

VANCOUVER CITY CENTRAL TRANSMISSION PROJECT BACKGROUND

NOVEMBER 2010

The Vancouver City Central Transmission (VCCT) Project is the most significant investment that BC Hydro has made in central Vancouver's electrical system in almost 30 years. This major project includes building a new substation, installing a new transmission line under city streets and drilling under the bed of False Creek to join the north and south sides of the project together. Construction begins late in Fall 2010.

The \$201-million project will increase reliability of the electrical supply throughout Vancouver and meet the growing demand for power in the South False Creek and Mount Pleasant neighbourhoods which is being driven by extensive residential and commercial growth.

THE NEED

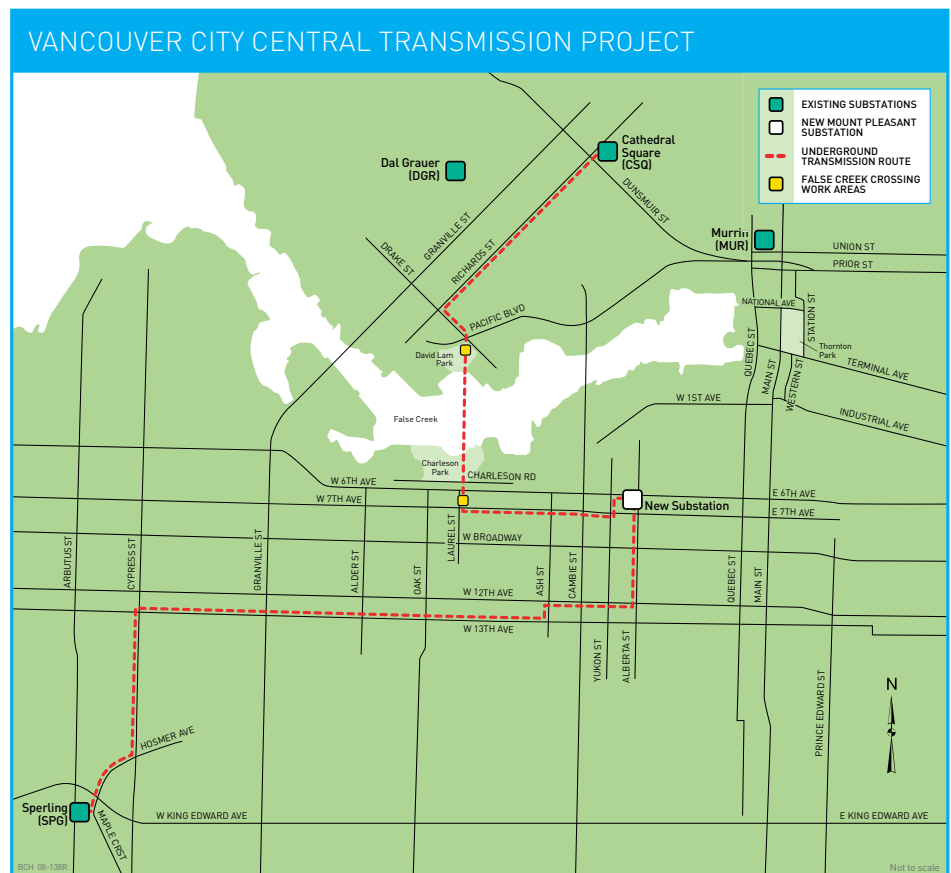
- Demand for electricity in central Vancouver is expected to increase by almost 40% over the next ten years and by as much as 82% over the next 30
- At the same time, a major underground transmission line that links Vancouver's north and south sides is over 50 years old and needs to be replaced

The project was approved by the BC Utilities Commission in June 2010.

THE PROJECT

There are three main construction components to the VCCT Project:

- **A new above-ground enclosed substation** will be constructed on the southwest corner of West 6th Avenue and Alberta Street in Vancouver. The Mount Pleasant Substation is planned to be the first LEED standard substation in BC Hydro's system and a demonstration of our commitment to environmental responsibility and leadership.
- **A new transmission line under city streets** will connect two existing substations, Cathedral Square in downtown Vancouver and Sperling at Arbutus Street and W. King Edward Avenue, with the new Mount Pleasant Substation. The construction method will be similar to that used for installation of other utilities in the streets, such as water or sewer pipes. Small trenches will be dug in the streets to allow installation of the concrete housing for the transmission cables.
- **The drilling and installation of the line under the bed of False Creek** to connect the north and south sides of the project. There will be two above-ground work areas used as the staging grounds for the drilling – one in David Lam Park and the other in the roadway on Laurel Street between West 6th and 7th Avenues.



WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

BC Hydro takes its commitment to consult with the public seriously. We will keep the public informed of our progress during construction and continue to work with local residents and businesses to find the best way to complete the project.

- Public consultation began over two years ago
- Project information has been sent to more than 27,000 residences and businesses in the project area and advertisements placed in local newspapers to inform people about the project
- Community open houses and meetings with local stakeholder groups and residents have been held so that members of the public could speak directly with the project team and share their views and ideas

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

BC Hydro is committed to minimizing construction-related impacts to the public and will:

- Provide regular construction updates
- Follow best practices to minimize noise, visual and dust impacts
- Implement rigorous health and safety management plans for public and worker safety
- Ensure the contractors carefully follow the traffic management plans accepted by the City of Vancouver to minimize disruption to streets, parking access, pedestrian access, designated bicycle routes and overall traffic flow
- Restore all affected areas

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

At BC Hydro, we've made a commitment to support and strengthen the communities we serve. We recognize that important public infrastructure like the VCCT Project involves some inconvenience during construction, but we are also giving back to the community by:

- Providing funding towards the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre Turntable Plaza Rehabilitation Project
- Working with a Kwantlen College arborist and the Richmond Farm School to preserve the genus of a mature neighbourhood apple tree on the Mount Pleasant Substation site so that it can continue to be enjoyed by many
- Funding the installation of electrical system improvements in David Lam Park so that future festivals and events can take place without the need for temporary generators in the park

More information on the VCCT Project is available at: transmission.bchydro.com/projects/vcct

Additional Vancouver City Central Transmission Project Backgrounders are available on:

- [New Mount Pleasant Substation](#)
- [Transmission Line Under City Streets](#)
- [Crossing Beneath the Bed of False Creek](#)