

SIXTH FLOOR, 900 HOWE STREET, BOX 250
VANCOUVER, BC V6Z 2N3 CANADA
web site: <http://www.bcuc.com>



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER G-34-11**

TELEPHONE: (604) 660-4700
BC TOLL FREE: 1-800-663-1385
FACSIMILE: (604) 660-1102

**IN THE MATTER OF
the Utilities Commission Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 473**

and

**Application by British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
to Construct and Operate the Ruskin Dam and Powerhouse Upgrade Project**

BEFORE: M.R. Harle, Panel Chair/Commissioner February 24, 2011

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On February 22, 2011, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) filed pursuant to section 46(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act* (the Act), an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to construct and operate the Ruskin Dam and Powerhouse Upgrade Project (the Project) as described in the Application;
- B. The Project Expected Amount is \$718.1 million and the Authorized Amount is \$856.9 million, which includes costs to date;
- C. The Project has two main components:
 - (i) the Dam upgrade entails the replacement of the spillway piers and spillway gates, rehabilitation of the spillway surface, replacement of the roadway crossing the top of the Dam, anchoring and reinforcement of sections of the existing Right Abutment and construction of a new seepage cut-off wall at the Right Abutment, and
 - (ii) the Powerhouse upgrade entails seismic upgrades to the Powerhouse structure and rehabilitation/replacement of the three generating units, water conveyancing components, switchyard, electrical and mechanical equipment and ancillary systems.

The target in-service date is June 2017;

- D. BC Hydro will hold a Workshop on the Application on February 28, 2011 at the Commission Hearing Room, 12th Floor, 1125 Howe Street in Vancouver, B.C., commencing at 9:00 a.m.;

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- E. The Commission has determined that a Written Public Hearing process is needed for the review of the Application.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. A Written Public Hearing process is established for the review of the Application according to the Regulatory Timetable as set out in Appendix A to this Order.
2. BC Hydro will publish, as soon as possible, in display ad format, the Notice attached as Appendix B to this Order in the Vancouver Sun and Province newspapers, and such local papers in the vicinity of the Ruskin Dam that will provide proper notice to the public that may be impacted by the Project.
3. BC Hydro will provide a copy of this Order to the First Nations considered to be relevant for inclusion in the consultation activities on the Project through their Chief and Council contacts.
4. BC Hydro will provide a copy of this Order to all parties who intervened in its F2011 Revenue Requirements Application.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 24th day of February 2011.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

M.R. Harle
Panel Chair/Commissioner

Attachments

Application by British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
to Construct and Operate the Ruskin Dam and Powerhouse Upgrade Project

REGULATORY AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

ACTION	DATE (2011)
Filing of Application	Tuesday, February 22
BC Hydro hosted Application Workshop	Monday, February 28
Intervener/Interested Party Registration	Thursday, March 10
Commission Information Request No. 1	Thursday, March 10
Intervener Information Requests No. 1	Friday, March 18
Participation Assistance/Cost Award Budget Submissions	Wednesday, March 23
BC Hydro Response to Information Requests No. 1	Friday, April 8
BCUC and Intervener Request No. 2	Thursday, April 21
BC Hydro Responses to Information Requests No. 2	Friday, May 13
BC Hydro Final Written Submission	Friday, May 27
Intervener Final Written Submission	Friday, June 10
BC Hydro Written Reply Submission	Friday, June 24



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NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND WRITTEN PUBLIC HEARING

THE APPLICATION

On February 22, 2011, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (the Commission) for approval pursuant to section 46(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act* (the Act), seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the Ruskin Dam and Powerhouse Upgrade Project, in the vicinity of Mission BC, as described in its Application.

The Project has an estimated capital cost of approximately \$718.1million, funded entirely by BC Hydro's ratepayers, which includes costs for the design and supply and install contracts associated with upgrades and replacements to the Ruskin Dam, spillway facilities, powerhouse and generating units.

THE REGULATORY PROCESS

Commission Order G-34-11 established the Regulatory Timetable for the review of the Application by way of a Written Public Hearing.

The detailed Regulatory Timetable can be reviewed on the Commission's website <http://www.bcuc.com> > Proceedings & Agendas > Current Applications.

INTERVENTIONS

Persons who expect to actively participate in the BC Hydro proceeding should register as Interveners with the Commission, in writing or electronic submission, by Thursday, March 10, 2011. Interveners should specifically state the nature of their interest in the Application and identify generally the nature of the issues that they may intend to pursue during the proceeding and the nature and extent of their anticipated involvement in the review process. Interveners will receive a copy of the Application as well as all correspondence and filed documentation and should provide an email address if available.

Persons not expecting to actively participate in the BC Hydro proceeding, but who have an interest in the Application, should register as Interested Parties with the Commission, in writing or electronic submission, by Thursday, March 10, 2011, identifying their interest in the Application. Interested Parties will receive a copy of the Executive Summary of the Application.

All submissions and/or correspondence received from active participants or the general public relating to the Application will be placed on the public record and posted to the Commission's web site.

PARTICIPANT ASSISTANCE/COST AWARDS

Any party intending to file for a Participant Assistance Cost Award (PACA) must submit its PACA budget, pursuant to the PACA Guidelines attached to Order G-72-07, to the Commission by Wednesday, March 23, 2011. A complete description of the PACA Guidelines is available at the Commission's web site:

<http://www.bccuc.com/Documents/Guidelines/Participant/Guide.pdf>

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE DOCUMENTS

The Application, together with any supporting materials, will be made available for inspection at the following locations:

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Regulatory Compliance & Filings
16th Floor – 333 Dunsmuir Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 5R3
<http://www.bchydro.com/>

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3
Telephone: 1-800-663-1385
<http://www.bccuc.com>

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact the Commission Secretary, Ms. Erica Hamilton as follows:

Commission Secretary
Telephone: (604) 660-4700
Facsimile: (604) 660-1102
Email: Commission.Secretary@bccuc.com
BC Toll Free: 1-800-663-1385