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Hon. David Eby Q.C., MLA

Attorney General Vancouver-Point Grey Room 232 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Thursday, December 28, 2017.

Minister Eby,

BC Hydro provides power to some 70,000 customers on the west side of Lake Okanagan, from Summerland to West Kelowna. That's roughly 22,000 homes, businesses, retirement residences and care facilities who are reliant upon an uninterrupted, steady source of electricity.

Currently, there is a single transmission line connecting this area to Hydro's grid. That makes this area the largest, populated region with single connectivity in the province.

The line is ageing, it crosses some challenging terrain and it is vulnerable the intense forest fires our province has been experiencing. In October 2014, an insulating cup failed, causing a fire atop of a tower. A 9-hour black out followed. Had the black out occurred during a cold snap like the one that has engulfed North America this Christmas, the results would have been catastrophic.

BC Hydro has plans to connect a second transmission line. They've sought input from local and regional governments but, those discussions are hindered and the project needlessly delayed without an elected MLA to help move the project forward.

You can make a difference. Please support an immediate call for a by-election for the vacant Kelowna-West riding. Best Wishes for the New Year.

s.22

Sincerely,

s.22

# BChydro W

FOR GENERATIONS

Sarah McKinney Stakeholder Engagement, BC Hydro Office: 604.623.3693

Email: sarah.mckinney@bchydro.com

February 19, 2015

To: District of West Kelowna

Attn: Mayor Doug Findlater, Councillor Rusty Ensign, Councillor Rick de Jong, Councillor Rosalind Neis,

Councillor Duane Ophus, Councillor Bryden Winsby and Councillor Carol Zanon

By: Mail and email

Dear Mayor Findlater and Council,

Re: Announcement of the West Kelowna Transmission Project

On February 5, 2015, the Province of British Columbia and BC Hydro announced the West Kelowna Transmission Project. This project will strengthen the transmission network to deliver power reliably to the communities of West Kelowna, Westside and Peachland.

Approximately 22,000 customers in these communities are served by the Westbank Substation and a single 138 kilovolt transmission line. The existing transmission line runs through 80 kilometres of rugged, remote terrain susceptible to forest fires and landslides. A new, second transmission line will provide added redundancy to the system, ensuring continued, reliable power in the event of an outage on the existing line. In addition, upgrades to the Westbank Substation will also be required.

BC Hydro is currently in the early planning stage for this project, which will involve consultation with communities, stakeholders and First Nations. Based upon previous studies, BC Hydro has identified the following potential transmission alternatives (see attached Conceptual Map of West Kelowna Transmission Alternatives):

- Alternative 1: Construct a new transmission line north on the west side of Okanagan Lake that connects Westbank Substation to the existing transmission line serving Vernon Substation.
- Alternative 2: Construct a new transmission line from Nicola Substation to Westbank
   Substation using a different route than the existing transmission line.
- Alternative 3: Construct a new submarine transmission cable across Okanagan Lake, connecting Westbank Substation to the FortisBC system.

BC Hydro is initiating a number of studies including a review of these alternatives. As a first step, Sue Foster (Project Manager) and I would like to arrange a meeting with you this March, to begin the conversation about this project.

If you have any immediate questions, please contact me at sarah.mckinney@bchydro.com, or by phone at 604.623.3693.

Kind regards,

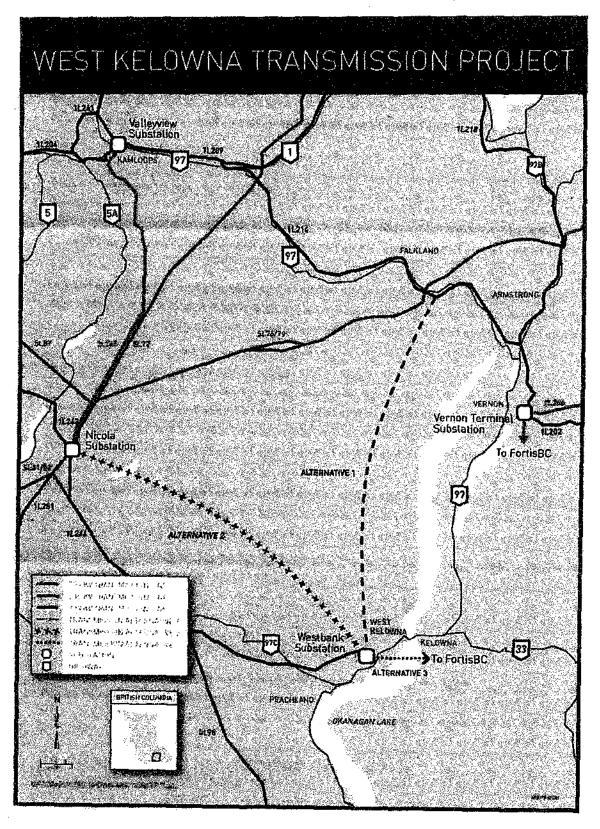
Sarah McKinney Stakeholder Engagement, BC Hydro

Cc: Jim Zaffino, CAO and Diane Vaykovich, Executive Coordinator

### Attachments:

Conceptual Map of West Kelowna Transmission Project Alternatives Press release from the Government of British Columbia

Attachment 1: Conceptual Map of West Kelowna Transmission Project Alternatives





# **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release 2015PREM0005-000137 February 5, 2015 Office of the Premier Ministry of Energy and Mines

#### West Kelowna to benefit from new power line

WEST KELOWNA – Premier Christy Clark announced today that BC Hydro will build a new transmission line in the Okanagan. The new line will strengthen the transmission network to deliver power reliably to the communities of West Kelowna, Westside and Peachland.

"As more people and businesses move to the West Kelowna area, infrastructure has to keep pace," said Premier Clark. "Over the next 10 years, electricity demand is expected to grow by 18%. This addition will ensure a reliable power supply as the economy and communities grow."

BC Hydro has identified three route options for the new line after conducting comprehensive system studies. The new line will also require an upgrade to the Westbank substation. The final route, timing and budget will be determined after consultation with the public and First Nations. Consultation will begin this spring.

"BC Hydro has an extensive capital plan underway that requires them to invest, on average, \$2.4 billion a year, for the next 10 years, to upgrade existing assets and build new infrastructure," said Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines. "This investment is needed to ensure B.C. continues to get reliable power to meet our growing electricity needs. In fact, the transmission and distribution network alone will benefit from an investment of \$10 billion over a 10-year period."

West Kelowna is currently powered by an existing 138-kilovolt transmission line that runs from the Nicola Substation near Merritt to the Westbank Substation in West Kelowna. It travels 80 kilometres through remote, heavily forested terrain where the wildfire risk during the summer is high.

"We had committed several years ago to study the feasibility of a new line and after extensive review we've decided this is the right time to invest in an upgrade to West Kelowna's transmission network," said Jessica McDonald, president and CEO, BC Hydro. "We will work closely with First Nations, the public and stakeholders to determine the best route option for the community while delivering the project efficiently and prudently."

BC Hydro has made significant improvements to the existing transmission system in the area in recent years. In 2008, BC Hydro installed a new transformer at the Westbank Substation and in 2011 and 2012, BC Hydro made upgrades to the line to increase capacity.

"The new transmission line recognizes the growth we are seeing in the West Kelowna, Peachland and Westside areas," said Dan Ashton, MLA for Penticton. "The project will help ensure we have dependable, clean electricity to support our quality of life, expand our businesses and attract investment to our communities."

"The need for a secondary transmission line to West Kelowna was identified shortly after incorporation in 2007," said Doug Findlater, mayor of the District of West Kelowna. "Guaranteeing a dependable power supply in West Kelowna, Westbank First Nation, and the District of Peachland provides peace of mind and safety for over 60,000-plus residents. The economic benefit in providing power reliability to West Kelowna and area will be realized immediately. Business will have confidence that their power needs can be met."

#### **Quick Facts:**

BC Hydro will now enter the "identification phase" for the line to determine the preferred option. This will involve extensive consultation with stakeholders.

#### The three options include:

- 1. A new line running down from the north, west of Okanagan Lake.
- 2. A new line running from Nicola Substation near Merritt to the Westbank Substation in West Kelowna that follows a different route than the existing line.
- 3. A new submarine cable connecting Westbank substation to the FortisBC system on the east-side of Okanagan Lake.

Historically, the transmission line has delivered a good level of reliability over the years. Three major outages have been recorded over the past 18 years ranging in duration from 4.2 to 8.8 hours.

#### **Media Contacts:**

604 928-6468

Sam Oliphant
Press Secretary
Office of the Premier

BC Hydro Media Relations

250 952-7252

Jake Jacobs Media Relations Ministry of Energy and Mines 250 952-0628

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## King, Kim J M JAG:EX

From:

Minister, AG AG:EX

Sent:

Tuesday, January 16, 2018 4:37 PM

To:

Addo, Wolfgang AG:EX

Subject:

545811 AG Draft Email with a referral created to CCU and submitted -

Many thanks! FW: cost of by-elections

**From:** s.22

[mailto:s.22

Sent: Monday, January 15, 2018 10:33 AM

To: Minister, AG AG:EX

Subject: Fwd: cost of by-elections

**From:** s.22

To: "Richard cannings" < <a href="mailto:richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca">richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca</a>, "linda Larson mla" < <a href="mailto:linda.larson.mla@leg.bc.ca">linda.larson.mla@leg.bc.ca</a>

Cc: "info" < info@pco-bcp.gc.ca>

Sent: Monday, January 15, 2018 1:28:44 PM

Subject: cost of by-elections

I have been wondering why the tax payers are on the hook for the cost of by-elections when a member of Parliament or Legislature resigns for reasons of personal or political gains. Prime examples are when Christie Clark lost in her home riding and ran in a west Kelowna bi-election to have a seat in the legislature. Jason Kenny resigning to become leader of the new Party in Alberta. Diane Watts resigning to seek the leadership of the BC Liberal part. Prentice resigning to becoming a bank executive. These are all for personal or party gains.

I can understand the tax payers picking up the cost of bi-elections when the member resigns because of health or a family situations that causes the person to look after a family member because of an accident, illness or something similar.

If a person wants to run for public office, they should have to take an oath that they will serve their full term unless they meet conditions to resign that would be spelled out in they oath they have to take and agreed

too. Should they resign for personal or party reasons they or their party should have to cover the cost of the bi-election. If they can't or won't take the oath, they can't run.

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