 respondent suggested that there should be one board, elected yearly from people in the Peace Valley, and that four public meetings should be held each year where applicants would pitch directly to the board for approval
- 1 respondent suggested that criteria be established to give stronger consideration for Peace Valley projects or opportunities directly impacted by Site C
- 1 respondent suggested that requirements for projects should be posted online so that applicants can see whether their project meets the requirements
- 1 respondent suggested that the board should be made up of one employee from the Ministry of Agriculture and volunteer representatives from agricultural producers
- 1 respondent noted their opposition to development

D3. Agricultural Compensation Fund Eligibility

Who should be eligible to apply?

- It is proposed that the following groups be eligible to apply for funds:
- Individuals and/or partnerships (including new entrants to agriculture)
- Non-profit organizations
- Peace Region industry associations, agencies, boards, and councils
- Educational institutions

8. Please rate your level of agreement with the proposed applicant categories noted above

Strongly Agree	0
Somewhat Agree	5
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	2
Somewhat Disagree	3
Strongly Disagree	3

Total responses: 13

9. Please provide any comments regarding the proposed application categories

The following are the key themes from the 16 responses to this question:

- 8 respondents stated that the Fund should be for agriculture only
- 6 respondents stated that as the Fund should benefit agricultural activities in the Peace Region, the word "agriculture" and/or "Peace River agriculture" should be added to the category names
- 4 respondents noted that any funds to educational institutions for training or research must be used to directly benefit agriculture in the Peace Region
- 3 respondents suggested that training and education could include youth related projects, training or scholarships

March 17, 2016

- 2 respondents stated that they felt the categories are broad enough to enable desired activities
- 1 respondent noted that horticulture does not appear to be represented in the Peace Region
- 1 respondent stated that they do not support “individuals or partnerships” if the funds are used entirely for personal gain
- 1 respondent commented that any group that has a project with demonstrated benefit for the entire region should be eligible
- 1 respondent stated that First Nations should have a separate category and receive funds on an annual basis
- 1 respondent noted that while they do not think this money should be available to anyone, if it does get provided, it should go to agricultural producers
- 1 respondent commented that affected Peace Valley producers should not be excluded, but encouraged and assisted to benefit from the Fund
- 1 respondent stated that educational institutions should be considered last among applicants
- 1 respondent noted their opposition to development

What is the nature and scope of projects that should be funded?

We are interested in feedback regarding the nature and scope of projects that the agricultural community would like to see eligible for funding. BC Hydro has undertaken past consultation with agricultural stakeholders and the public regarding this topic.

In 2012, as part of public consultation regarding Site C, BC Hydro sought input regarding agriculture, asking consultation participants to rate their level of agreement with using funds from the agricultural compensation program to support the exploration of a range of regional agricultural mitigation project.

61 per cent of participants strongly or somewhat agreed with exploring the following types of projects:

- Crop irrigation research, development and infrastructure to enhance agricultural capability
- Vegetable sector projects, such as vegetable storage and processing facilities near transportation routes, to support development of higher-value agricultural production
- Forage sector projects to increase current forage and grain crop production levels
- Range and pasture sector improvements, such as clearing, seeding, fertilizing, and fencing, to increase capacity and local production
- Regional agricultural programs, such as invasive plant management, agricultural climate adaptation research or local food production programs

It is proposed that the Fund should consider a broad range of project categories to allow for consideration of projects that can provide maximum benefit to the agricultural sector. Based on this approach, the project categories proposed for the Fund include:

- Research and development
- Market development
- Training and education
- Capital investment for industry infrastructure
- Transportation and supply chain

The project criteria would be reviewed annually to ensure that it is current and comprehensive.

March 17, 2016

10. Please rate your level of agreement with projects in each of the following project categories being eligible for funding:

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Research and Development (n=13)	3	4	2	3	1
Market Development (n=13)	4	3	2	2	2
Training and Education (n=13)	3	2	7	0	1
Capital Infrastructure for Industry Infrastructure (n=13)	3	4	2	1	3
Transportation and Supply Chain (n=13)	0	3	4	4	2

11. Please provide any comments regarding the project criteria.

The following are the key themes from the 13 responses to this question:

- 7 respondents stated that the new executive committee/board should establish eligibility and project criteria
- 4 respondents commented that projects directly offsetting lost agricultural opportunities in the Peace Valley as a result of Site C should be prioritized
- 3 respondents stated that the executive committee/board would establish a scoring system and priorities in an annual work plan
- 2 respondents noted that a problem facing the agricultural sector is the aging population of producers, and stated that efforts should be made to encourage and support youth in agricultural in the Peace Region
- 1 respondent recommended keeping the funding areas as broad as possible
- 1 respondent stated that funding should not cover operational expenses of producers or organizations
- 1 respondent suggested supporting First Nations in the agricultural sector, including training and direction
- 1 respondent stated that they do not support the use of the Fund for capital investment
- 1 respondent noted that they do not support the concept of the Fund providing interest free loans
- 1 respondent stated that the horticultural industry does not have an organized voice, but should be encouraged through the Fund
- 1 respondent noted that each project decision should be based on its merits to provide benefits to the region
- 1 respondent emphasized that investment should only be made to benefit agriculture in the Peace River Valley, not elsewhere in the Peace Region such as Dawson Creek, Rolla or Chetwynd
- 1 respondent asked how agriculture would be affected outside the valley
- 1 respondent noted their opposition to development

March 17, 2016

What is the nature and scope of projects that should be funded?

Eligible Activities/Project

It is proposed that projects should address one or more of the following scope criteria related to agriculture in the Peace Region, and have demonstrated industry support, to be eligible:

- Land productivity (such as new crops and technology)
- Land base management (such as shelterbelts or windbreaks, weed management programs and improvements to grazing capacity)
- Land base improvements and infrastructure (such as livestock watering facilities, fencing for wildlife control and irrigation)
- Market access and infrastructure (such as regional value-added initiatives, institutions and services)
- Infrastructure and Transportation improvements (such as cleaning and packing, warehousing and storage, and distribution facilities to support vegetable industry)
- Sustainability (adoption of green and alternative technologies in place of fossil fuel-driven energy systems)
- Climate change response (on-farm responses and adaptations)
- New product and practice viability (studies, demonstrations to test new methods)

The list of eligible activities/projects would be reviewed annually and updated as needed to ensure that it is current, comprehensive, and distinct but complementary to other funding programs available to the agriculture sector.

Ineligible Activities

The following activities are proposed to be ineligible for funding:

- Core activities of government or non-government agencies or programs, including lobbying activities
- Development of policy related to land or agricultural management
- Administration of government regulations
- Engagement in enforcement and compliance activities
- Costs incurred prior to formal notification of funding approval

12. Please provide any comments regarding the eligible and ineligible activities noted above.

The following are the key themes from the 13 responses to this question:

- 4 respondents noted that the Fund should not be used for operational expenses of any producer or association (e.g., payroll or contractor fees)
- 2 respondents suggested that this question should be addressed by the new executive committee/board
- 2 respondents suggested that eligibility should be left as flexible as possible
- 1 respondent noted that they do not support the use of the Fund for capital assets
- 1 respondent commented that none of the Fund should go to individual producers who are directly affected by Site C, since they should be compensated through the individual farm mitigation
- 1 respondent stated that projects need to be geared to improve returns to primary producers

March 17, 2016

- 1 respondent generally agreed with the list of eligible and ineligible activities and suggested that it should be subject to periodic review
- 1 respondent suggested additional eligible activities: piped watering systems, water holes/wells, weed management, improving grazing capacity, fencing/cattle guards, climate change response
- 1 respondent supported an endowment approach where only interest would be allocated to projects
- 1 respondent noted their opposition to development

How should funds be allocated and over what time period?

A wide variety of approaches to fund allocation, including consideration of the size of awards, maximum duration of project funding, and frequency of disbursements have been explored.

The preferred approach for the Agricultural Compensation Fund is to retain flexibility to provide funding for projects that would provide the greatest benefits to agricultural production and agrifoods economic activity in the Peace River region. It is proposed that projects requesting over \$20,000 in funds should have a minimum of one other funding source. The other funding sources could include in-kind contributions or other government or private funding. A second source of funding provides external validation of project value, and also creates a greater commitment by the project proponent to deliver the project. Specific details for fund applications and project requirements will be developed after the Fund Mandate is created.

The table on the next page summarizes the topics and options considered by the Consultation Steering Committee.

March 17, 2016

Topic	Options Considered	Research Findings
Fund Duration How long will the Fund be in place?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single project investment (i.e., spend all \$20 million on a major investment such as an Agricultural Research and Development Centre) • Spread payout over a 5-, 10- or 20-year period • Endowment Approach, where only the interest would be allocated to projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determining a specific timeframe for the Fund may limit eligible projects and Fund effectiveness.
Annual Allocation How much would be dispersed from the Fund each year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20 million in one year (i.e., single project investment) • \$4 million per year for 5 years • \$2 million a year for 10 years • \$1 million per year for 20 years • Endowment Approach, which could be continued in perpetuity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-determining annual fund distribution totals may reduce the impact of the Fund by delaying funding of projects with merit.
Duration of Project Funding How long should a project be eligible to receive funding for?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One year only • Multiple years, with an annual reporting requirement to secure funding for subsequent years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the seasonality of agriculture, several growing seasons are often required to understand the benefits of a new program, technology or process.
Project Funding Limits What percentage of a project's cost should be eligible for funding?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No limit on individual project costs • Limited to \$500,000 per project, per applicant, per year • Limited to 50 per cent of a project's cost • Limit the % of in-kind contribution • Requirement of funding from at least one other source. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding from a minimum of a second source provide validation of project value, and creates a greater commitment by the project proponent.
Application Submission Deadlines When should project applications be accepted?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-determined intake periods to focus review process on annual or bi-annual submissions • No deadlines – applications accepted and reviewed continuously 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-determined intakes for large applications assists in review processes, and efficiency of funding awards. • Consider allowance for small funding requests to be considered on an ongoing basis.

March 17, 2016

13. Please indicate your level of agreement with the proposed Agricultural Compensation Fund approach of maintaining flexibility to provide funding for projects that would provide the greatest benefits to agricultural production and economic activity in the Peace River region.

Strongly Agree	3
Somewhat Agree	5
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	3
Somewhat Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	2

Total responses: 13

14. Please provide any comments regarding the proposed fund allocation approach.

The following are the key themes from the 15 responses to this question:

- 7 respondents requested that the entire \$20 million be released in a lump sum
- 5 respondents recommended an endowment/trust fund approach where only the interest earned from the Fund would be available to pay for projects each year
- 5 respondents stated that the executive committee/board should establish the annual project funding limits
- 5 respondents suggested that fund matching should be encouraged, with the Fund providing 50% of the cost of a project
- 5 respondents stated that in-kind contributions/funding sources should be allowed for matching
- 4 respondents noted that inflation would reduce the future value of the fund and therefore BC Hydro should provide indexed payments on an annual basis
- 4 respondents recommended an endowment/trust fund approach for the first three or five years, and then a review to determine whether to continue with the endowment/trust fund approach
- 4 respondents noted that this Fund must not affect other future funding possibilities for the agricultural sector
- 3 respondents suggested that the executive committee/board should establish the intake deadlines
- 3 respondents recommended removing the multiple source funding requirement
- 3 respondents stated that since the Fund would be provided by BC Hydro and not government, the funds should be eligible to match government funds
- 2 respondents suggested that there should be two intakes per year to reduce keep administration costs down but maintain flexibility
- 2 respondents suggested having one intake per year with an annual submission deadline
- 1 respondent stated that they hope the fund lasts 10 years
- 1 respondent suggested that funding limits should be set annually depending on the applications received and their costs
- 1 respondent commented that the duration of funding should be project-dependent
- 1 respondent noted that First Nations funding should not require in-kind or 50% matching as their ability to fund projects may be limited
- 1 respondent suggested getting agreement on one or two large research projects to simplify and economize the use of funds

March 17, 2016

- 1 respondent noted that the Fund should not be spent in the Peace Region but rather should be focused in the Peace Valley
- 1 respondent stated that \$20 million is not enough for the Fund, that it would not last longer than 20 years, and that it would not have a significant impact to local agricultural production
- 1 respondent suggested that projects could be funded for up to three years with annual reports confirming that they are meeting requirements
- 1 respondent noted their opposition to development

15. Please provide any additional comments regarding the development of a Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan

The following are the key themes from the 14 responses to this question:

- 7 respondents stated that the Fund must benefit agriculture in the Peace Region
- 4 respondents noted that the draft framework should be developed with producer groups and that producer groups should be consulted and have an opportunity to review the draft framework
- 3 respondents suggested term limits for the executive committee/board (e.g., three, three-year terms or three, two-year terms)
- 2 respondents stated that executive committee/board members should be fairly compensated
- 1 respondent suggested that executive committee/board members should receive a per diem and mileage expenses, and that advisory committee members should receive mileage expenses
- 1 respondent suggested consideration of the appointment or election process for executive committee/board members to ensure that the composition reflects changing agricultural group dynamics in the future
- 1 respondent suggested that First Nations should have an annual amount that they could apply for, citing impacts to harvesting, gathering and hunting activities which could be mitigated
- 1 respondent stated that individuals should have the ability to apply, and that funding should not be reserved only for “big names” or organizations
- 1 respondent suggested that the executive committee/board be volunteer-based to keep administrative costs low, with any administration costs paid by BC Hydro
- 1 respondent noted that the impacts of the project on agriculture are yet to be determined, and that the two previous dams (i.e., W.A.C. Bennett and Peace Canyon) do not have a lot of agricultural land around them to demonstrate effects
- 1 respondent stated that the application process should be simple and that accountability of funds used is required
- 1 respondent commented about the consultation process, suggesting that items A, B and C should have been part of one discussion and item D: Agricultural Compensation Fund as another
- 1 respondent stated that \$20 million is not enough
- 1 respondent noted their opposition to development

March 17, 2016

16. Which provincial agricultural region are you from?

All 15 respondents to this question identified themselves as being from the Peace Region.

17. Which agricultural sector(s) are you active in?

Forages	12
Oilseed and grain farming	11
Beef cattle ranching	11
Sheep and goat farming	2
Fruit and nut farming	1
Field vegetable, melon farming and potato farming	1
Greenhouse, mushroom, nursery and floriculture production	1
Hog farming	1
Poultry and egg production	1
Other: Ranch horses	1
Other: Concerned citizen	1
Other: Retired	1
Other: Beekeeping	1
Other: Equine production	1
Other: Organic seed, forage and beef	1
Other: Bison	1

Total respondents: 16

18. Which is your role within the agricultural sector?

Primary producer (farmer/rancher)	14
Agricultural industry association	7
Agricultural product processor/marketer	3
Other: Concerned citizen	2
Agricultural service industry	1
Agricultural researcher/educator	1
Other: Retired	1

Total respondents: 16

March 17, 2016

3.3 Results from Submissions

In addition to the feedback forms, three submissions were received through email or letter.

- One submission stated that the \$20 million agricultural fund should be directed to the area which bears the agricultural loss, namely the Peace Valley: Hudson's Hope, PRRD Electoral Areas B, C, and to a lesser degree E. The submission notes that horticulture is the sector that would be most affected and, given that it does not have a longstanding producer group experienced in endowment funds, is the most in need of support.
- One submission noted that the respondent could not attend the meetings and asked BC Hydro to consider and address two topics: 1) how BC Hydro and the BC government would compensate for increasing food costs in the Peace area and 2) how BC Hydro will compensate farming and ranching families for the loss of multiple decades of heritage, livelihoods and way of life, over and above land and home loss.
- One submission provided feedback regarding the Fund, noted that little capital investment has been made by governments for horticulture in the Peace Region. Attached to the submission were two proposals for prospective projects for the Fund, and a paper regarding the value of the contributions of Taylor to agriculture in the Peace Area, which has been provided to the BC Hydro Properties team for consideration.
 - Feedback regarding the Fund included the following:
 - The Fund should be provided in one lump sum, awarded to capital projects for infrastructure needed in the Peace, be administered locally by the Area Economic Development Commission, be awarded mainly to vegetable and horticultural projects and activities, be increased to \$60 million to include flood plain areas of Taylor and try to create as many agricultural-related jobs in the area as possible.
 - The Fund should not be: awarded over time or through interest payments only, be awarded to groups that are already funded through other government programs or opportunities, be administered by the Ministry of Agriculture or be awarded to anyone outside the Peace Region.

March 17, 2016

Kirk&Co.

March 17, 2016



BC Hydro, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Energy and Mines
Consultation Steering Committee

Site C Clean Energy Project

Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan

Appendix 1: Stakeholder Meeting Summaries

March 2016

March 17, 2016

Prepared by
Kirk & Co. Consulting Ltd.

Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan for the Site C Clean Energy Project

DATE: DECEMBER 2, 2015 TIME: 1:00PM TO 3:00PM LOCATION: HUDSON'S HOPE

ATTENDEES/AFFILIATION	<p>Mayor Gwen Johansson, Hudson's Hope Renee Ardill, Peace River Cattlemen's Association Lee Bowd, BC Peace River Grain Industry Development Council Mary Brereton Vicki Burt, BCIA Opal Gentles Pam Gunderson Rick Kantz, BC Peace River Grain Industry Development Council Blane Meek Colin Meek Ross Musgrove, North Peace Cattlemen's Association Sharla Pearce, BC Grain Producers Association Deborah Peck Ross Peck Robert (Garry) Pringle, North Peace Cattlemen's Association Willy Rath, BC Peace River Grain Industry Development Council Doug Summer Christopher Weder Steve Winnicky Travis Winnicky Julie Robinson, Ministry of Agriculture</p>
CONSULTATION STEERING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES	<p>Siobhan Jackson, BC Hydro Erin Harlos, BC Hydro James Thomas, BC Hydro Julie Chace, Ministry of Energy and Mines Leslie MacDonald, Ministry of Agriculture</p>
FACILITATOR	Judy Kirk, Kirk & Co. Consulting Ltd.
MEETING RECORDER	Erin Harlos/Siobhan Jackson
KEY THEMES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants expressed an interest in refining the Agricultural Compensation Fund's geographic scope to be focused on the Peace River Valley, rather than the Peace Region, because the Peace River Valley is the area that will experience the greatest impact due to the Site C Project. Participants asked that BC Hydro clarify the approach for engaging directly with affected landowners on topics including highway relocation, land acquisition, Statutory Right of Ways, and monitoring plan findings. Participants were interested in establishing a regional working group to provide further input on the Agricultural Compensation Fund framework. Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should not be for use outside the Peace Region. 	
General	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ross Peck asked about the representatives on the Consultation Steering Committee. <i>Siobhan Jackson noted that the Consultation Steering Committee includes representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Energy and Mines and BC Hydro, along with regional advisors, Hon. Mike Bernier, MLA for Peace River South, and Pat Pimm, MLA for Peace River North.</i> Colin Meek commented on the consultation process, and noted that feedback from the Peace Valley should be more heavily weighted than feedback from elsewhere in the Peace Region. Mayor Gwen Johansson expressed concern regarding impacts on the horticultural sector, and commented that this sector should receive the most support and benefit from the fund. 	

March 17, 2016

Provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate – Conditions

- Participants (Ross Peck, Renee Ardill) asked about Provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate – Condition 31 and the timeline of the agriculture monitoring and follow-up program. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the final plans are due for submission at the end of 2015, and the drafts were available to the District of Hudson's Hope and the Peace River Regional District for comment for 30 days.*
- Ross Peck asked about the 10-year program monitoring period, which includes 5 years prior to operations and 5 years during operations. *Erin Harlos explained the 10-year period is to collect data before and after the reservoir is in place to further develop the baseline and assess changes.*
- Garry Pringle and Mayor Gwen Johansson asked about the geographical scope of the monitoring plans. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the monitoring plans will consider site-specific changes relative to each monitoring plan, ranging from 2 to 5 kilometres of the Site C reservoir.*
- Ross Peck expressed concern about the impact of greater moisture on hay at upper elevations, and whether this will be considered in the monitoring plans. *Siobhan Jackson noted that Environment Canada was involved in the process, and that these impacts are unlikely to be associated with the Site C Project.*
- Ross Peck asked about BC Hydro's protocol if adverse impacts arise that have not been addressed in the monitoring plans. *Siobhan Jackson noted that they have options to address these impacts, including the Agricultural Compensation Fund, to determine how to effectively execute mitigation programs.*
- Rick Kantz asked about Provincial Environmental Assessment Certification – Condition 30, and whether the draft framework will be posted publically. *Siobhan Jackson noted that BC Hydro will post the draft framework and provide 30 days to comment.*

Construction Mitigation Measures

- Deborah Peck asked about Site C's construction monitoring practices. *Siobhan Jackson noted that construction mitigation measures are included in the Site C Project's Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), and those include Environmental Protection Plans (EPP) developed by the contractors prior to construction. As well, BC Hydro has retained an independent environmental monitor that is involved in the entire EPP process and monitoring, and reports directly to the Province of BC.*
- Mayor Gwen Johansson asked about oversight of the independent environmental monitor. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the Environmental Assessment Office and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations are responsible for reviewing and approving the independent environmental monitors' reports. More information can be found on the Site C website Document Library (www.sitecproject.com), within the CEMP.*
- Renee Ardill asked about the Vegetation and Invasive Plan Management Plan, and expressed concern about weeds and thistles on BC Hydro's property in the region. *Siobhan Jackson noted that BC Hydro has been actively working to mitigate weeds in the Peace Valley. BC Hydro, in conjunction with local landowners and the Peace River Regional District, successfully eradicated knapweed at Site C's location prior to construction.*
- Garry Pringle asked if BC Hydro will have inspectors monitoring all aspects of work on the project. *Siobhan Jackson noted that there will be inspectors to audit and provide oversight for all aspects of work. These include professionals in quality, environment, engineering and more. The construction management team is in the field monitoring on an ongoing basis.*
- Ross Peck asked about their contact for individual construction monitoring concerns. *Siobhan Jackson noted that landowners with concerns should contact their direct properties representative contact at BC Hydro.*

Individual Farm Mitigation Plans

- Ross Peck expressed concern about development of mitigation plans without transparency, and requested an overriding framework for how these plans will be discussed and developed.
- Garry Pringle and Renee Ardill expressed individual property concerns, including fencing and wildlife issues. *Siobhan Jackson noted that a member of the Properties team will follow up directly with the participants regarding their concerns.*

March 17, 2016

Management of Surplus Agricultural Lands

- Travis Winnicky, Ross Peck and Deborah Peck asked about the resale of surplus agricultural land, the pricing and opportunity to purchase the land, and requested the development of a land management working group. *James Thomas and Siobhan Jackson noted that they will honour specific commitments already made in agreements, then look to combine land parcels with adjacent agricultural land holdings, and finally consult with the Agricultural Land Commission and adjacent landowners to add suitable land to the Agricultural Land Reserve.*
- Travis Winnicky commented that a surplus agricultural land parcel could be an opportunity for a new entrant into the farming industry.
- Christoph Weder, Blane Meek and Garry Pringle expressed that they did not believe BC Hydro will sell surplus lands back, as they will require it as a statutory right of way, citing current land purchases around the Williston reservoir and Beryl Prairie. *James Thomas offered to discuss further with the participants.*
- Vicki Burt asked about wildlife compensation lands, and the process regarding these land parcels. *Siobhan Jackson noted the mitigation requirements for the Project, citing The Land Conservancy of British Columbia.*
- Ross Peck and Deborah Peck asked about Agricultural Land Reserve exemptions, and requested a more transparent approach to ramifications on existing landowners. *Leslie MacDonald and James Thomas noted that BC Hydro will work with participants to assist in understanding the current exclusions, and implications on existing lands.*
- Christoph Weder asked about the land parcel located near the airport that was purchased to offset wetland. *Siobhan Jackson noted that improvements have been made to ensure maintenance and secure habitat, and offered to discuss further with the participant.*

Agricultural Compensation Fund

- Mayor Gwen Johansson asked when the fund will be available. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the fund will be accessible in mid-2017.*
- Ross Peck and Mary Brereton asked about the dollar value of the fund, and how BC Hydro decided on \$20 million. *Siobhan Jackson and Erin Harlos noted that the fund is in real dollars, not based on interest or growth. The \$20 million is based on the assessed value of lost future economic agricultural activity on lands that will be inundated by the Site C reservoir.*
- Mary Brereton commented that the \$20 million should be split into two funds, one for the Peace Valley and one for the Peace Region.
- Doug Summer suggested that 50% of the fund be available to the horticulture sector due to the opportunity for growth in the Peace Region.
- Colin Meek asked whether costs associated with this consultation meeting were deducted from the Agricultural Fund. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the funds for the consultation were not deducted from the Agricultural Fund.*
- Ross Peck commented that a small portion of the fund could be allocated to support initial application/project development costs.
- Lee Bowd commented that the fund should be unavailable for provincial use, and should only be available to the Peace Region.
- Vicki Burt commented that the fund should have a narrower scope and vision, and establish some end goals to ensure the \$20 million is disbursed appropriately.
- Mayor Gwen Johansson, Christoph Weder and Pam Gunderson commented that the fund should be focused in the Peace Valley to support and maintain the agricultural community that will be most impacted. Mayor Gwen Johansson commented that this fund should set a precedent for allocation to a more refined geographic scope.
- Mayor Gwen Johansson and Christoph Weder expressed concerns about the classification system for describing impacts on regional lands.

Agricultural Compensation Fund – Governance

- Christoph Weder asked whether administrative expenses will be deducted from the Fund. *Siobhan Jackson noted that administration will be financed from the Fund, similar to other programs run by BC Hydro.*
- Christoph Weder asked if BC Hydro will be involved in running and distributing the Fund. *Siobhan Jackson noted that BC Hydro is accountable for ensuring the Fund is properly set up with robust administration, but would hope to have the lightest touch possibly once established. BC Hydro is*

March 17, 2016

seeking clarify from the Environmental Assessment Office on what would be acceptable to meet the requirements of the condition.

- Christoph Weder and Renee Ardill asked about positions on the board, and how they would be funded. *Siobhan Jackson, Erin Harlos and Leslie MacDonald noted that they are seeking input from participants on allocation of funds to board positions, and that typically administrative positions are paid.*
- Rick Kantz commented that the adjudication committee should have the primary weight for final decisions, and that the board should only provide oversight.
- Vicki Burt and Ross Peck cited BC Hydro's Fish and Wildlife Compensation Plan, and expressed concerns about the board disregarding input from the adjudication committee. *Erin Harlos noted that they hope to take feedback from other funds and apply these to the Terms of Reference/Mandate for the Agricultural Compensation Fund.*
- Christoph Weder and Lee Bowd asked about the composition of the board, and how it will be formed. *Siobhan Jackson and Leslie MacDonald noted that they have not decided on a board structure, and would like to receive feedback from participants regarding the structure and mandate.*
- Renee Ardill, Deborah Peck and Lee Bowd commented that the board should include representation from various different agricultural groups in the region, and Peace Valley land owners groups.
- Ross Peck commented that the fund would be better received if it was perceived as being developed by agricultural sector groups, instead of political figures. Ross Peck, Deborah Peck, Doug Summer and Garry Pringle expressed the need for a working group to help consider input from consultation and provide a more democratic approach.

Additional Comments/Discussion

- Colin Meek asked about Highway 29 Relocation, and if BC Hydro was open to changing the alignment. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the final project design has been submitted and approved within the environmental assessment, and is based on input received during consultation from the public and local farmers.*
- Renee Ardill and Ross Peck expressed concern about the Highway 29 Relocation consultation process. *Siobhan Jackson noted that they assessed preliminary highway designs and comments received during consultation to determine the most feasible relocation option.*

March 17, 2016

Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan for the Site C Clean Energy Project

NB-1

DATE : JANUARY 7, 2016 TIME: 1:00PM TO 3:00PM

LOCATION: FORT ST. JOHN

ATTENDEES/AFFILIATION	<p>Mayor Lori Ackerman, Fort St. John Karen Gooding, PRRD Regional District, Director, Electoral Area B Renee Ardill, Peace River Cattlemen's Association Ted Burdge Joy Burdge Aron Collins, Peace River Cattlemen's Association Tobin Dirks, Peace Region Forage Seed Association Ken Forest, Peace Valley Environment Association Shaun Grant, South Peace Grain Cleaning Coop Board Member, South Peace Grain Cleaning Coop Dave Harris, North Peace Cattlemen's Association Blair Hill, Peace Region Forage Seed Association Rick Kantz, BC Grain Growers Association Shawn Loeren, NPCA Sam Mahood Ross Musgrove, Upper Cache Creek Cattleman's Association Sharla Pearce, BC Grain Producers Association Robert Pringle, North Peace Cattlemen's Association Les Shurtliff, Peace River Greenhouse Ltd. Dean Shurtliff, Peace River Greenhouse Ltd. Brad Sperling, Peace River Regional District Dan Stocking, Peace River Cattlemen's Association Franz Wenger, Grain Farmer Lori Vickers, Ministry of Agriculture Julie Robinson, Ministry of Agriculture</p>
CONSULTATION STEERING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES	<p>Siobhan Jackson, BC Hydro Erin Harlos, BC Hydro Judy Reynier, BC Hydro Julie Chace, Ministry of Energy and Mines Leslie MacDonald, Ministry of Agriculture</p>
REGIONAL ADVISOR	<p>MLA Pat Pimm, Peace River North</p>
FACILITATOR	<p>Judy Kirk, Kirk & Co. Consulting Ltd.</p>
MEETING RECORDER	<p>Erin Harlos</p>
KEY THEMES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants stressed the importance of having regional administration of the Agricultural Compensation Fund, and regional decisions on funding awards. Participants discussed various existing fund managers that may be able to play a role in the compensation fund going forward. Participants expressed interest in BC Hydro transferring the full amount of the agricultural compensation fund of \$20 million as a lump sum to enable the fund administrator to accrue interest over time. Some local agriculture producer groups expressed interest in the fund being distributed in larger amounts to have a greater impact Some government representatives expressed interest in annual funding that would last in perpetuity for long term benefit. Participants commented on potential project eligibility criteria for the fund, and in general expressed interest in maintaining a flexible framework to ensure the best projects are selected for funding with examples including agricultural infrastructure projects and low-interest loans. Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should not be for use outside the Peace Region. 	
General	March 17, 2016

- Renee Ardill expressed concern about the general consultation process, and feedback being disregarded in previous project consultations.
- MLA Pat Pimm, Mayor Lori Ackerman, Les Shurtliff, Aron Collins and Dean Shurtliff discussed potential opportunities for co-generation with the agriculture and greenhouse gas industries. Franz Wenger and asked why the dam is considered a green project when it requires diesel/gas to build. *Siobhan Jackson and Julie Chace acknowledged the comment, provided a summary of the GHG analysis for the project, and noted that this topic was outside the scope of the agricultural stakeholder meeting.*

Construction Management Practices

- Les Shurtliff, commented about the Soil Management, Site Restoration and Re-vegetation Plan, and requested that BC Hydro use local seeds, seeding and native species from the area.
- Sam Mahood asked about contractors' Environmental Protection Plans (EPP), who accepts/reviews their submissions, and if their submissions will be submitted to local government. *Siobhan Jackson noted that contractors must submit EPPs to BC Hydro.*
- Brad Sperling commented that if local government had the EPPs, they could be more helpful at answering public questions and concerns. *Siobhan Jackson noted the EPPs are an extension of the Construction Environmental Management Plan, which is available to the public.*
- Les Shurtliff and Sam Mahood asked about construction monitoring practices, including who is responsible for overseeing contractors. *BC Hydro has retained an independent environmental monitor that reports to the Province of BC directly. As well, BC Hydro's construction management team is in the field monitoring every day.*
- Les Shurtliff shared experiences of other projects, and expressed concern about contractors taking shortcuts to reduce their costs. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the construction management team is onsite constantly monitoring to ensure compliance, and have the authority to stop work as required.*
- MLA Pat Pimm, Renee Ardill and Franz Wenger expressed concern over the Invasive Plant Management Plan, past weed management plans, and asked if BC Hydro is using certified weed-free products. *Siobhan Jackson noted that contractors are required to use local, native and weed-free seed.*
- Karen Gooding expressed concern about the timeline for construction monitoring and ability to stop work. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the construction management team is onsite every day, and have the ability to stop work immediately.*

Individual Farm Mitigation Plans

- MLA Pat Pimm asked about the source of funds for individual farm mitigation plans. *Judy Reynier noted that property acquisition costs are not deducted from the \$20 million Agriculture Compensation Fund, as they are two separate funds.*

Management of Surplus Agricultural Land

- Sam Mahood asked about weed management plans for surplus agricultural lands. *Judy Reynier noted that BC Hydro is responsible for invasive plant management on its property, including lands that may become surplus in the future.*
- Dean Shurtliff asked if BC Hydro will change the Agriculture Land Reserve (ALR). *Siobhan Jackson noted that they have only sought Agriculture Land Reserve lands directly required for the project, and commit to consulting with the Agriculture Land Commission to determine if appropriate surplus lands can be added to the ALR.*
- Dean Shurtliff asked about the process regarding surplus agricultural land parcels. *Siobhan Jackson noted that they will honour specific commitments already made in agreements, look to combine land parcels with adjacent agricultural land holdings, and consult with the Agricultural Land Commission and adjacent landowners to add suitable land to the Agricultural Land Reserve.*
- Brad Sperling asked if surplus agricultural lands fall into statutory right of way. *Judy Reynier noted that some surplus land will be free of statutory rights of way and some may not.*

Agricultural Compensation Fund

- Karen Gooding expressed interest in concentrating the geographic scope of the fund to be focused on Peace Valley. *Pat Pimm, MLA for Peace River North reiterated unanimous agreement from Ministers and the Premier that the fund is for the Peace Region.*
- Karen Gooding, Brad Sperling and Renee Ardill expressed interest in setting up the Agricultural Compensation Fund in perpetuity, and using the interest to cover administration costs.
- Dean Shurtliff, Dave Harris, Rick Kantz and Shaun Grant expressed interest in allocating the \$20 million as a lump sum, to avoid long-term administration costs, and to create a greater impact for agriculture in the province.

March 17, 2016

- Rick Kantz expressed interest in using a regional organization as the vehicle to deliver the fund.
- Ken Forest asked about eligibility for the fund, and why educational institutions are included. *Leslie MacDonald noted that an educational institution may have expertise, or the ability to respond to specific project requirements.*
- Karen Gooding asked if applications would need to comply with the *Clean Energy Act*. *Siobhan Jackson noted that any proposed applications would need to comply with all existing Provincial legislation.*
- Numerous participants, including Mayor Lori Ackerman, Shaun Grant, Dean Shurtliff and Tobin Dirks commented that eligibility for the fund should remain flexible, be based on specific merits of individual projects, and remain open to various opportunities including interest free loans, agricultural infrastructure, and some projects may need support and connections but not always money.
- Rick Kantz asked whether money from the compensation fund could be used to receive matching money from the government. *Siobhan Jackson commented that the fund would not be expected to be government money. Siobhan Jackson noted that it is consulting with the Environmental Assessment Office to clarify the specifics of the fund.*
- Les Shurtliff and Renee Ardill asked about implementation of the agricultural fund, including timeline. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the final plan for the compensation fund is due in July 2017.*
- Mayor Lori Ackerman asked if there will be additional compensation for construction impacts prior to July 2017, when the fund becomes available. *Siobhan Jackson noted that no impacts on agriculture are expected before this time, but if there were, they could be addressed through individual farm mitigation plans.*
- MLA Pat Pimm asked if the \$20 million will be allocated at one time, or in segments. *Siobhan Jackson noted that BC Hydro needs to consult with the Environmental Assessment Office to better understand BC Hydro's responsibility and accountability for fund delivery.*
- Some participants, including Franz Wenger and Shaun Grant expressed concern that \$20 million will not be enough money to mitigate agricultural impacts to the region from the Site C project.

Agricultural Compensation Fund - Governance

- Les Shurtliff asked for an estimate of the fund's allocation towards administration costs. *Leslie MacDonald noted that previous funds have generally used 10-15% of the fund's total value for administration costs, however this varies by fund amount and structure.*
- Mayor Lori Ackerman, Renee Ardill, Brad Sperling, Robert Pringle, Dave Harris and Ross Musgrove expressed interest in reducing the administration costs by developing a regional advisory committee, with representatives from each of the regional agriculture groups, and Mayor Lori Ackerman cited a similar committee established for the Northern Development Initiatives Trust.
- Les Shurtliff and Dean Shurtliff expressed interest in having the Peace River Regional District, MLA Pat Pimm and Mayor of Fort St. John, Lori Ackerman, administer the fund.
- Numerous participants, including Les Shurtliff, Dave Harris and Sam Mahood commented that management of the fund, including administration and governance, should remain regional.
- Ken Forest commented that a number of interests should join together to jointly oversee the fund, instead of having one single producer group in charge of administration.
- Mayor Lori Ackerman and Brad Sperling cited the Northern Development Initiatives Trust fund, and requested that a similar process be used, including local administration, framework, process and decisions.

Additional Comments/Discussion

- Tobin Dirks and Blair Hill expressed a need for infrastructure to promote local labour and benefit a multitude of producers across all sectors.
- Participants reiterated that eligibility should remain flexible, the governing committee should represent local agriculture groups and funded projects should benefit the whole agriculture community.
- Participants reiterated that the fund should remain in the region, and be administered and governed by the region.
- *Leslie MacDonald noted that the Ministry of Agriculture would be interested in completing short term feasibility studies to help identify potential opportunities.*

March 17, 2016

Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan for the Site C Clean Energy Project

DATE: JANUARY 12, 2016 TIME: 1:00PM TO 3:00PM

LOCATION: DAWSON CREEK

ATTENDEES/AFFILIATION	Bill Bentley, Peace River Cattlemen's Association Lary Fossum, BC South Peace River Stockmen's Association Talon Gauthier, BC Forage Seed Producers Leonard Hiebert, Peace Agricultural Advisory Committee Blair Hill, Peace Region Forage Seed Association Rick Kantz, Grain Industry Development Council/BC Grain Growers Association Mike McConnell, Peace River Cattlemen's Association Blane Meek, Peace Valley Landowner's Association Ross Musgrove, Upper Cache Creek Cattleman's Association Connie Patterson, BC Cattlemen Development Council Sharla Pearce, BCGP Steve Rainey, BC South Peace River Stockmen's Association Troy Schweitzer, BC South Peace River Stockmen's Association Art Seidl, Peace River Cattlemen's Association Hugh Shurtliff, Peace River Greenhouse Ltd. Les Shurtliff, Peace River Greenhouse Ltd. Barry Tompkins Bill Wilson, Peace River Forage Association of BC Julie Robinson, Ministry of Agriculture Lori Vickers, Ministry of Agriculture Cindy Fisher, Executive Assistant to Minister Mike Bernier
CONSULTATION STEERING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES	Siobhan Jackson, BC Hydro Erin Harlos, BC Hydro Julie Chace, Ministry of Energy and Mines Leslie MacDonald, Ministry of Agriculture
REGIONAL ADVISORS	Minister Mike Bernier, Peace River South MLA Pat Pimm, Peace River North
FACILITATOR	Judy Kirk, Kirk & Co. Consulting Ltd.
MEETING RECORDER	Erin Harlos, BC Hydro
KEY THEMES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should be regionally managed, and that local agricultural producers should be the final decision makers. Participants expressed interest in creating an executive board to govern the fund, with 1/3 livestock industry representatives, 1/3 crop producers and 1/3 various other minor commodities groups including horticulture. Participants requested that the Fund be allocated in a lump sum endowment of \$20 million. Participants expressed interest in retaining flexibility of eligibility and the criteria for applications, to avoid exclusion of potentially beneficial projects. Participants considered fund eligibility for on-farm investments, multiple-year funding, and interest-free or low interest loans. Participants identified the need to support new, young entrants into agriculture. Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should not be for use outside the Peace Region. 	
General	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Siedl expressed interest in viewing the Consultation Summary and Framework report. Les Shurtliff asked about the Growing Forward Program, and how much capital was allocated to the North. <i>Leslie MacDonald noted that the Growing Forward Program is three years into the five-year program, and has not funded many capital projects.</i> 	

March 17, 2016

Construction Management Practices

- Mike McConnell expressed concern about the wording of the Vegetation and Invasive Plant Management Plan, including parameters for accountability.
- Talon Gauthier and MLA Pat Pimm asked about BC Hydro's seed sourcing plan. *Siobhan Jackson noted that contractors are required to use local, native and weed-free seed.*

Individual Farm Mitigation Plans

- Mike McConnell asked about the source of funds for individual farm mitigation plans. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the individual farm mitigation plan expenditures, including property acquisition costs are not deducted from the \$20 million Agriculture Compensation Fund; there are two separate and distinct budgets.*
- Barry Tompkins asked about the process for landowners that previously sold land to BC Hydro, but are now leasing back the land. *Siobhan Jackson responded that landowners and lease holders will be contacted on an individual basis.*
- Art Seidl asked about the geographic scope of Site C's impact, including how many acres will be affected. *Siobhan Jackson noted that approximately 6,500 hectares will be impacted in total, and that additional information can be found in the agricultural summary on the Site C website (www.sitecproject.com).*
- Mike McConnell expressed concern regarding Individual Farm Mitigation Plans, stating that the land being flooded is irreplaceable, and there will be immeasurable losses in horticultural production.

Management of Surplus Agricultural Lands

- MLA Pat Pimm and Barry Tompkins discussed opportunities for landowners that sold to BC Hydro, but are now leasing back the land. *Siobhan Jackson noted that in some cases, the agreement will indicate in the purchase terms that surplus lands will be offered for sale to the original owner first.*
- Blane Meek and Art Seidl asked about impact lines, and impacts to their property. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the most recent study on impact lines will guide acquisition requirements and statutory right of way. Participants can follow up directly with BC Hydro concerning their individual property concerns.*
- Minister Mike Bernier expressed interest in ensuring appropriate surplus lands are used for agriculture.
- Minister Mike Bernier and Barry Tompkins asked about fragmented parcels of surplus land. *Siobhan Jackson noted that where appropriate, BC Hydro would look for opportunities to connect surplus lands to adjacent land holdings.*

Agricultural Compensation Fund

- Mike McConnell commented on a letter written by Minister Norm Letnick confirming that the compensation fund would only be spent in the Peace Region, and asked for the letter to be made public. *Siobhan Jackson noted that this consultation has proposed that the Fund be focused on the Peace Region and is seeking participants' feedback on geographic scope. The content regarding geographic scope of the Fund within the guide is directly from the Environmental Assessment Certificate Condition 30.*
- MLA Pat Pimm commented that the Premier, Ministers and caucus are all in support of the funds being used exclusively in the Peace Region.
- Les Shurtliff expressed interest in allocating funds to a non-profit organization that could clean, sort and package local agriculture and sell it locally, to improve the local economy by reducing food costs and allowing food from the Peace Region to be inspected and marketed for public consumption.
- Bill Wilson expressed concern about lost opportunities to support good projects, if the fund is used in perpetuity.
- Mike McConnell, Art Seidl and Rick Kantz commented on eligibility for the fund, and ensuring flexibility and potential for multi-year funding and on-farm capital investments, to ensure that potentially beneficial projects are not excluded.
- Art Seidl expressed interest in cost sharing, to ensure projects have money contributed to increase their commitment level.
- Les Shurtliff commented that the horticultural industry will endure the greatest impacts from the dam, and therefore should benefit from the Fund.
- Les Shurtliff asked if there was more money available for the funds. *Siobhan Jackson noted that \$20 million is the allocated amount, and is based on agricultural land impact and potential productivity*

March 17, 2016

over 100 years.

- Mike McConnell commented that the majority of investment should be to farming/producing.
- Hugh Shurtliff expressed interest in developing programs to help create local jobs in the agriculture industry for young people, and other participants agreed with need for new entrants into agriculture in the region.
- Rick Kantz, Connie Patterson and Blane Meek commented that the \$20 million compensation fund is not enough to cover impacts from the dam that will last generations.
- Steve Rainey expressed concern about the potential impacts and changes to the region due to the Site C Dam, and cited the Bennett Dam and its impact on Tumbler Ridge.
- Leonard Hiebert asked how the terms of reference will be developed for the fund. *Siobhan Jackson noted that they will be developed from feedback provided during consultation.*

Agricultural Compensation Fund - Governance

- Steve Rainey, Mike McConnell, Les Shurtliff and Bill Wilson expressed interest in allocating the fund as a \$20 million endowment, a lump sum managed by a local working group, and have the fund continue in perpetuity.
- Art Seidl and Leonard Hiebert expressed concern that the fund could be dispersed too quickly, and expressed interest in the compensation fund lasting long-term.
- Minister Mike Bernier and Connie Patterson commented on the Northern Development Initiatives Trust, noting that it is well managed, has been success in allocating grants exclusively from interest, and should be used as a model for the agricultural compensation fund framework.
- Numerous participants, including Steve Rainey, Leonard Hiebert, Connie Patterson, Larry Fossum and Ross Musgrove commented on governance, and expressed interest in developing an executive board with representation from different local producer groups to administer the fund.
- Steve Rainey and Talon Gauthier expressed interest in creating an adjudication committee to advise the board.
- Numerous participants, including Steve Rainey, Mike McConnell, Sharla Pearce, Art Siedl, Larry Fossum, Rick Kantz, Connie Patterson, Bill Wilson and MLA Pat Pimm, expressed interest in creating an executive board that would have representation from crop producers, the livestock (cattle) industry and various minor commodities groups including horticulture, to ensure fairness and transparency.
- Talon Gauthier presented the Forage Seed association's support for an endowment approach with consideration of interest free or low interest loans that would be paid back into the fund, and with multiple year funding available.
- Rick Kantz expressed concern about governance, and ensuring that BC Hydro and the Ministry of Agriculture be involved in administering the fund as little as possible.
- Rick Kantz, Steve Rainey and Bill Wilson discussed auditing and annual reporting requirements for projects once they have been funded, and included interest in maintaining flexibility to increase amounts, or provide annual funding.
- Troy Schweitzer, Steve Rainey, Les Shurtliff and Larry Fossum expressed concern about using compensation fund money for administration costs.

March 17, 2016

Framework for an Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan for the Site C Clean Energy Project NB-1

DATE: JANUARY 13, 2016 TIME: 1:00PM TO 3:00PM LOCATION: CHETWYND

ATTENDEES/AFFILIATION	Dan Rose, PRRD Regional District, Director, Electoral Area E Sandra Burton, Peace River Forage Association Dale Frederickson, BC South Peace River Stockmen's Association Anja Hutgens, Penalty Ranch Charlie Lasser, Rancher, Organic Association Annie Madden, Rancher from Jackfish Lake Dennis Madden, Rancher from Jackfish Lake Judy Madden, BC Southpeace Cattleman Mike McConnell, Peace River Cattlemen's Association Ross Musgrove, Upper Cache Creek Cattleman's Association Steve Rainey, BC South Peace River Stockmen's Association John Stokmans, Saulteau First Nations Julie Robinson, Ministry of Agriculture Lori Vickers, Ministry of Agriculture
CONSULTATION STEERING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES	Siobhan Jackson, BC Hydro Erin Harlos, BC Hydro Julie Chace, Ministry of Energy and Mines Leslie MacDonald, Ministry of Agriculture
REGIONAL ADVISOR	MLA Pat Pimm, Peace River North
FACILITATOR	Judy Kirk, Kirk & Co. Consulting Ltd.
MEETING RECORDER	Erin Harlos, BCH
KEY THEMES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants expressed an interest in creating a new cross-producer society to manage/disburse the fund, and not an adaptation of an existing group or fund manager, to ensure all interested stakeholders are represented. Participants commented on fund governance, articulating the need for an executive board comprised of local agricultural producers, with positions for smaller groups and new entrants. Participants commented that the executive board should have a clear terms of reference to ensure fairness, and that the terms of reference should be reviewed every two to five years. Participants expressed interest in the compensation fund of \$20 million being paid out in a lump sum from BC Hydro, and managed as an endowment, with flexibility in annual payments. Participants commented on criteria and eligibility, expressing interest in ensuring individual producers have ways of participating in the fund – both on advisory board and as applicants. Participants proposed that 30 per cent of each year's funding be available for individual projects. Participants expressed the need for new, young entrants into the farming industry and a need for educational agriculture programming. Participants stated that the Agricultural Compensation Fund should not be for use outside the Peace Region. 	
General	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants requested additional opportunities to provide input on the compensation fund. Charlie Lasser expressed concern about overall climate change due to the Site C dam. 	
Provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate – Conditions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dale Frederickson asked about Condition 31 and the geographic scope of the monitoring plans, including whether there will be an increased wildlife impact closer to the dam. <i>Siobhan Jackson noted that Condition 31 of the Provincial Environmental Assessment Certificate requires BC Hydro to implement a 10-year monitoring program to determine if the Site C Reservoir will result in site-specific changes that will affect local agricultural operations. These monitoring findings will be used to inform direct mitigation and/or compensation.</i> 	

March 17, 2016

Construction Management Practices

- Judy Madden expressed concern about the wording in the section on the Vegetation and Invasive Plant Management Plan.
- Charlie Lasser commented on the Traffic Management Plans and the potential widening of Jackfish Lake Road, and its impact to the surrounding agriculture.
- Annie Madden and Dennis Madden commented on traffic management issues along Jackfish Lake Road.

Individual Farm Mitigation Plans

- Dan Rose asked about the process for dispute resolution regarding individual farm mitigation plans. *Siobhan Jackson noted that BC Hydro is in the process of developing an acquisition process guide, and will follow up directly with the participant regarding the question.*
- Steve Rainey, MLA Pat Pimm and Charlie Lasser expressed concern about land owner and tenure holder questions not being addressed, as it impacts their agricultural operations. *Siobhan Jackson noted that landowners and tenure holders should follow up directly with their Properties contact, and BC Hydro will be releasing an acquisition process guide in the near term.*

Management of Surplus Agricultural Lands

- Judy Madden commented on surplus lands, and expressed interest in giving priority to former landowners, and then to adjacent landowners, to ensure the land is maintained for local agricultural purposes.
- Mike McConnell asked about loss of portions of a farmer's land, and expressed interest in BC Hydro buying the entire parcel if they are unable to operate. *Siobhan Jackson noted that during individual negotiations with landowners those concerns would be discussed.*
- Ross Musgrove asked about the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), and how BC Hydro decides if lands stays in the ALR. *Siobhan Jackson noted that they do not have the authority to remove lands from the ALR. There may be surplus lands that are not currently in the ALR, which BC Hydro would seek to add to the ALR based on consultation with the Agricultural Land Commission and landowners*
- Ross Musgrove asked how BC Hydro acquired the agricultural land from the ALR. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the provincial government executed an exclusion of land.*

Agricultural Compensation Fund

- *MLA Pat Pimm stated his support for narrowing the geographic scope of the Agricultural Compensation Fund to exclusively remain in the Peace Region.*
- Judy Madden and Dale Frederickson asked about BC Hydro seeking feedback from outside the Peace Region. *Siobhan Jackson noted that they have not held meetings outside the region, and in the online discussion guide and feedback form, the form requests that participants identify what region they are from so that the source of input is clear.*
- Judy Madden and Dale Frederickson expressed concern about the wording in the discussion guide, relating to funding going outside the region. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the wording is from the Environmental Assessment Certificate, and the Committee understands, and has recommended, that the fund remain in the Peace Region.*
- Dan Rose and MLA Pat Pimm expressed interest in mirroring money management practices of the Columbia Basin Trust and the Northern Development Initiatives Trust, to ensure long term distribution of the fund.
- Numerous participants, including Judy Madden, Mike McConnell and Steve Rainey, expressed interest in the Agricultural Compensation Fund being paid out as a lump sum from BC Hydro, and managed locally as an endowment.
- John Stokmans and Steve Rainey discussed setting up the fund in perpetuity, and what the rate of return would be for this approach.
- Charlie Lasser asked about the \$20 million fund. *Siobhan Jackson noted that the \$20 million will be available once the final plan is issued, and that directly impacted landowners will be compensated from a separate fund.*
- Judy Madden, Dan Rose and Charlie Lasser commented on the wording of the compensation fund's vision, and requested the addition of 'enhancing and maintaining agriculture', including wildlife displacement, crop drying and wildlife predation.
- Dan Rose and Judy Madden expressed interest in ensuring a simple and straightforward application process. *Pat Pimm noted that the application process can be complicated due to federal requirements.*

March 17, 2016

- John Stokmans expressed interest in setting aside a portion of the fund to mitigate potential future impacts that may arise, and that the fund should exclusively be used in the Peace Region, and managed locally.
- Judy Madden and Sandra Burton expressed concern about the proposed eligibility criteria, and that it should be limited to agriculture exclusively. Furthermore, eligibility for educational institutions should include a requirement that the research be directly linked to benefits for the Peace Region.
- Mike McConnell and Judy Madden commented on eligibility for individuals, and that individual projects should only be 50% funded.
- MLA Pat Pimm, Dan Rose and Steve Rainey expressed interest in maintaining eligibility for individual projects, to support local on-the-ground projects that aren't associated with any societies, and suggested allocation 30% of each year's funding to individual projects.
- Dan Rose commented that individual projects may have increased administration costs in comparison to societies who are governed.

Agricultural Compensation Fund – Governance

- Mike McConnell and Judy Madden expressed concern regarding the draft governance structure included in the Discussion Guide, and proposed an alternate governing framework, which includes creation of a non-profit society to administer the fund with an executive board representing various groups from the region. Additionally, the proposed structure would include an advisory committee to oversee the review of applications and to make recommendations to the primary executive board.
- Dan Rose discussed the creation of a primary decision-making group and an administration group, to vet applications to ensure they meet criteria.
- Sandra Burton expressed interest in maintaining flexibility for eligibility, and that the framework should be reviewed every five years.
- Steve Rainey, Judy Madden and Dan Rose expressed interest in creating an executive board made up of agricultural producers to make decisions regarding the Fund, ensuring local, non-government and non-political administration of the Fund.
- Dan Rose expressed interest in providing input on the terms of reference, to ensure all forms of agriculture are represented, including those that are not part of existing producers groups, and that the PRRD does not wish to be involved with the distribution of the money.
- Judy Madden asked about BC Hydro's involvement in oversight. *Siobhan Jackson noted that they are consulting with the Environment Assessment Office to determine their involvement requirements.*
- *Siobhan Jackson requested feedback regarding the level of due diligence that participants would expect of the producer decision-making group, and how BC Hydro can ensure the producer board will follow a fair and transparent process.*
- *Leslie MacDonald asked for feedback on the possibility of creating a role for an administrator, to act as a conduit, bring forward applications and respond to questions.* Dan Rose expressed concern regarding duplication in this proposed role, and cited the Northern Development Initiatives Trust board that meets quarterly, reviews applications and makes decisions.
- *Leslie MacDonald asked attendees about the proposed electoral process for executive board members, and whether attendees expected the roles to be compensated or voluntary positions.*
- Judy Madden expressed interest in a nomination process by producer groups for executive board member positions, and that those positions would warrant travel and per diems.
- Dale Frederickson commented on the creation of an executive board, and expressed interest in smaller sectors being represented through the Peace River Regional District.

Additional Comments/Discussion

- Dale Frederickson, Steve Rainey, MLA Pat Pimm, and Charlie Lasser expressed the need for new, young entrants into the farming industry, and commented that there is a lack of opportunities for youth in agriculture, citing a need for programs that bring agriculture into the classrooms and coordinating with programs such as Northern Opportunities.
- Anja Hutgens expressed interest in the Farmer's Advocate in Dawson Creek remaining a resource for all farmers in the region.

March 17, 2016

Updated: May 22, 2015

ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE

DIARY ITEMS

<u>Item</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Diarized</u>
1. Farmer's Advocacy Office	on-going	provide the agenda and meeting notes of the Farmer's Advocacy meetings on a quarterly basis	May 21, 2015