

Environmental Assessment of Proposed Amendment to the Interior to Lower Mainland Transmission Project

Public Comment Period

On June 3, 2009, BC Hydro (Proponent) received an Environmental Assessment Certificate (E09-03) for the Interior to Lower Mainland Transmission Project (Project). The Project is a new 248 kilometre (km) 500 kilovolt (kV) alternating current overhead electric transmission line from Nicola Substation (NIC), near Merritt, to the Meridian Substation (MDN) in Coquitlam.

The Proponent has submitted an application to the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) to amend its Environmental Assessment Certificate (Amendment Application). The proposed amendment is subject to a review under British Columbia's *Environmental Assessment Act*. The proposed amendment is a 12.2 km Project realignment located near Spuzzum and includes:

- Construction of the new transmission line within an existing BC Hydro right-of-way (ROW) parallel to existing circuit 5L41;
- Addition of three (3) 500 kV double-circuit towers, two within Spuzzum First Nation Reserve Papsilqua IR 2;
- Reduction of the overall length of the Project by 2.7 km from 247.7 km to 245.0 km; and,
- Reduction in the length of new ROW and clearing required for the Project.

An electronic copy of the Amendment Application and information regarding the environmental assessment process are available at <http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca>.

Copies of the Amendment Application are also available for viewing at the following locations:

- Spuzzum First Nation Office
- Boston Bar Public Library
- Yale Public Library
- Hope Public Library

Public Comment Period

EAO is seeking comments from the public on the proposed amendment and the potential effects to ensure that all potential effects – environmental, economic, social, heritage and health – that might result from the proposed Project are identified for consideration as part of the assessment process.

The public comment period will run for 21 days from **August 15, 2012 to September 5, 2012**. All comments received during this comment period will be considered.

EAO accepts public comments in the following ways:

- **By online form at**
<http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca>
- **By mail:**
Brian Murphy
Executive Project Director
Environmental Assessment Office
PO Box 9426 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9V1
- **By fax:**
250-356-6448

NOTE: All submissions received by the EAO during the comment period in relation to the proposed amendment to the ILM Project are considered public and will be posted to the EAO website.

