

MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION

BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

PREPARED FOR: Fazil Mihlar, Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI), Bobbi Plecas, Deputy Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation (JERI), and Kevin Jardine, Deputy Minister of Environment and Climate Change (ENV)

ISSUE: While British Columbia (BC) currently enjoys a surplus of clean electricity, BC Hydro forecasts that demand¹ could begin to outstrip supply as soon as Fiscal 2027 under certain scenarios. s.12; s.13
s.12; s.13

BACKGROUND:

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BC Hydro's current 2020-2040 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) includes consideration of two
s.13 scenarios that could deplete BC Hydro's current surplus before its "base case" projection of Fiscal 2030:

- An "Accelerated Electrification" scenario in which implementation of BC Hydro's Electrification Plan and other actions to meet the Province's CleanBC emissions reduction targets raise demand, primarily on the South Coast, depleting the surplus by Fiscal 2027; and
- A "North Coast" scenario in which higher demand is driven by significant industrial activity (mainly LNG & mining) in that region, depleting the surplus by Fiscal 2028.

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¹ Energy forecast only. BC Hydro forecasts suggest capacity resource surpluses under the above two scenarios would be exhausted by F2030 and F2034 respectively.

s.17 which would require the energy equivalent of two Site Cs should they proceed.
Under current legislation, BC Hydro has an obligation to serve these companies, s.13
s.13

DISCUSSION:

s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

Currently, BC's end use energy is provided by hydro (18%), natural gas (29%) and gasoline/diesel (39%). s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

The Roadmap commits to place a legislated obligation on BC's natural gas distribution utilities to "undertake activities and invest in technologies to.... lower GHG emissions from the fossil natural gas used to heat homes and buildings and power some industries²" by about 47% by 2030. s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

s.13

SUMMARY:

s.12; s.13

² Excluding upstream oil and gas and LNG.

Attachments: s.12
s.12; s.13

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s.12

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s.12 ; s.13