Fifty years ago, the people of British Columbia turned to BC Hydro to build the clean electricity system we all count on to power our economy, create jobs in every region, and keep the lights on. Now BC Hydro is building again for the next 50 years.

B.C. continues to grow and so does our need for more electricity. That’s why we are building, renewing, and conserving together to meet today’s needs and those of future generations.

ENSURING CLEAN AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

The transmission circuits that bring power from generation resources in the north and southern Interior of the province to the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island are some of the most critical paths in the transmission grid. Built in the early 1970s, the circuits are reaching the limits of their capacity during periods of peak demand.

The Interior to Lower Mainland (ILM) Transmission Project will expand the capacity of these essential transmission circuits so that they can continue to reliably deliver clean and renewable energy to the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island.

By ensuring the most efficient transfer of electricity, the ILM Project will retain energy that otherwise would be lost – enough energy to supply about 80,000 homes per year. This directly supports the Clean Energy Act’s goal of self-sufficiency.

BC TRANSMISSION CORPORATION AND BC HYDRO – ONE COMPANY

BC Transmission Corporation (BCTC) had been planning the ILM Project. On July 5th, 2010, the Clean Energy Act consolidated BC Hydro and BCTC into a single Crown corporation. This single entity will plan and deliver the clean energy required to meet British Columbia’s growing demand for electricity while fostering job creation throughout the province and helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The members of the ILM Project Team remain the same.
PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity: BC Utilities Commission Reconsideration of First Nations Consultation

On February 3, 2011, the BC Utilities Commission issued a decision on the reconsideration of the adequacy of First Nations consultation for the ILM Project. For more information please visit bcuc.com and click on Recent Decisions.

While the Commission agreed with the majority of BC Hydro’s positions they directed BC Hydro to remedy some deficiencies in consultation and report back within 120 days. If the Commission is satisfied that the deficiencies have been remedied the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) suspension will be lifted.

The Commission issued a CPCN for the ILM Project to BC Transmission Corporation (now BC Hydro) on August 5, 2008.

Environmental Assessment Certificate: BC Supreme Court Judicial Review

In November 2009 several First Nations filed judicial review applications in BC Supreme Court challenging the Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) for the ILM Project issued June 3, 2009 by the Minister of Energy and the Minister of Environment. The applications were heard together by the court in an oral hearing February 7-14, 2011. A decision is expected in four to six months.

MOVING FORWARD

At BC Hydro we take our responsibility to consult with First Nations very seriously. We have been consulting with 60 First Nations and seven Tribal Councils on the ILM Project since 2006 and will continue to do so.

BC Hydro (or any contractors) cannot begin clearing or construction until such time as all permits are in place. In the meantime, BC Hydro is taking steps to move forward on the project.

Contractor Selection Process

The ILM Project will be built as a Design Build Contract. A Request for Qualifications was posted on BC Bid and four qualified contractors were shortlisted to receive Requests for Proposals in September 2010:

- Flatiron-Graham
- Peter Kiewit and Sons
- Valard-NAC-Burns & McDonnell
- Allteck (subsequently withdrew in January 2011)

Proposals are due this spring.

Opportunities for Local Contractors and Suppliers

Information about the contractor selection process, including contact information for each of the three proponents is posted on the project website. BC Hydro hosted a Business Opportunity Networking Session in Chilliwack in October 2010. Approximately 100 potential sub-contractors and suppliers attended to exchange information with the shortlisted contractors.

Project Schedule

BC Hydro is continuing to work towards the 2014 in-service date for the ILM Project. There are contingency plans in place to meet system requirements in the event the ILM Project is not in-service by 2014.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the ILM Project please visit http://transmission.bchydro.com/projects/ilm/ or contact:

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