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Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

2024 Transition Binder

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MINISTRY PROFILE

Ministry: Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

Ministry Mandate:

The availability and access to energy and mineral resources is essential to British Columbia's (BC's) economic growth and a competitive, low carbon economy now and into the future. The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (Ministry) oversees and supports the responsible development of the energy and mineral resources that are critical to BC's future: creating good, high paying jobs across the province, generating significant provincial revenue and advancing the transition to a clean, inclusive economy.

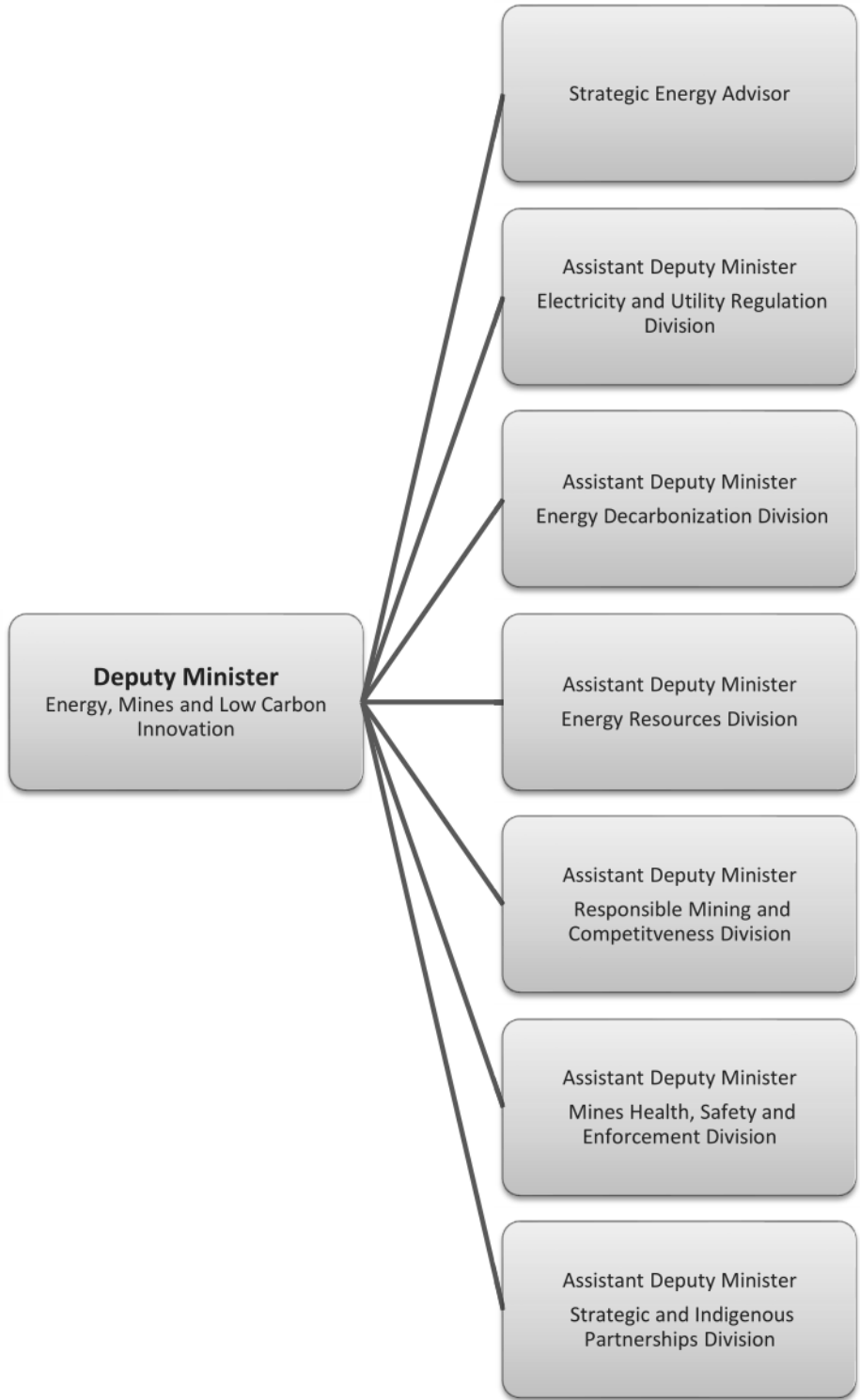
The Ministry is responsible for BC's electricity, hydrogen and other clean energy alternatives, oil, and natural gas sectors and related infrastructure, and the province's mining and mineral exploration sectors, as well as leading initiatives that improve energy efficiency and decarbonize energy use in priority sectors. These sectors are made up of diverse interests that: use and develop energy, low carbon fuels and electricity generation, transmission, and distribution infrastructure; explore for and produce oil, natural gas, coal, and critical and valuable minerals; and develop and adopt innovative energy and mineral technologies. These sectors are globally competitive, demonstrate leading environmental practices, and advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, while providing opportunities and quality jobs for British Columbians and a fair return on resources to support the province's priorities.

The Ministry carries out its work in support of commitments to Indigenous reconciliation and the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. In fulfilling its mandate, the Ministry consults and collaborates with other ministries and levels of government, private sector stakeholders, First Nations, Indigenous peoples, communities, regulators, environmental and industry organizations, and the public.

The Ministry supports the Minister in discharging responsibilities for the following Crown Corporations: British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) and the BC Energy Regulator (BCER), formerly the Oil and Gas Commission, and is also responsible for the Assayers Certification Board of Examiners. Although the BC Utilities Commission, as an administrative tribunal, falls under the responsibilities of the Attorney General, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation has responsibilities under the Utilities Commission Act (UCA), and the Ministry develops regulations and legislative amendments to the UCA. In the last mandate, the Minister of Finance was responsible for the following Crown Corporations: Columbia Power Corporation and Columbia Basin Trust. The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation provided support to the Minister of Finance regarding these responsibilities as well as for the Columbia River Treaty.

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs): 613 (as of July 1, 2024)

Executive Organizational Chart:



Budget:

**Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation
Financial Summary Table, 2024/25-2026/27 Ministry Service Plan**

Core Business	2022/23 Restated Estimates ¹	2023/24 Estimates	2024/25 Plan	2025/26 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Mines Competitiveness and Authorizations	24,551	28,383	23,716	24,207
Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement	12,693	13,670	13,898	13,898
Electricity and Alternative Energy	38,888	41,365	41,598	41,598
Oil and Gas	17,271	17,706	17,795	17,795
Strategic and Indigenous Affairs	2,515	2,669	2,695	2,695
Executive and Support Services	13,638	14,615	13,469	13,651
Innovative Clean Energy Fund Special Account	2,403	10,128	7,933	7,933
Total	111,959	128,536	121,104	121,777
Capital Expenditures (\$000)				
Executive and Support Services	586	546	546	546
Total	586	546	546	546
Other Financing Transactions (\$000)				
BC Energy Regulator Receipts	(44,000)	(45,000)	(46,000)	(47,000)
BC Energy Regulator Disbursements	44,000	45,000	46,000	47,000
Net Cash Requirements (Source)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Total Receipts	(44,000)	(45,000)	(46,000)	(47,000)
Total Disbursements	44,000	45,000	46,000	47,000
Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2022/23 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2023/24 Estimates.

Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).

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Sector Profiles

Context/Introduction/Purpose of Document:

This document highlights the key sectors that the Ministry works with to deliver the Ministry’s mandate. The term sector is used broadly, and does not align with industry definitions. In addition to sectors such as mining and mineral exploration, some Ministry initiatives, especially decarbonization, impact almost every sector of the economy.

Sector Profiles

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Sector Profiles

Mining and Mineral Exploration

This sector encompasses prospecting, mineral exploration, mine development, mining including processing, and reclamation.

Ministry Role: Partner with First Nations, industry, and labour to advance a responsible, competitive, and innovative mining sector and provide regulatory oversight to protect the environment, health and safety, and the public interest.

Divisions Responsible: Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division; Mines, Health, Safety and Enforcement Division

Partners: WLRS/ENV/MIRR/JEDI (permitting, consultation, investment attraction), Federal Government (permitting, co-funding), BC Hydro (Electrification Plan implementation), First Nations and First Nations organizations (consultation and partnerships, Mineral Tenure Act Modernization (MTA))

Economic and Social Impact:

- BC's mineral production value was approximately \$15 billion in 2023, representing 28 percent of B.C. exports and 3 percent of B.C. GDP.
- Revenues to the Province include \$497.3 million in mineral tax (FY 2023/24), and \$52 million in annual revenue sharing with First Nations (2023).
- 17 operating mines and significant mineral exploration activity (\$643.5 million in 2023) employ over 35,000 First Nation and non-First Nation workers throughout the Province.

Current Sector Priorities: Government action to increase sector competitiveness including capital market outreach and advancing BC's Critical Minerals Strategy (including the reclamation of legacy mine sites); support for First Nations partnerships and reconciliation including agreement negotiation; regulatory complexity and permitting timelines, reduce land-use conflicts and fiscal measures. These priorities are supported by a strong regulatory framework that protects the environment and the health and safety of workers and the public.

Opportunities and Challenges:

- Critical minerals represent a significant growth opportunity for the sector being advanced through the BC Critical Minerals Strategy.
- Action is required to create enabling conditions for growth, including MTA and broader mining regulatory reform, funding and capacity support for First

Sector Profiles

Nations partnerships and reconciliation, creating certainty on the land-base through regulatory reform and land use planning, and improving regulatory process timelines.

Petroleum and Natural Gas (including LNG)

Ministry Role: The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation is responsible for British Columbia's electricity, alternative energy, hydrogen, oil, and natural gas sectors and related infrastructure. The Ministry supports the Minister in discharging responsibilities for the following Crown Corporations: British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro), and the BC Energy Regulator.

Division Responsible: Energy Resources Division

Partners: BC Energy Regulator; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy – Climate Action Secretariat and Environmental Assessment Office; Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation; Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation; Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness.

Economic and Social Impact:

- British Columbia produces crude oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids (e.g. ethane, propane, butane, etc.) and condensate.
- British Columbia is Canada's second largest producer of natural gas and if viewed independently is the world's thirteenth largest natural gas producing jurisdiction ahead of Egypt and the United Arab Emirates.
- In 2023, British Columbia produced 6.7 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) of marketable natural gas. About 10 per cent of production is consumed domestically, with the remainder exported through pipelines to other regions of Canada or to the United States.
- Provincial revenues (royalties along with bonus bids, rents on drilling rights and leases) from oil and natural gas development totaled \$2.35 billion in 2022/23. Due to lower expected prices, revenues decreased to \$886.6 million in 2023/24 and are projected to remain at a lower level in 2024/25.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry is advancing the implementation of the new royalty system that was announced in 2022.
- According to Statistics Canada, British Columbia's oil and natural gas sector

Sector Profiles

directly employed nearly 74,000 individuals in 2023. Many of these are classified as oil and gas engineering construction and are primarily engaged in the construction of oil and gas lines, mains, refineries, and storage tanks.

- In 2023, the oil and gas sector contributed \$15.1 Billion (constant dollars) directly to British Columbia's gross domestic product. Companies in British Columbia's oil and gas sector regularly invest between \$5 and \$9 billion in new developments (capital expenditures) and on-going operations (operating expenditures) in the province, according to an annual survey conducted by Statistics Canada.
- Several pipelines transport natural gas produced in British Columbia including Enbridge's Westcoast Pipeline (also referred to as the Enbridge BC Pipeline) and pipelines operated by FortisBC and Pacific Northern Gas (PNG). FortisBC and PNG supply natural gas to most of the domestic, commercial, and industrial users in the province and are regulated by the British Columbia Utilities Commission. The Coastal GasLink pipeline, which will supply gas to LNG Canada, achieved mechanical completion in late 2023.
- The Trans Mountain pipeline is the primary source of crude oil for BC, which is supplied to the Parkland refinery in Burnaby as well as refineries in Washington state. The pipeline along with these refineries provide British Columbia with its refined petroleum products (gasoline and diesel). The Trans Mountain expansion project (TMEP) commenced operations in May 2024, expanding the capacity from 300,000 barrels per day to 890,000 barrels per day.
 - During TMEP's construction, nearly 16,000 British Columbians worked on the project. Also, more than 2,000 B.C. businesses were awarded more than \$7.5 billion in contracts.
 - Of that, \$5.2 billion was awarded to 820 Indigenous businesses in the province.
- There are three LNG export projects under construction in British Columbia: the LNG Canada project in Kitimat (Haisla territory), the Woodfibre LNG project in the Squamish area, and the Haisla led Cedar LNG project. LNG Canada and Cedar LNG are supported by the Coastal Gaslink Pipeline and Woodfibre LNG is supported by the Eagle Mountain Pipeline (under construction).
 - LNG Canada represents the largest private sector investment in Canadian history and is an important future avenue of growth for Canadian gas exports.

Advice/Recommendations; Business Information

Sector Profiles

Advice/Recommendations; Business Information

- Combined these projects have added thousands of jobs to support their construction and operations.

Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

- FortisBC operates two smaller scale LNG facilities: Tilbury LNG, on Tilbury Island near Vancouver, and Mt. Hayes, near Ladysmith on Vancouver Island.
- Nearly 30 per cent of the energy used in British Columbia comes from natural gas, according to the Canada Energy Regulator (CER). FortisBC supplies natural gas to about 1.2 million customers (households & businesses), with PNG supplying another 39,100 in northwest BC. The FortisBC system supports British Columbia's energy security with the capability of providing nearly twice the energy than BC Hydro to meet peak energy demand during cold days.
- According to the Provincial Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, emissions from British Columbia's oil and gas sector totaled 11.8 million tonnes in 2021 which is nearly 1.7 million tonnes, or 13 per cent, lower than emissions in 2007 (despite more than double the production). In the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030, the Province made a commitment to reduce emissions from oil and gas by 33-38 per cent by 2030, compared to 2007 levels.
- Other climate actions designed to reduce emissions in the oil and gas sector include British Columbia's Output-Based Pricing System, which takes effect April 2024, and the new Energy Action Framework that will implement a regulatory emissions cap for the oil and gas industry and require all proposed LNG facilities to achieve net zero emissions by 2030.

Current Sector Priorities:

- Advancing the final components of Province's new royalty system, which will require regulatory amendments and implementing the new system on the announced timeline.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

Sector Profiles

Advice/Recommendations

- Continuing to work with Indigenous Peoples to advance reconciliation, provide economic opportunities and restore the land.

Opportunities and Challenges:

- The Province collects royalties on oil and gas production. These royalties support British Columbia's economic prosperity while ensuring that producers receive a fair return on their investments.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

- The first phase of LNG Canada was the largest private sector investment in Canadian history, and phase 2 could represent a second significant invest in the province.

Alternative Energy [including hydrogen]

Ministry Role: The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) is responsible for B.C.'s low carbon energy sectors in support of B.C.'s economic development and climate objectives. This includes hydrogen, ammonia, methanol, biofuels, renewable natural gas, and carbon capture, utilization and storage.

Divisions Responsible: Energy Resources Division, Electricity and Utility Regulation Division, Energy Decarbonization Division.

Partners: JEDI, ENV, CICE, BCER, EAO, BC Hydro (see Annex I for description of roles)

Economic and Social Impact:

- Revenues to the Province: The nascent alternative energy sector has potential to provide significant economic benefits via investment, jobs and tax revenue.
- Number of jobs: Estimated to provide 50,400 jobs in clean energy¹ by 2030.
- Contribution to climate goals: Estimated to be 44 percent of anticipated GHG reductions from clean energy use by 2030.

Current Sector Priorities:

- Accelerate the development of renewable and low carbon energy production and

¹ Estimates from the Climate Action Secretariat. Clean energy is defined as biofuels, hydrogen, renewables, and electricity distribution.

Sector Profiles

end use in support of *CleanBC Roadmap to 2030, Powering our Future: BC's Clean Energy Strategy*, and the *BC Hydrogen Strategy*, as well as other provincial plans.

- Build a robust, streamlined and transparent regulatory framework that upholds world-class safety standards, respects Indigenous rights, protects the environment, and provides confidence to investors in clean energy.
- Advance First Nations' economic self-determination through promoting and supporting continued Indigenous leadership in clean energy.

Opportunities and Challenges:

- Availability and cost of power from BC Hydro's grid for clean energy customers.
- Safe transportation of clean fuels by rail from inland production facilities to B.C. export facilities (see Decision Note Ammonia Transportation by Rail).
- Nascent, capital-intensive sector must compete with established fossil fuel sector (see Decision Note Clean Energy Investment Attraction).
- Evolving regulatory framework for alternative fuels, including hydrogen, ammonia, and methanol creates challenges for realizing near-term final investment decisions on major clean energy projects.

Annex I: Partners

- **Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation (JEDI):** Promotes trade and investment in clean energy in B.C., delivers funding programs available to clean energy sector (e.g. manufacturing jobs fund)
- **Ministry of Environment (ENV):** Responsible for overseeing implementation of CleanBC; ensures accountability for meeting emissions targets.
- **BC Energy Regulator (BCER):** Single-window regulatory agency for hydrogen, ammonia, and methanol in addition to oil, gas, and geothermal operations.
- **BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO):** Manages provincial environmental assessments for major energy projects on behalf of the Government of BC.
- **BC Hydro:** electric utility in the province of B.C.; responsible for administering the interconnection process for large industrial customers, including clean energy proponents.
- **Center for Innovation in Clean Energy (CICE):** Independent, not-for-profit corporation that funds the commercial development and scaling of made-in-B.C. clean energy solutions.

Sector Profiles

Regulated Utilities (including electricity and natural gas)

Description: The province's energy market is regulated by the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC), an independent agency responsible for ensuring that customers have access to safe, reliable energy service and reasonable rates, while allowing the utility the opportunity to earn a fair return on its investments.

Utilities are subject to oversight by the BCUC under the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA). The BCUC regulates energy utilities by reviewing and approving rate design applications, long-term resource plans, energy supply contracts, and the construction and operations of facilities in the public interest. BC Hydro, FortisBC, and Pacific Northern Gas (PNG) are the largest utilities in B.C., delivering most electricity and natural gas to homes and businesses.

BC Hydro is the largest electricity utility providing service to 95% of B.C.'s population. As a Crown Corporation, the government is the sole shareholder. BC Hydro operates 30 hydroelectric plants which allows them to generate 97.4% clean electricity. Their transmission and distribution lines span approximately 80,000 kilometers (km). As the Province looks to electrify, the role of BC Hydro as the main supplier of clean electricity will become increasingly important.

FortisBC is the largest natural gas utility and provides service to 1.2 million customers in the Interior, Lower Mainland, and Vancouver Island. It is privately owned by Fortis Inc., an energy infrastructure company with assets all over North America and is headquartered in St. John's, Newfoundland.

FortisBC owns approximately 50,000 km of natural gas distribution pipelines. The gas system is a critical energy provider across B.C. and plays an important role in maintaining system resiliency to meet peak energy demand. FortisBC also owns and operates an electric utility which provides service to the southern Interior (mostly Kelowna). It owns approximately 7,260 km of electric transmission and distribution power lines.

Pacific Northern Gas (PNG) operates in northwestern and northeastern B.C. Compared to the other large utilities, PNG's customer base of 40,000 is distributed more widely and covers difficult terrain. This includes approximately 3,000 km of distribution mains and services pipelines, and 1,200 km of transmission pipelines.

Sector Profiles

Due to the low temperatures in PNG's service territory, it is challenging and costly to electrify home heating.

The BCUC also regulates smaller entities, such as thermal energy system providers. These service providers typically operate in a competitive market or have a unique relationship with their customer base, making regulatory oversight unnecessarily burdensome.

Ministry Role: Implements policies, programs and develops strategies to align B.C.'s energy system and utility regulation at the BC Utilities Commission with greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets while ensuring affordability, economic development, and reliability.

Division Responsible: Electricity and Utility Regulation Division

Partners: Indigenous Communities, BC Hydro, FortisBC, PNG, Municipal Utilities, and BC Utilities Commission.

Economic and Social Impact:

The regulated utility sector supports numerous jobs and is expected to grow with anticipated clean energy production and distribution. Currently BC Hydro and FortisBC have 7,700 and 2,500 employees, respectively. BC Hydro's 10-Year Capital Plan and its first Call for Power are estimated to create between 11,300 and 14,000 construction jobs annually.

As noted, in the BCUC's Annual Report, industry revenues by energy type in FY22/23 were \$5.2 billion (electricity), \$2.1 billion (natural gas) and \$48 million (thermal). Government receives an annual dividend of \$712 million from BC Hydro and other utilities (such as FortisBC and PNG) pay provincial and municipal taxes.

Current Sector Priorities:

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

- Opportunities for Indigenous Peoples: supporting small-scale projects and connecting remote communities to the grid.
- Continued investment in energy efficiency: Both BC Hydro and FortisBC are making record investments in energy efficiency programs to help customers reduce consumption and energy bills in the long-term.

Sector Profiles

Opportunities:	Challenges:
New Energy Allocation Framework for large industrial customers seeking to connect to the electricity system.	Ratepayer affordability, energy supply, climate targets.
Advance reconciliation priorities through clean energy partnerships with First Nations Communities.	The financing required and availability of low-carbon alternatives (e.g., renewable natural gas).
Coordinate planning of electric power and gas systems is critical to optimize investments, reduce emissions, and keep energy affordable.	Climate zone variability (e.g., more challenging in the North), regulatory and utility planning reform.

Decarbonization Industries

Ministry Role: The Ministry is responsible for implementing a portfolio of energy efficiency and clean energy statutes, policies and programs to achieve legislated climate targets and broader affordability, economic development and reconciliation objectives in the built environment, transportation and low carbon fuel sectors.

Division Responsible: Energy Decarbonization Division

Partners: Industry (low carbon fuel producers, automakers, building developers, heating equipment manufacturers), other ministries (MOTI/ENV/HOUS), federal agencies (NRCAN/ECCC/TC/ISED/ISC), regional partners (Pacific Coast Collaborative states), utilities, and Indigenous communities.

Economic and Social Impact: Substantial provincial GDP contribution, supporting over 100,000 jobs and contributing \$6.4 billion in gross domestic product (GDP) in 2023². Significantly contributes to legislated climate targets, with the reduction or avoidance of over 22.6 million tonnes of GHG emissions between 2010 and 2023³.

Current Sector Priorities:

- Fuel producers: support for domestic low carbon fuel production including both renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel.
- Automakers: Zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) supply regulations and rebate

² Incorporates data from: [Energy Efficiency Employment in Canada](#) (Eco Canada, 2024), Economic Opportunities Assessment for Zero-Emission Vehicles in B.C. (EMLI, 2023), and [Canada Energy Dashboard](#) (Navius, 2024).

³ [Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements Summary, 2010-23](#) (EMLI, 2024).

Sector Profiles

program continuation.

- Built environment: adoption of the highest efficiency equipment standard for 2030 and rebate program continuation.

Opportunities and Challenges:

Opportunities:	Challenges:
Advice/Recommendations	Fuels: Biofuel production subsidies in U.S. (<i>Inflation Reduction Act</i>).
Automakers: Growth in the medium/heavy-duty ZEV market.	Automakers: Softening consumer demand for passenger ZEVs.
Buildings: Increased opportunities for innovative B.C. building technologies	Buildings: Ensuring adequate trades training to meet demand (through new job entrants and retraining of existing equipment installers)

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Shannon Baskerville

Title: Deputy Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

Shannon Baskerville was appointed Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation in December 2022, including responsibility for the BC Hydro crown corporation and BC Energy Regulator. A seasoned executive with significant leadership experience in strategic policy and execution, large operations and capital projects, complex project and change management, and corporate governance, Shannon has served the Province of British Columbia for over 30 years.

Prior to her current appointment, Shannon held Deputy Minister appointments for the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training, Ministry of Jobs, Tourism, Skills Training and Labour, and Ministry of International Trade and Asia Pacific Strategy, including Assistant Deputy Minister portfolios for Labour Market Development, Immigration and International Education, and Economic Development and Competitiveness.

Personal Information

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Les MacLaren

Title: Strategic Energy Advisor, Office of the Deputy Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

Personal Information

After

working for 10 years in oil and gas exploration and development in western Canada and Australia, Les joined the Ministry of Energy and Mines in 1991. Les has held varying roles in the BC Public Service related to energy policy and Crown corporation governance and performance. Les has been an ADM since 2008.

In his current role, Les' responsibilities include leadership succession and knowledge transfer in the areas of electricity policy and utility regulation; B.C.'s *Clean Energy Act*; inter-jurisdictional relations related to power planning and reliability; the Columbia River Treaty; emerging and renewable energy pathways and technologies; and supporting Ministers responsible for BC Hydro, Columbia Power Corporation and the Columbia Basin Trust. In 2013, Les was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of his many years of dedicated commitment to the BC Public Service.

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Nathaniel Amann-Blake

Title: Assistant Deputy Minister of the Energy Resources Division

Ministry: Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

Nathaniel Amann-Blake (Nate) was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister of the Energy Resources Division, (formally the Oil and Gas Division), Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation in December 2021. Prior to this role, Nate held senior leadership positions in the Ministry including Assistant Deputy Minister of the Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement Division and Executive Lead for Compliance and Enforcement in BC.'s mining sector.

Nate joined the Province of BC in 2007 with the Environmental Assessment Office managing the review of major projects. Nate previously worked with the Government of Canada in Indigenous Affairs. **Personal Information**

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Chris Gilmore

Title: A/Assistant Deputy Minister with the Electricity and Utility Regulation Division

Ministry: Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

Chris has more than 20 years of experience holding progressively more senior roles in both the provincial and federal governments. Since April 2023 Chris has been the Executive Director of Electricity Policy in EURD. He was previously the Executive Director of Climate Partnerships & Engagement within the Climate Action Secretariat in the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. Since moving to B.C. in 2007, Chris worked in the BC Public Service economy sector (now JEDI) until 2018. There he worked on files such as head of the DM/Cabinet Policy Committee on Stronger Economy, green economy; innovation policy; Federal/Provincial relations, industrial development, and Indigenous Economic Development.

In Ottawa, Chris worked within the departments of Industry Canada and Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC) providing advice on competitiveness, innovation, regional development, trade and investment, and workplace skills issues. He was also Head of the Senior Policy Committee Secretariat at Industry Canada.

Personal Information

Personal Information

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Nathaniel (Nat) Gosman

Title: Assistant Deputy Minister

Division: Energy Decarbonization Division

Ministry: Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

Nat has been with the BC Public Service for 12 years. Since joining the Ministry in 2012, he has successfully led teams and major initiatives focused on improving energy efficiency, advancing clean energy and ensuring an affordable and resilient energy system. Nat was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) of the Energy Decarbonization Division in January 2024. Prior to this, Nat held leadership roles in the Ministry including A/ADM of the Energy Decarbonization Division, Executive Director of the Built Environment Branch, and Director of the Energy Efficiency Branch.

Personal Information

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: George Warnock

Title: Assistant Deputy Minister of the Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement Division

Ministry: Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

George joined the BC Public Service with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) in 2007 before moving to the (then) Ministry of Energy and Mines in 2011 to serve as a Geotechnical Inspector of Mines. He returned to MOTI in 2015 as the Director of Geotechnical Engineering before re-joining the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation as the Chief Permitting Officer in 2019. George has been the ADM of the Mines, Health, Safety and Enforcement Division since September 2023.

Personal Information

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Tania Demchuk

Title: Assistant Deputy Minister of the Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division

Ministry: Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

Tania was appointed as the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division in January 2023 and has a 17 year career with the BC Public Service in the natural resource and mining sector. Tania brings mining sector-specific knowledge and trusted First Nations, industry and ENGO relationships to her current leadership role. In this role, Tania has led her team to deliver phase 1 of BC's Critical Minerals Strategy, reduce permitting backlogs, establish the Mineral Tenure Act Modernization Office, and support cross-sector priorities including land use planning. Prior to her current role, Tania was the Assistant Deputy Minister for the Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement Division and has held various leadership positions within the Ministry's mining team. In these roles she delivered legislative and structural changes to improve regulatory oversight and transparency of the provincial mining sector. She also lead First Nations and community engagement, and permitting processes following the Mount Polley mine tailings dam failure in 2014.

Personal Information

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Julia Iwama

Title: Executive Lead for the Mineral Tenure Act Modernization Office

Ministry: Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

Julia was appointed as the Executive Lead of the Mineral Tenure Act Modernization Office in January 2024 to lead the reform and UN Declaration alignment of the first land-based statute in British Columbia. Prior to her current appointment, Julia has served in three executive roles with the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness. In these roles, Julia led the establishment of provincial disaster recovery capacity, spanning provincial and community operations, policy and planning, communications and strategic partnership development. Prior to joining the provincial government in 2021, Julia worked internationally for 15 years in disaster response and recovery, leadership of humanitarian operations, and clinical and public health services. She holds a Master's of Science in Public Health from the University of London's School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and an undergraduate degree from the University of British Columbia. She has worked extensively in national systems development and peace building in post-disaster and conflict settings in South, Southeast Asia and East Africa with the Red Cross Movement and the United Nations.

Personal Information

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Tejindar Parhar

Title: Executive Lead for Mining and Head of the Critical Minerals Office

Ministry: Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

Tejindar (TJ) Parhar holds the position of Executive Lead for Mining and Head of the Critical Minerals Office within the BC Public Service, bringing with him 19 years of dedicated service in the public sector, complemented by 3 years in private industry. Since joining the Mining team in 2023, TJ has been instrumental in leading a cross-agency secretariat focused on the Southeast Coal file. In 2024, he took on the pivotal role of developing and implementing the Critical Minerals Office, a cornerstone initiative of Phase 1 within B.C.'s Critical Minerals Strategy.

Prior to this, TJ led impactful initiatives for the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. He is recognized for forging strong partnerships with industry leaders and Indigenous communities and contributing significantly to the evolution of BC's economic strategies. Notable achievements include securing funding to establish the First Nations' Centre of Excellence for Economic Development under the auspices of the BC Assembly of First Nations and creating and leading the secretariat of the Emerging Economy Task Force. During his tenure in the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, TJ developed and oversaw critical intergovernmental and stakeholder engagements pivotal to the successful enactment of the Declaration Act.

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Viva Wolf

Title: Assistant Deputy Minister of the Strategic and Indigenous Partnerships Division

Ministry: Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation

Biography:

Viva began her career in forestry and, after landing in the northeast of B.C., shifted to the oil and gas sector. Viva worked with the BC Energy Regulator in Fort St John for almost 11 years in a variety of roles that saw her negotiating consultation agreements with First Nations, supporting the development and implementation of the Oil and Gas Activities Act and transition from the former Oil and Gas Commission Act, permitting major pipelines and, finally, leading oil and gas permitting across the province.

Personal Information

before rejoining government in 2021 to lead the Oil Infrastructure Group, coordinating the final elements of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project. Over the past three years, Viva has been involved in the negotiation and implementation of the Blueberry River First Nations Implementation Agreement, coordinating government as other companies embark on large pipeline infrastructure projects, and supporting the work of the Ministry, as needed. Viva joined the Strategic and Indigenous Partnerships Division in 2024 as A/ADM.

EXECUTIVE MEMBER BIOGRAPHY



Name: Ranbir Parmar

Title: Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer, CSNR

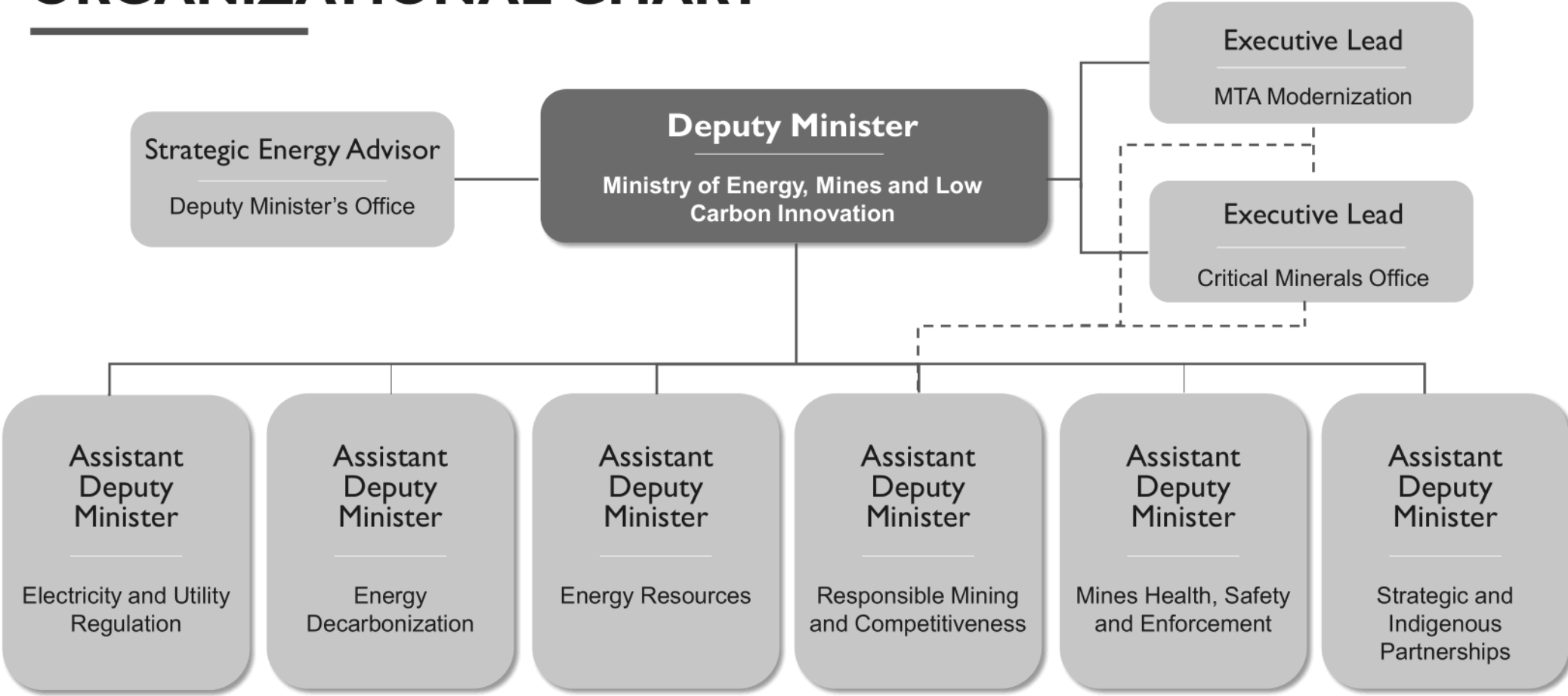
Ministry: Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

Biography:

Ranbir Parmar is one of the Assistant Deputy Ministers (ADM) for Corporate Services for the Natural Resource Ministries (CSNR) and the Executive Financial Officer (EFO) for the Ministries of Agriculture and Food; Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation; Environment and Climate Change Strategy; and Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. He is also the lead for the Financial Services Branch and the People and Workplace Strategies Branch supporting those ministries. Ranbir started his career in the public service in 1994 with the Ministry of Transportation. He has also worked in a variety of roles for the Ministries of Small Business and Revenue, Finance, and Ministry of Forests and Range (MoFR). As the Chief Financial Officer in MoFR his responsibilities included financial planning and reporting, financial operations and systems, and procurement and supply services for the ministry. Ranbir was permanently appointed as the ADM and EFO on April 1, 2022, has a Bachelor of Commerce Degree in Finance from the University of British Columbia, and is a Chartered Professional Accountant, CGA.

Personal Information

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



PROGRAMS & PRIORITIES

Includes program areas / key projects, decision topics and major corporate issues (MCIs) as provided in Transition material

Strategic Energy Advisor

- Columbia River Treaty
- Site C
- Energy-related Crown corporations

MTA Modernization

- *Mineral Tenure Act* Modernization Office
- MTA reform – align with UN Declaration
- Develop and implement mineral claims consultation framework – *Gitxaala v. BC*

Critical Minerals Office

- Capital markets investment attraction
- Early-stage project concierge

Electricity and Utility Regulation

Programs / Projects

- Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund
- Public Utility Regulation
- New Energy Plan
- BC Hydro

Advice/Recommendations;
Cabinet Confidences

Energy Decarbonization

Programs / Projects

- Clean Buildings Strategy
- Clean Transportation Strategy
- Low Carbon Fuel Standard
- Remote Community Energy Strategy

Advice/Recommendations;
Cabinet Confidences

Energy Resources

Programs / Projects

- Clean Energy Major Projects Office
- Infrastructure Royalty Programs
- Tenuring of Subsurface Resources
- BC Energy Regulator
- Hydrogen Strategy

Advice/Recommendations;
Cabinet Confidences

Responsible Mining and Competitiveness

Programs / Projects

- Major Mine and Regional Permitting (Chief Permitting Officer)
- Public Geoscience
- Indigenous Relations
- Mining and Critical Minerals Policy
- Mineral Titles administration (Chief Gold Commissioner)

Advice/Recommendations;
Cabinet Confidences

Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement

Programs / Projects

- Tuslequah Chief Mine Reclamation
- Mines Audit Unit
- Mines Investigation Unit
- Abandoned and Legacy Mines
- Compliance and Enforcement
- Mine Emergency Incident Response
- Health, Safety and Environmental Protection
- Standing Code Review
- Accompanied Inspection Program
- Tailings Storage Facility Dam Safety Program

Advice/Recommendations;
Cabinet Confidences

Strategic and Indigenous Partnerships

Programs / Projects

- Indigenous Funding Program
- Regional Energy and Resource Tables
- Reconciliation Plan
- Tahltan Central Government

Advice/Recommendations;
Cabinet Confidences

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Budget Overview

Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

Transition Binder
November 2024

Ministry Budget 2023/24 – 2026/27

	2023/24 Restated	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Ministry Operations	\$000			
Responsible Mining and Competitiveness	Government Financial Information			
Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement				
Energy Decarbonization				
Electricity and Utility Regulation				
Energy Resources				
Strategic and Indigenous Partnerships				
Executive and Support Services				
Total Ministry Operations				
<i>Changes from Budget 2023</i>				
<i>Changes Year over Year</i>				
Innovative Clean Energy Fund Special Account				
First Nation Clean Energy Business Fund				
Total Ministry Budget				
Operations Budget Changes from Budget 2023				
Major Projects and Regional Permitting				
Shared Recovery Wage Mandate				
Ministers Office				
Prior Year Approvals				
Mining Regional Permitting				
Mining Major Projects				
Critical Minerals				
Permitting				
Shared Recovery Wage Mandate				
CleanBC				
Total Changes				
Percent Change to Operations from Budget 2023				



Budget 2024 Highlights

- **Government Financial** to continue funding 38 existing FTEs to support major projects and regional permitting; offset by the planned **(Government Financial Information)** reduction as part of Budget 2022. There is no impact to existing FTE count.
- **Government Financial Information** increase for the shared recovery wage mandate
- **Government Financial** ICE Fund spending plan updates; offset by a planned **Government Financial Information** reduction
- First Nation Clean Energy Business Fund transferred from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation for better alignment and to support Clean Energy expertise

Clean BC Base Budget Funding (Current & Prior Year)

CleanBC Initiative	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	TOTAL
<i>Previous Budget Approvals:</i>	Government Financial Information			
Efficiency BC Expansion (Better Buildings Better Homes)				
Efficiency BC Expansion (Clean Building)				
Go Electric				
Low Carbon Fuels				
Clean Energy Vehicle Supply Standard				
Low Carbon Fuels - BC Hydrogen				
Remote Community				
Building Energy Codes				
Low Carbon Fuel Standard				
Clean Transportation				
Advancing Industrial Decarbonization				
Building Pathway				
Reduce Emissions from Natural Gas				
Go Electric funded by ICE Fund				
<i>Total Prior Year Approvals</i>				
Grand Total CleanBC Base Budget				

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CleanBC and Contingencies

	2024/25		2025/26		2026/27		Three Year Total		TOTAL
	Base	Cont	Base	Cont	Base	Cont	Base	Cont	
Go Electric/CEV Program Expansion / Clean Transportation	Government Financial Information								
Efficiency BC Expansion/BetterHomes Better Buildings/Clean Building/Building Pathway									
Clean Energy Vehicle Supply Standard									
Building Energy Codes									
Low Carbon Fuels									
Remote Communities									
Reduce Emissions from Natural Gas									
Advancing Industrial Decarbonization									
Go Electric (ICE Fund)									
CleanBC Spending Plan									
Sub total Clean BC									
Permitting									
Clean Energy & Major Projects Office									
Fuel Price Transparency Act									
Atlin Hydro and Transmission Project									
Taseko Standstill Agreement Resolution									
Mineral Tenure Act Modernization									
Treaty 8 Implementation Funding									
Shared Recovery Wage Madate									
EMLI Total									

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as
Government Financial Information

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as
Government Financial Information

FTEs – Headcount by Location

- As of July 1, 2024, EMLI had 613 staff in 18 locations around the Province.
- Locations include:

Location	Count	Location	Count
Campbell River	Government	Prince George	Government
Castlegar	Financial Information	Revelstoke	Financial Information
Courtenay		Smithers	
Cranbrook		Squamish	
Fort St John		Surrey	
Kamloops		Terrace	
Kelowna		Vancouver	
Nanaimo		Vernon	
Penticton		Victoria	



FTE – Average Annual Burn

- Historical annual average FTE burn

Fiscal Year	Annual Avg FTE burn
2023/24	Government Financial Information
2022/23	
2021/22	
2020/21	
2019/20	
2018/19	

2023/2024 Results

Vote/Special Account/Other Financing Transactions	Budget/ Approvals	2023/2024 Actuals	Variance
Ministry Operations	Government Financial Information		
Contingency			
Innovative Clean Energy Fund			
Section 17 - Statutory Authority			
Total			

Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

BC Hydro Public Power Legacy and Heritage Contract Act
(brought into force November 2003)

The *B.C. Hydro Public Power Legacy and Heritage Contract Act* protects public ownership of BC Hydro's generation, transmission and distribution assets. It is also the enabling legislation that allows for a Heritage Contract to be established between BC Hydro generation and distribution lines of business, which will ensure BC Hydro ratepayers continue to benefit from the low cost heritage assets.

Clean Energy Act (The
Act except: Part 6 and s. 38; and s. 36(2) as those provisions relates to the
portfolio of the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation)
(brought into force June 2010)

The *Clean Energy Act* sets out British Columbia's energy objectives intended to guide both BC Hydro's resource planning and the British Columbia Utilities Commission's key regulatory decisions. The Act exempts certain strategic investments from British Columbia Utilities Commission review, gives Cabinet decision making authority over BC Hydro resource plans, creates a framework for BC Hydro to pursue electricity exports while protecting ratepayers, and reintegrated the previous British Columbia Transmission Corporation into BC Hydro. It is also enabling legislation that allows for a feed-in tariff, restrictions on future large hydro development, and utility greenhouse gas emission reduction programs.

Coal Act (new
Coal Act brought into force April 2004)

The *Coal Act* governs the management of Crown coal rights including tenure issuance and administration. The Act defines the rights of exploration and production on Crown coal tenure.

Coalbed Gas Act

(brought into force April 2003)

The *Coalbed Gas Act* declares that coalbed gas, which includes coalbed methane gas, is a natural gas and owned by the natural gas owner. The Act is retroactive in nature and applies to Crown and private lands.

Energy Efficiency Act

(brought into force May 1991)

The *Energy Efficiency Act* regulates the manufacturing and sale of energy devices and establishes prescribed energy standards which energy devices must meet.

Energy Resource Activities Act

The Act except Division 2 of Part 2 (brought into force November 2022)

Replaces the previous Oil and Gas Activities Act (OGAA) to support implementation of the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030. The Act regulates how oil, gas and hydrogen activities are carried out, including: a framework that enables the BC Energy Regulator to act as a single-window regulator for the industry, requirements for restoration of dormant oil and gas activity sites, and the Orphan Site Reclamation Fund, which ensures the restoration of orphan sites is funded by industry.

Federal Port Development Act

(brought into force December 7, 2016 BC Reg 285/2016)

The Act is part of the Province's strategy to provide regulatory certainty to liquefied natural gas ("LNG") development. The Act authorizes the Province to enter into agreements with the federal government and federal port authorities to administer and enforce provincial law on port lands.

Fort Nelson Indian Reserve Minerals Revenue Sharing Act
(as it relates to petroleum and natural gas) (brought into force October 1980)

The *Fort Nelson Indian Reserve Minerals Revenue Sharing Act* gives force and effect to a revenue sharing agreement with Canada over resources, including petroleum and natural gas, taken from the Fort Nelson Indian Reserve. Under the agreement, the Province collects revenues arising from exploration and development of the resources. The Province shares these revenues 50/50 with Canada, on behalf of the Fort Nelson First Nation. In 2003, Canada, the Province and the Fort Nelson First Nation approved an amendment to the revenue sharing formula under the Act which was brought into force through Orders in Council (BC OIC 609/2003) passed by both the provincial and federal Cabinets. The Ministry of Finance is responsible for the collection and sharing of revenues.

Fuel Price Transparency Act
(brought into force November 2019)

The *Fuel Price Transparency Act*, is proposed to enable government to collect and publish information about the fuel market in British Columbia. The intent is to enable the collection of information that could be used to inform future policy decisions to improve competition in the market and allow publication of the information collected to increase transparency in the market, thereby improving the competitiveness of the market and the public confidence in the competitiveness of the market. The British Columbia Utilities Commission is the Administrator of the Act.

Gas Utility Act
(brought into force April 1955)

The *Gas Utility Act* defines the permitted activities, rights and powers of a gas utility falling under the jurisdiction of the British Columbia Utilities Commission.

Geothermal Resources Act

(brought into force June 1982)

The *Geothermal Resources Act* vests geothermal resources in the Crown and governs the management of the resources. The Act defines geothermal resources, provides for awarding and administration of geothermal tenures, provides for a royalty mechanism, and sets the regulatory framework for exploration and production of the resources.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements) Act

(repealed January 1, 2024, replaced by Low Carbon Fuels Act)

Hydro and Power Authority Act

(brought into force March 1964)

The *Hydro and Power Authority Act* establishes BC Hydro as a Crown Corporation. The Act lays out BC Hydro's powers and its mandate.

Hydro Power Measures Act

(brought into force March 1964)

The *Hydro Power Measures Act* is the legislation related to the acquisition of British Columbia Electric Company Ltd. in the early 1960's. BC Electric was amalgamated with the British Columbia Power Commission in 1965 to create British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro).

Indian Reserve Mineral Resource Act

(brought into force 1948)

The *Indian Reserve Mineral Resource Act* gives force and effect to a revenue sharing agreement signed in 1943 with Canada over minerals, excluding coal, oil and natural gas and specified surface materials, taken from Indian Reserves. Under

Summary for Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation's Legislation and Related Legislation from Other Ministries

the agreement, the Province is to collect all revenue, which is then, shared 50/50 with Canada. For the agreement to apply, the mineral rights in a reserve must first be surrendered by the First Nation to Canada pursuant to the *Indian Act*. This act mirrors federal legislation related to the agreement. [Note-provisions of the *Fort Nelson Indian Reserve Minerals Revenue Sharing Act* are linked to this Act.]

Industrial Development Act

The Industrial Development Act deals with the generation of electricity from hydroelectric sources, including the sale and purchase of the electricity, the sale or lease of Crown land and the licensing or storage of water. It also provides for the execution and amendment of agreements related to hydroelectric development, and the incorporation of an industrial township should an agreement for such be made.

Low Carbon Fuels Act

(brought into force June 2022, previously GHG Reduction (Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements) Act)

The *Low Carbon Fuels Act* establishes a framework to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from transportation fuels and sets out requirements for renewable fuel content in, and greenhouse gas emission from, transportation fuels.

Mineral Land Tax Act

(The Act except as it relates to the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the *Financial Administration Act*, other than a fine, or the administration of deposits and securities payable and sections 19.1, 19.2 and 19.3) (brought into force June 1973)

The *Mineral Land Tax Act* provides for the imposition of a property tax on freehold subsurface mineral (including coal, petroleum and natural gas) ownership. EMLI is responsible for establishing the policy for this Act, while the Ministry of Finance is the collector of the tax.

Mineral Tax Act

(The Act except as it relates to the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the *Financial Administration Act*, other than a fine, or and the administration of deposits and securities payable and sections 30, 30.1 and 40.1) (brought into force January 1990)

The *Mineral Tax Act* provides for a tax on the production of minerals (as defined in the *Mineral Tenure Act* and coal Act) taken from any mine, whether freehold or leased rights, based on the net profit of the mine. EMLI is the collector of the tax.

Mineral Tenure Act

(brought into force August 1988)

The *Mineral Tenure Act* governs the management of Crown mineral rights, excluding rights to coal, petroleum and natural gas. The Act defines who may explore for and produce Crown minerals, sets the framework for the provision of mineral tenure and provides for administration of tenures. The Act provides definition to the area of the province available for the acquisition of subsurface mineral rights, and allows for the creation of reserves in order to limit or prohibit the acquisition of subsurface rights.

Mines Act

(brought into force July 1990)

(brought

The *Mines Act* is the primary regulatory mechanism for mining (minerals and coal) in British Columbia. The Act provides for the appointment and powers of inspectors, sets requirements for obtaining a permit, establishes advisory committees, provides the mechanism for developing the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code, sets offence penalties for noncompliance with orders, establishes mine managers' responsibilities, establishes a mine reclamation fund for each mine and provides the ability to develop regulations.

Mining Right of Way Act

(brought into force September 1989)

The *Mining Right of Way Act* provides for the ability of a holder of a recorded claim under the *Mineral Tenure Act* to gain access over private and Crown land for purposes of constructing, maintaining, and operating facilities (defined to be linear corridors) necessary for the exploration development and operation of mines. The Act sets some limits on what can be taken and used, provides for application of the *Expropriation Act* if consent of the private land holder is not obtained and provides direction for multi-user use of access roads.

Ministry of Energy and Mines Act

(brought into force November 1983)

The *Ministry of Energy and Mines Act* establishes a Ministry of Energy and Mines and defines the duties, powers and functions of, and restrictions on, the Minister and Ministry employees in relation to the resources that are assigned to that Minister. The Act enables the Minister to approve the funding of infrastructure development to facilitate exploration and development of energy, mineral and petroleum resources.

Natural Gas Price Act

(brought into force August 1990)

The *Natural Gas Price Act* gives the Minister the authority to acquire natural gas on behalf of the government, set the price for acquisition and make findings of producer support for sales on behalf of producers by natural gas aggregators. The Act also empowers the Lieutenant Governor in Council to make regulations determining a levy rate for administrative purposes.

Petroleum and Natural Gas (Vancouver Island Railway Lands) Act **(brought into force June 1986)**

The *Petroleum and Natural Gas (Vancouver Island Railway Lands) Act* applies to the railway belt on Vancouver Island transferred to the Esquimalt and Nanaimo (E&N)

Summary for Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation's Legislation and Related Legislation from Other Ministries

Railway in the 1880's. Under the Act, the Lieutenant Governor in Council has the power to vest all petroleum and natural gas in these lands in the Crown. Individuals have one year from the time of vesting to establish a prior interest to the petroleum and natural gas in order to be entitled to compensation under the Act. The Act was established to create a mechanism to clarify rights of the crown to petroleum & natural gas in the when the ownership in the E&N belt is not clear.

Petroleum and Natural Gas Act

(The Act except the following: (a) as it relates to (i) the collection of public money, as defined in section 1 of the *Financial Administration Act*, other than a fine, or (ii) the administration of deposits and securities payable (b) sections 74-77, 146, 148-153, 155 and 156) (brought into force May 1965)

The *Petroleum and Natural Gas Act* governs the issuance and administration of Crown petroleum and natural gas (P&NG) and storage reservoir rights. The Act also sets the royalty and freehold production tax payable to the Crown on the production of petroleum and natural gas from Crown P&NG tenure or private P&NG holdings. The collection of these payments is administered by the Ministry of Finance.

Power for Jobs Development Act

(brought into force December 1997)

The *Power for Jobs Development Act* allows the Province to facilitate the establishment of new businesses or the expansion of existing businesses in British Columbia, or support businesses under the Job Protection Commission (since eliminated), by providing 'development power rates', where electricity costs are a critical factor in the businesses' viability. The Power for Jobs program was cancelled in 2001; however, the Act was maintained to facilitate the management of pre-existing Power for Jobs contracts.

Special Accounts Appropriation and Control Act
(Section 9.5) (brought into force April 2007)

Section 9.5 of the *Special Accounts Appropriation and Control Act* establishes the Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund to encourage the development of new sources of clean energy and technologies that address Government's energy and environmental priorities, create jobs, and promote economic diversity to support local economies and livelihoods in communities across the Province.

Vancouver Island Natural Gas Pipeline Act
(brought into force November 1989)

The *Vancouver Island Natural Gas Pipeline Act* relates to the construction and operation of the pipeline and mainland facilities supplying natural gas to Vancouver Island. The Act allows the Minister to enter into agreements with specified parties with respect to the funding, construction and operation of the pipeline, the granting of service area and any other matter relating to the Act.

West Kootenay Power and Light Company Act, 1897
(Private Act) (brought into force May 1897)

The *West Kootenay Power and Light Company Act, 1897*, is a Special Act of the Legislature to incorporate the West Kootenay Power and Light Company. (Special Acts were required to incorporate companies prior to the creation of the precursor to what is now the *Business Corporations Act*). Fortis Inc. acquired the West Kootenay Power and Light Company in 2004 and renamed the company FortisBC Inc.

Zero-Emission Vehicles Act *(brought into force May 2019)*

The Zero-Emission Vehicles Act fulfils Government's CleanBC commitment to require automakers to increase annual levels of zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) sales. By obligating automakers to supply sufficient ZEVs in B.C., the Act facilitates accelerated ZEV adoption by consumers and fleets. The Act is designed around a

Summary for Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation's Legislation and Related Legislation from Other Ministries

credit system based on ZEV sales, which provides compliance flexibility for automakers, and is aligned with ZEV regulatory approaches in Quebec and the United States. Compliance credit targets are set by regulation. The Act is designed to provide the overarching framework and enabling authorities. Technical details are prescribed in regulations.

Legislation from Other Ministries

Utilities Commission Act (Responsibility of Ministry of Attorney General)

Under this Act, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation has authority to make regulations without Cabinet approval, as set out in section 125.1 of the Utilities Commission Act. However, the Minister may choose to seek Cabinet approval of policy related to public utility regulation before issuing an order.

Section 22 - Minister Exemption - by regulation, the Minister may exempt a public utility from all or any of section 71 and Part 3 of the UCA. The Minister may also exempt public utilities from various requirements to file and seek approval from the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) for electricity purchase agreements, indirect transmission service, or requiring a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. The rationale could include (among others) time urgency that would not allow for a BCUC regulatory proceeding, advancement of a government priority that is in the public interest, and/or an exemption request for business transaction or arrangement between sophisticated parties.

Section 88(3) Advance Approval - advance approval of the Minister is needed for the BCUC to exempt persons, equipment or facilities from aspects of the UCA. The BCUC may determine that an exemption is warranted for a person, class of persons, equipment or facilities from the application of all or any of the provisions of the UCA or may limit or vary the application of the Act. The BCUC must seek the Minister's approval to issue an order giving effect to that exemption.

Section 125.1 Minister's Regulations - Minister may make regulations including:

- Exemptions under section 22;
- Prescribing rules or factors or making declarations related to demand-side measures for the purposes of sections 44.1 and 44.2;
- Prescribing factors and guidelines, for purposes of section 58(2.1)(b), to encourage:
 - energy conservation or efficiency;
 - the use of energy during periods of lower demand;
 - the development and use of energy from clean or renewable resources; or
 - the reduction of the energy demand a public utility must serve.

Summary for Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation's Legislation and Related Legislation from Other Ministries

- Defining a term in section 58.1 (rate rebalancing) not already defined in the UCA;
- Identifying facts that must be used in interpreting the definition in section 58.1; and
- Prescribing standard-making bodies for the purposes of section 125.2(1) and requirements and matters for the purposes of section 125.2(3) - related to BC Hydro providing a report to the BCUC assessing reliability standards.

The Minister has the ability to make regulations specifying how the BCUC assesses various factors as an economic regulator. These are used to define tests for the cost-effectiveness of energy efficiency, how the BCUC should allocate costs between different customer classes, and prescribing standard-making bodies for reliability.

Section 125.2 (12) Approval for BC Utilities Commission Reliability Standards - approval of the Minister is needed for the BCUC to set a rule, under section 26, related to reliability standards assessed under section 125.2(3). For the BCUC to deviate from North American mandatory reliability standards, the Minister's approval is needed.

Environment and Land Use Act (Responsibility of the Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship)

Although the Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship signs the Environment and Land Use Act Orders made under Section 7 of the Act (ELUA Orders), the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation has managed ELUA Orders through the Cabinet process pertaining to Incomappleux Valley, Jade Permit Deferral Orders, Ehattesaht/Gitxaala No Mining Orders, Gitxaala Court Decision Appeal Settlement, Blueberry River First Nations Implementation Agreement, and works with the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship staff on ELUA Orders pertaining to other land use planning initiatives.

The Environment and Land Use Committee consists of mostly members of the Executive Council (some members are MLAs) appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council and one member is designated as Chair. The Committee is mandated to establish and recommend programs to foster increased public concern and awareness of the environment. It also considers the preservation and

Summary for Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation's Legislation and Related Legislation from Other Ministries

maintenance of the natural environment in the administration of land use and resource development. The Committee has the power to hold a public inquiry, appoint technical committees and make regulations. It can make recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor in Council on matters relating to the environment and the development and use of land and other natural resources.

Emergency and Disaster Management Act (Responsibility of Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness)

The Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA) states that an order or emergency instrument made, or direction given under that Act has no effect to the extent that it prevents or interferes with certain situations where there is a conflict between EDMA and the Ministry of Energy and Mines Act, and between EDMA and the *Energy Resource Activities Act (ERAA)*. The EDMA instrument will not override the Ministry of Energy and Mines Act instrument nor the ERAA instrument.

Section 161 (1)(d) of *EDMA* states that *EDMA* cannot override the Minister's abilities in the Ministry of Energy and Mines Act to exercise their regulation making powers (or a person who is given powers in the regulation). Section 7 of the Ministry of Energy and Mines Act states that if there are energy shortages that may affect the social and economic well-being of British Columbia, the Minister may declare an emergency and then under 7(3), the Minister has regulation-making authority to take emergency actions. *EDMA* would not override this special ability for the Minister to make regulations if there is an energy emergency.

Section 161 (1)(e) of the *EDMA* states that the *EDMA* cannot override the ERAA official's abilities to close things for public safety. In ERAA, the officials referred to are staff of the BC Energy Regulator who are designated by the Commissioner. If an ERAA official has closed a public place for an emergency, *EDMA* would not override this.

Environmental Assessment Act (Responsibility of Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy)

Under the Environmental Assessment Act (EAA), the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation could be designated as one of the Statutory Decision makers for the Environmental Assessment Certificate of a proposed project.

Under Section 36 (Policy direction from ministers during assessment) the Chief Executive Assessment Officer under the EAA, either before or during the consideration or review of a project may refer a policy matter to the Minister (s) responsible for the policy area for clarification and direction. Any clarification and direction provided under this section to the Chief Executive Assessment Officer by one or more Ministers must be reflected in the assessment conducted by the Chief Executive Assessment Officer.

The Minister or Ministers providing clarification and direction under this section may also recommend to the Ministers responsible for making a decision under Section 29 (4) of the EAA that:

- (a) the assessment being conducted by the Chief Executive Assessment Officer be terminated; and
- (b) an environmental assessment certificate not be issued for the reviewable project that is the subject of the assessment.

Projects the Environmental Assessment Office could assess related to the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation may include the following:

Energy Projects - power plants, electric transmission lines, natural gas processing or storage plants and transmission pipelines.

Mines Projects - coal and mineral mines, sand and gravel pits, placer mineral mines, construction stone and industrial mineral quarries and offshore mines.

NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: ENERGY RESOURCES DIVISION

ADM Responsible: Nathaniel Amann-Blake, Assistant Deputy Minister

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

The Energy Resources Division (Division) is accountable for the management and development of the Province's energy resources to supply domestic and international energy needs. The Division develops and implements programs, policies, regulations and best practices to ensure that British Columbia's resources are developed in a way that aligns with government's strategic priorities and delivers maximum economic benefits to British Columbians. The Division works closely with other natural resource agencies and partners to deliver on its mandate.

The Division issues and administers Crown petroleum, natural gas, geothermal and carbon capture related subsurface tenures and tenure revenues; maintains petroleum geology databases and systems; facilitates the implementation of interprovincial pipelines and related infrastructure projects; oversees the Province's current royalty system (with the Ministry of Finance); develops and implements the Province's proposed new royalty system, designs stringent and competitive regulatory and policy frameworks for oil and gas, analyzes current and future oil and gas market trends; provides revenue and activity forecasting, and profiles opportunities for development of projects that could bring additional value to the Province's energy resources. The Division plays a leading role in assisting the Province in achieving its environmental and emissions reduction goals, such as the near elimination of oil and gas methane emissions by 2035 and ensuring that all other commitments under CleanBC and the Roadmap to 2030 for the oil and natural gas sector are met. It also leads a cross-Ministerial Energy & Mines Digital Trust, creating digital tools to support B.C.'s sustainable economic development.

The Division collaborates across-government on Indigenous reconciliation initiatives and environmental monitoring and research programs, conducts oil and gas resource assessments, manages resource development planning and cumulative effects, and guides modernized land use planning. The Division develops and manages program delivery to support accelerating oil and gas legacy site restoration, supporting the Province's commitments to reconciliation. The Division is the government's primary liaison with the independent regulator for the energy industry - the BC Energy Regulator.

The Division supports the Ministry by facilitating the responsible development of EMLI's 2024/25-2026/27 Service Plan Goal #3 by ensuring that "B.C.'s oil and gas industry reduces its carbon footprint in a manner that supports economic sustainability, advances Indigenous reconciliation and exhibits high environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance."

Integrated within the Division, the Clean Energy and Major Projects Office (CEMPO) is the main point of contact for proponents looking to bring clean energy projects to British Columbia and works across government to support clean energy projects, including hydrogen, biofuels, and renewable natural gas. CEMPO is responsible for the effective implementation of LNG projects that have received their environmental assessment certificates, including LNG Canada, Cedar LNG, and Woodfibre, as well as their associated pipelines. See CEMPO Core Business Area for more details

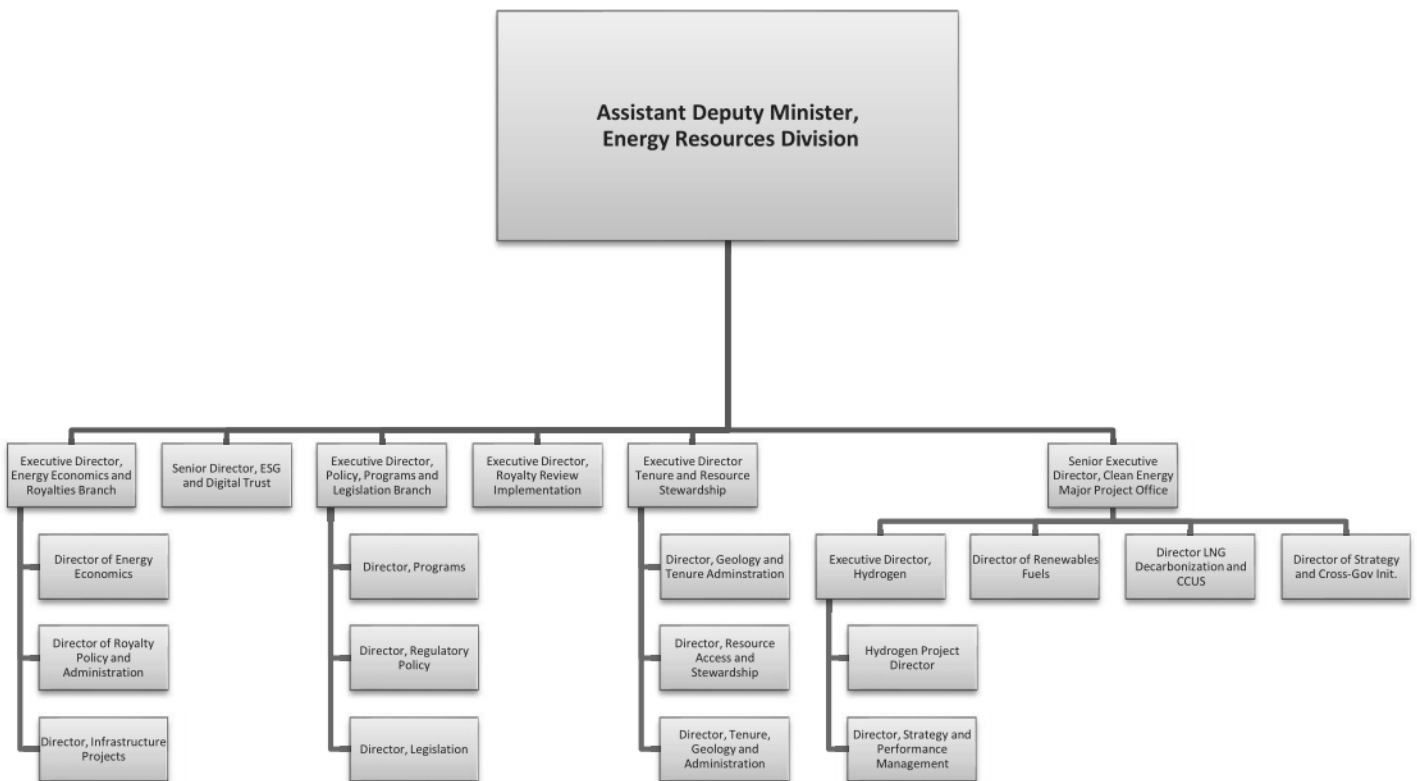
Budget: \$23.794 million, including CEMPO.

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 82.75, includes CEMPO

Related Legislation:

- Petroleum and Natural Gas Act
- Energy Resource Activities Act
- Geothermal Resources Act
- Petroleum and Natural Gas (Vancouver Island Railway Lands) Act
- Vancouver Island Natural Gas Pipeline Act

Organizational Chart:



NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: CLEAN ENERGY AND MAJOR PROJECTS OFFICE

ADM Responsible: Nathaniel Amann-Blake, Assistant Deputy Minister

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

On March 14, 2023, the Government of British Columbia announced a new Clean Energy and Major Projects Office (CEMPO) as a major component of the New Energy Action Framework. The CEMPO is working within government, with partners and industry to accelerate investment in clean energy and technology, support LNG projects with Environmental Assessment Certificates and, in partnership with First Nations, create good, sustainable jobs for a cleaner and inclusive economy.

Integrated within the Energy Resources Division, the CEMPO combines the expertise of the former BC Hydrogen Office, LNG Canada Implementation Secretariat, and Woodfibre Implementation Group.

For Clean Energy Projects, the CEMPO is working across government to help projects, including hydrogen; carbon capture, utilization, and storage; biofuels; renewable natural gas; and LNG, reach final investment decisions and support tangible benefits to B.C. and Indigenous communities. The CEMPO supports project proponents throughout their lifecycle and is tracking more than 50 energy projects, of which approximately 20 commercial-scale projects represent more than Government in potential investment. As the CEMPO continues to support projects through key milestones, the estimated value of the projects will continue to be adjusted.

The CEMPO implements the B.C. Hydrogen Strategy by advancing its 63 actions, and the CEMPO has delivered on several key actions, including:

- Partnering with the B.C. Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy to publish the BC Hydrogen Regulatory Mapping Study;
- Providing support to the City of Prince George to develop a Central B.C. Hydrogen Hub; and
- Expanding the B.C. Energy Regulator's mandate to include regulation of hydrogen, ammonia, and methanol production.

The CEMPO continues to work with internal and external partners to develop clean energy hubs across the province and supports cross-government work to resolve key barriers for investment, such as fiscal measures, carbon tax & offset policies, industrial electrification and the transportation of ammonia by rail.

For LNG projects, the CEMPO is actively managing over \$50B in capital investment for LNG projects with their Environmental Assessment Certificates, including LNG Canada, Coastal GasLink, Woodfibre LNG, Eagle Mountain Pipeline and Cedar LNG (which is an Indigenous majority-owned project). For these projects, the CEMPO acts as the interface between the proponent and government, manages issues and ensures that the Province's expectations for return on investment, jobs, benefits to communities, protection of the environment and partnership with First Nations (The 5 conditions) continue to be met.

The CEMPO prioritizes the advancement of First Nations interests and First Nations-led clean energy projects, including facilitating partnerships with and benefits for First Nations, such as business opportunities and skills training. The CEMPO has partnered with the First Nations Major Projects Coalition to engage with First Nations on opportunities and challenges related to First Nations participation in the clean energy sector.

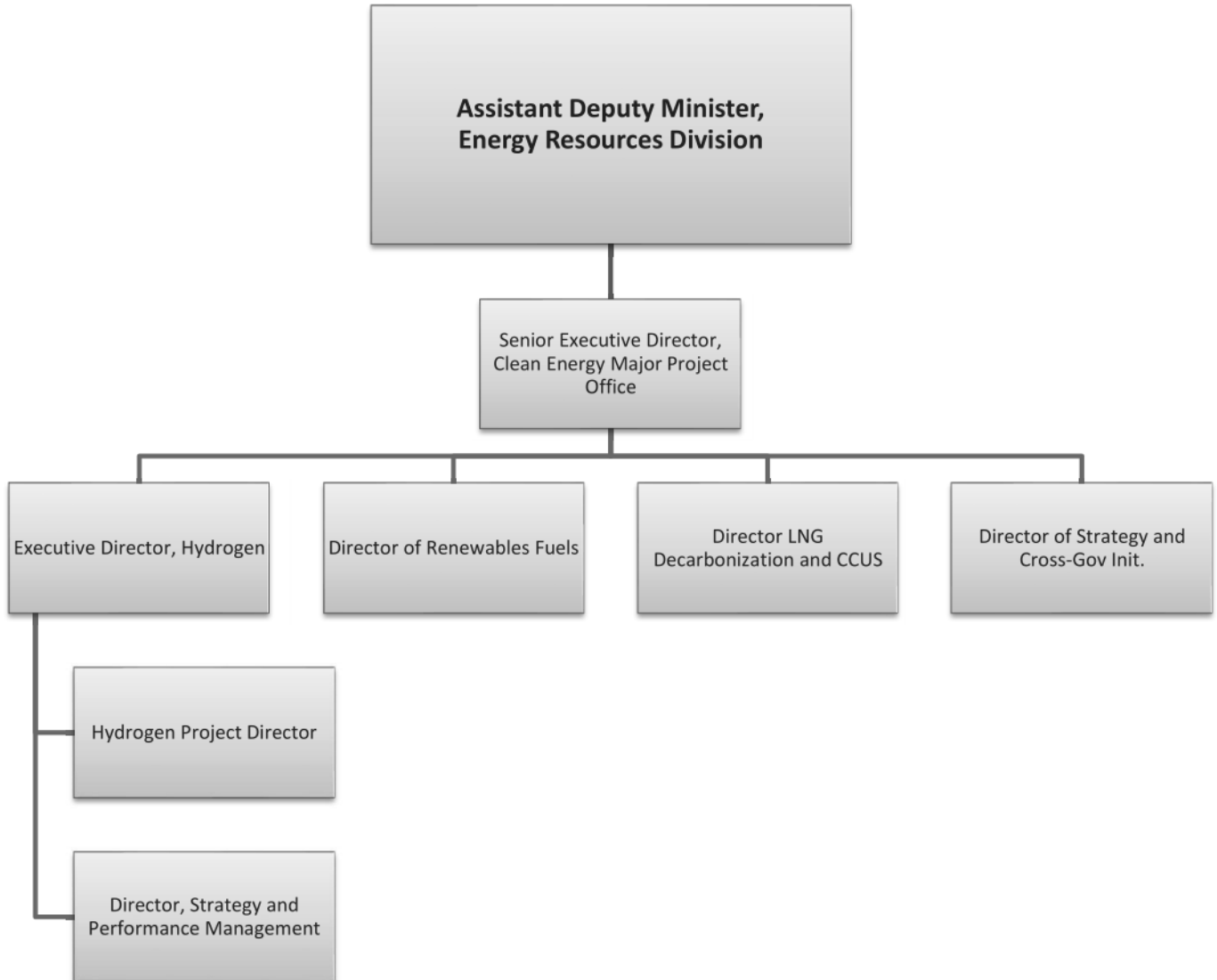
Budget: \$4.551 Million

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 24

Related Legislation:

- Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

Organizational Chart:



Key Program or Project Overview

Infrastructure Royalty Programs

Branch Responsible: Policy, Programs and Legislation Branch

Key Points and Background:

- There are three active infrastructure royalty programs: Infrastructure Royalty Credit Program (IRCP), Clean Infrastructure Royalty Credit Program (CIRCP), and Clean Growth Infrastructure Royalty Program (CGIRP).
- The Infrastructure Royalty Credit Program (IRCP) ran from 2004 to 2018. Its purpose is to incent industry investment in upstream roads and pipelines. The projects are selected according to their potential to generate royalties and open up new areas to oil and natural gas exploration.
- The Clean Infrastructure Royalty Credit Program (CIRCP) ran from 2016 to 2018. The purpose was to attract new private-sector funding for clean technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions linked to the exploration and production of BC's oil and gas resources.
- The Clean Growth Infrastructure Royalty Program (CGIRP) ran from 2019 to 2022. It was part of the Province's comprehensive CleanBC plan for climate action, clean energy and sustainable economic growth. CGIRP was the successor to IRCP and CIRCP, combining those two programs and adding further changes and refinements. The Growth category included value-added natural gas infrastructure projects, innovative water infrastructure, and upstream natural gas all-season road or pipeline infrastructure. The Sustainability category supported new industry investment in natural gas sector electrification and emissions reduction infrastructure.
- These programs, offered through a competitive application process, partnered with industry by providing royalty deductions for up to 50 percent of eligible project costs.
- Royalty deductions are released in two ways. For projects under IRCP and CGIRP Growth, a test of "revenue neutrality" is applied to ensure net royalty revenue paid from wells associated and drilled from the project meet or exceed the eligible infrastructure royalty deduction, prior to the deduction being released. For projects under CIRCP and CGIRP Sustainability, one half of the eligible royalty deductions is released after the project construction and initial GHG emissions reduction verification, and the remainder is released after final verification.
- In addition to reducing emissions and supporting industry growth, the infrastructure royalty programs are designed to maximize community benefits, including local job creation, local supplier benefits, First Nations engagement and participation, and reducing cumulative environmental effects.

Key Program or Project Overview

Infrastructure Royalty Programs

- In May 2022 the Province announced that it would be standing up a new program entitled Healing the Land and Emissions Reduction (HLER) Program to repurpose unused deep well royalty deductions and incent investment in land restoration and emissions reductions in Northeast BC. Oil and gas producers with unused deep well royalty deductions would have the option to transfer them to a HLER pool or to expire. Using this pool, companies would be able to enter into agreements for deductions to their royalty bill for costs related to eligible projects or eligible contributions for the purposes of restoration.

Partners & Stakeholders: Royalty paying oil and gas producers

Status:

- While the last installment for CGIRP was in 2022, royalty deductions continue to be issued under IRCP, CIRCP and CGIRP.
- Royalty deductions are still being issued for 43 remaining projects under IRCP. As a result of low commodity prices, wells associated with these projects have been slow to generate the revenue necessary for releasing royalty deductions.
- The 10 projects under CIRCP are projected to achieve a combined emissions reduction of 402,000 tonnes of CO₂e over the 10 years following their completion, with approximately 98% of this reduction attributed to methane.
- Under CGIRP's Sustainability category, a total of 56 projects are estimated to result in a cumulative, total emissions reduction of 11.6 million tonnes CO₂e between project completion and 10 years from the completion date. As of July 2024, among the 56 projects, 23 projects (41%) that have completed will result in a cumulative, total emissions reduction of 3.9 million tonnes CO₂e.
- Details of the HLER program are being finalized to support regulatory amendments and system updates needed to stand up the program. The HLER program is targeted for implementation in 2025, recognizing eligible projects that were started on or after January 1, 2023.

Key Program or Project Overview

Tenuring of Subsurface Resources

Branch Responsible: Tenure and Resource Stewardship Branch

Key Points and Background:

- In British Columbia, the government owns most of the petroleum and natural gas (PNG) and geothermal resources, including storage reservoirs, and grants rights for their use through issuance of subsurface tenure, i.e., tenure, in accordance with the *Petroleum and Natural Gas Act* (PNGA) and *Geothermal Resources Act* (GRA).
- The Ministry is responsible for issuing and managing all tenure on behalf of the government, including revenue collection (in the form of bonus bids from tenure sales, administrative issuance fees, and annual tenure rental payments), tenure maintenance (conversions, continuations, transfers, surrenders), and management of the government's geological zone designation system.
- Each type of tenure grants a specific set of rights and sets out the obligations of the tenure holder and the circumstances under which the tenure can be extended or converted to another type of tenure.
- Drilling permits/licences for exploration purposes and leases for production or certain disposal or storage purposes are the main types of tenure that are routinely issued by the Ministry under the PNGA and GRA. The Ministry also issues storage reservoir licences for storage or disposal purposes, such as carbon capture and sequestration (CCS).
- The Ministry issues PNG tenure upon a request from industry, through a monthly competitive sealed-bid public tender auction, i.e., Crown sale. Geothermal tenure is also issued under a similar process but less frequently. Storage reservoir tenure is issued through an application process, rather than a public auction process.
- Occasionally geothermal and PNG tenure is issued by the Minister under special terms and for the price approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. This process can be used to provide economic opportunities to support First Nations' development interests or company-specific interests where different tenure terms are needed or where a competitive public tender process is not appropriate.
- All tenure requests are subject to a pre-tenure referral process where the Ministry consults with First Nations and engages other provincial agencies and local governments to determine the risks associated with making a tenure available for sale and disposing it.
- Once a subsurface tenure has been issued, the tenure holder must apply to the

Key Program or Project Overview

Tenuring of Subsurface Resources

BC Energy Regulator for approval to conduct surface-related activities to use the tenure.

- As of August 22, 2024, the Ministry is managing:
 - 11,027 PNG leases, 41 PNG drilling licenses, 5 PNG permits, and 2 PNG special agreements;
 - 5 geothermal permits and 1 geothermal lease; and,
 - 1 storage reservoir exploration license and 1 storage reservoir license.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Treaty 8 First Nations
- Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
- Explorers and Producers Association of Canada
- BC Energy Regulator
- Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

Status:

- The Ministry paused the PNG Crown sale process in July 2021, as a result of *Yahey v. BC*.
- In January 2023, the Province negotiated agreements with Blueberry River First Nations and seven other Treaty 8 First Nations, which provided a pathway for resuming the PNG Crown sales process.
- On July 25, 2024, the Ministry provided notice that it was resuming the PNG Crown sale process after working with Treaty 8 First Nations to align an updated tenuring process with negotiated commitments. The first PNG Crown sale is scheduled for December 4, 2024.
- The Ministry continues to advance geothermal and storage reservoir tenure requests through routine administrative processes.

NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: ELECTRICITY AND UTILITY REGULATION DIVISION

ADM Responsible: Chris Gilmore, A/Assistant Deputy Minister

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

The Electricity and Utility Regulation Division is responsible for British Columbia's regulated utilities and low-carbon energy sectors. These sectors are made up of diverse interests that develop electricity generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure, clean or renewable energy sources, including renewable natural gas, hydro, geothermal, solar, ocean, and wind. The Division led the development of *Powering Our Future: BC's Clean Energy Strategy and* administers the Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund, a special account used to advance low carbon innovations through clean technologies.

The Division leads the development and implementation of energy system policies and legislative frameworks governing electric and gas utilities in the province. This includes working with the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) on the oversight of BC's regulated energy utilities, including BC Hydro, FortisBC and Pacific Northern Gas, in their long-term planning and delivery of conventional and low-carbon clean energy across the Province. The Division also works with the BCUC in its role as Administrator under the *Fuel Price Transparency Act*.

The Division has responsibility for policies, programs, regulations and legislation to support the Province's legislated short and long-term; greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets, including: the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Clean Energy) Regulation*, the *Utilities Commission Act*, and the *Clean Energy Act*. The Division is also responsible for developing policies that balance the long-term reliability and affordability of BC's clean energy systems with achieving climate objectives.

The Division is B.C.'s lead on the Canada delegation for modernizing the Columbia River Treaty (CRT) to ensure B.C.'s interests are addressed in negotiations with the U.S. and Canada. It also leads all public and stakeholder engagement related to the CRT and CRT renegotiations.

The Division is responsible for co-leading the Indigenous Clean Energy Opportunities (ICEO) process with the First Nations Energy and Mining Council, which engages with First Nations rights holders and organizations in a collaborative dialogue to:

- fully participate in current and future clean energy opportunities, and
- align the Province's strategic clean energy policy and legislation with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous people.

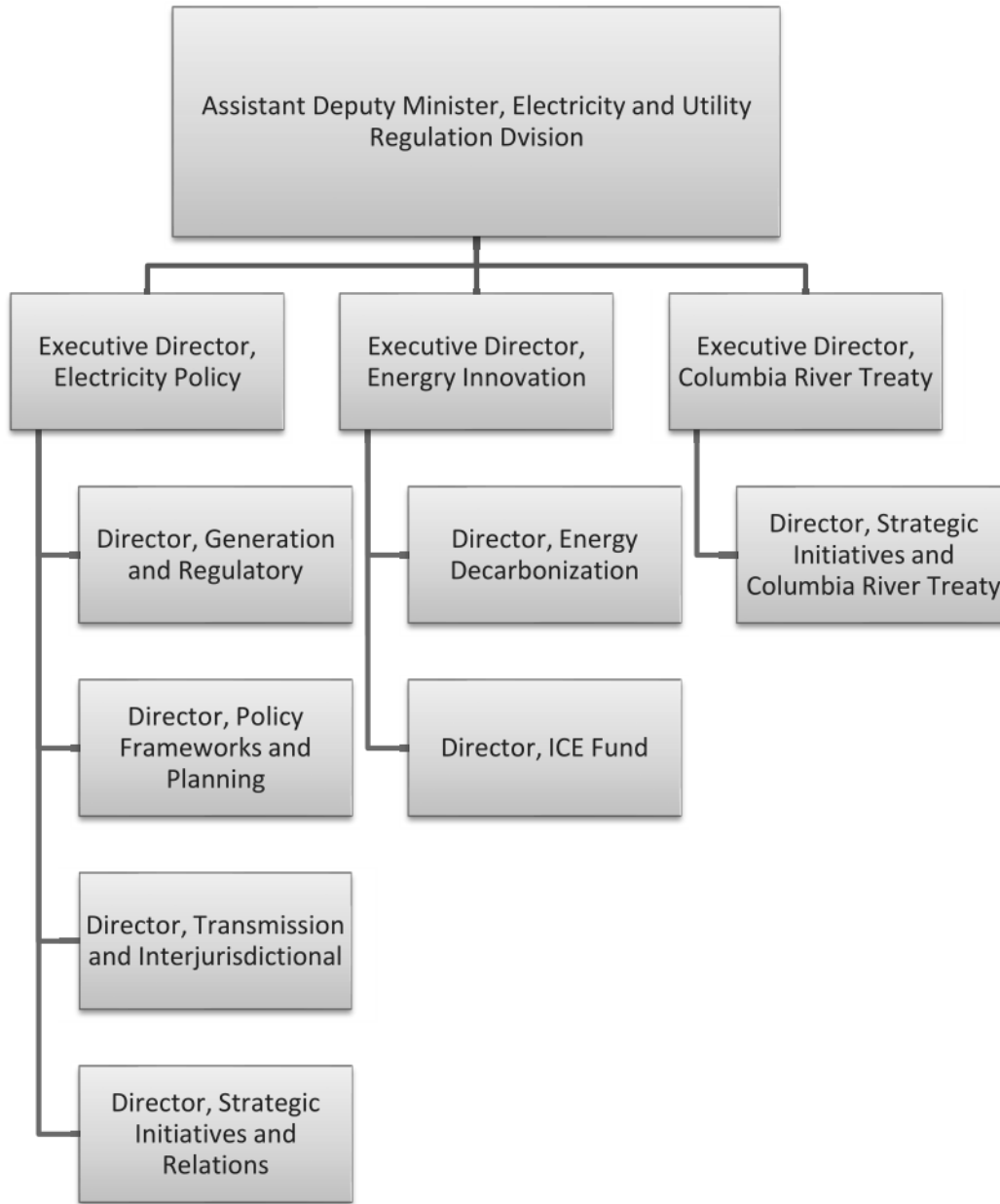
Budget: \$17.24 Million

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 41.86

Related Legislation:

- [Clean Energy Act](#)
- [Columbia Basin Trust Act](#)
- [Fuel Pricing Transparency Act](#)
- [Hydro and Power Authority Act](#)
- [Special Accounts Appropriation and Control Act \(section 9.5\)](#)
- [Utilities Commission Act](#)
- [Gas Utilities Act](#)

Organizational Chart:



Key Program or Project Overview

Electricity System Strategic Review and New Energy Plan

Branches Responsible: Electricity Policy Branch (EPB) and Energy Innovation Branch (EIB)

Background:

Energy Transition in B.C.:

- The transition to cleaner types of energy is a substantial undertaking for every jurisdiction and will take time.
 - About 63 percent of the energy used in B.C. in 2021 was supplied by refined petroleum products and natural gas, only 17% is from clean electricity.
 - Energy use currently contributes about 76 percent of B.C.'s GHG emissions.
- B.C. has abundant sources of clean electricity (98% clean or renewable) and amongst the most affordable rates in North America.
 - B.C. is seeing unprecedented interest from new, major industrial customers wanting to power their operations with clean electricity.
 - Electrification is a key pathway to reducing GHG emissions, decarbonizing existing industry, buildings and transportation, and attracting investment.
- Scenario analysis conducted in partnership with B.C.'s utilities estimated that total electricity use in B.C. could increase by 1.5 to 2 times BC Hydro's current domestic demand by 2050.
- Stakeholders and utilities have different (and often conflicting) views about how to achieve a clean energy future, whether that's through increasing electrification, maintaining natural gas for peak demand or scaling alternative solutions such as hydrogen, carbon capture or biofuels.

Related Strategic Energy Policies:

- There are several related strategic energy policy topics, and decisions on each of these topics will influence outcomes in each of the other topics.

Advice/Recommendations

Cabinet Confidences

Advice/Recommendations

- Enhanced coordination between utilities for long-term planning (see Integrated Utility Planning Major Corporate Issue Note).
- Reconciliation with First Nations in the clean energy sector (see First Nations and Reconciliation in the Clean Energy Sector Project / Program Overview).

Key Program or Project Overview

Electricity System Strategic Review and New Energy Plan

Advice/Recommendations

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

Advancing a Full Energy Plan:

- Developing each of these strategic topics as part of a broader, comprehensive plan would help to ensure that interdependencies are considered as part of a more wholistic approach.
- Each strategic topic may require legislative or regulatory changes as well as engagement with First Nations and stakeholders. A broader Energy Plan may offer opportunities to streamline this engagement process.

Cabinet Confidences

Date Updated: October 8, 2024

Page 2 of 2

Key Program or Project Overview

Public Utility Regulation

Branches Responsible: Electricity Policy Branch (EPB) and Energy Innovation Branch (EIB)

Background:

Public Utility Regulation:

- Many energy utilities are “natural monopolies” with one firm that provides the most economically efficient service due to high infrastructure costs and economies of scale.
 - “Vertically integrated” public utilities provide energy supply, transmission, distribution, metering and services such as demand-side measures.
- Government intervention in the market through public utility regulation serves as a proxy for price competition to ensure rates are minimized, utilities recover their approved costs, and shareholders earn a fair return on their capital investments.
 - In BC, regulation for electricity, natural gas, thermal energy (hot water and steam), and some propane resales is provided by the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC), except for municipal utilities (e.g., City of New Westminster).
 - The BCUC also regulates safety, ICBC rates, gas marketer licenses, common carrier pipelines (e.g., jet fuel), and mandatory reliability standards for electricity.
- The BCUC commissioners make objective, well-reasoned, evidence-based decisions that are legally binding. They facilitate fair, transparent, and inclusive processes.

Legislation Overview:

- The *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) governs the BCUC and sets out the framework for the general supervision of public utilities.
 - Rate design and rates must be just, reasonable and not unduly discriminatory, nor preferential.
 - Other BCUC regulatory oversight applies to long-term resource and conservation plans, capital expenditures, energy purchase agreements, complaints, and gas price transparency.
- The *Clean Energy Act* (CEA) provides BC’s energy objectives and governs public utilities in a manner that complements or overrides the UCA such as “prescribed undertakings” that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, along with considerations for clean and renewable resources and taking demand-side measures, among others.

Key Program or Project Overview

Public Utility Regulation

Levers to Advance Government Policy:

- Changes in energy policy can be implemented through amendments to legislation and/or regulations, depending on scope and desire for BCUC to implement the policy.
 - Section 3 of the UCA provides powers to Cabinet to direct the BCUC without limitation to exercise a power, perform a duty, or refrain from doing either.
 - Section 22 of the UCA enables the Minister to exempt public utilities or specific infrastructure and activities from regulatory oversight, including an option for BCUC review.
 - Section 88(3) of the UCA enables the BCUC to exempt public utilities from regulatory oversight it considers advisable.
- Other impactful regulations under the UCA and CEA include those on Demand-Side Measures, Greenhouse Gas Reduction, and Electricity Self-Sufficiency.

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

2024 Legislative Amendments and Regulatory Orders:

- On February 15, OIC #60 amended the CEA BC Energy Objectives Regulation to add new objectives around affordability and to prioritize two objectives above others:
 - (f.2) to ensure increases to BC Hydro's rates do not exceed cumulative inflation since 2017; and,
 - (g) GHG reductions of 40%, 60%, and 80% by 2030, 2040 and 2050 respectively.
- On February 22, the government announced an affordability credit for BC Hydro customers valued at approximately \$100 per residential customer, funded through a reduction in BC Hydro's net income.
 - On March 15 Cabinet issued a Direction (under UCA s.3) to the BCUC respecting the BC Energy Affordability Credit for FortisBC (electric) and municipal utilities.
- On June 10 the CEA GGRR was amended to include BC Hydro's electricity purchases of clean and renewable resource for 14 communities in the non-integrated area (NIA).
- On July 15, OIC #485 (under UCA s.3) amended Direction 8 to the BCUC to extend annual BC Hydro's net income of \$712 million (deemed equity) for two more years to March 31, 2027, thereby removing BCUC's regulatory oversight and cancelling a planned BC Hydro application for its cost of capital, as previously directed by the BCUC.

Key Program or Project Overview

Public Utility Regulation

- On July 22, Minister Order #M242 (under UCA s.22) exempted six BC Hydro substation projects from BCUC regulatory oversight and the need to apply for a Certificate for Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN).
- On August 2, the Minister sent a letter to the BCUC providing prior approval for any exemptions under s.88(3) it considers advisable in the capital plan for certain transmission, distribution and fuel switching projects, each valued under \$750M.

Legislative Amendments Required for Policy Certainty:

- In December 2022, Cabinet used section 3 of the UCA to direct the BCUC to temporarily relieve BC Hydro of its obligation to serve certain classes of cryptocurrency customers.
 - One cryptocurrency mining proponent launched a judicial review of this direction (OIC #692). The Supreme Court of B.C. ruled in favour of the Province but noted that one factor in this decision was the temporary nature of the order.
- On May 16 the *2024 Energy Statutes Amendment Act* received Royal Assent, including enhanced Cabinet oversight of electricity demands of cryptocurrency mining operations under the UCA and removal of the legacy standing offer program from the CEA.

Advice/Recommendations; Legal Information

Key Program or Project Overview

First Nations and Reconciliation in the Clean Energy Sector

Branches Responsible: Electricity Policy Branch (EPB), Energy Innovation Branch (EIB), and Columbia River Treaty Branch (CRTB)

Background:

Indigenous Clean Energy Opportunities (ICEO):

- The ICEO is a collaboration between the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC), the First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC), and the Ministry. FNEMC's participation is mandated by FNLC.
- ICEO provides opportunities for joint engagement with First Nations; and furthers action 4.43 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan.
 - In action 4.43, the Province makes a commitment to *"co-develop recommendations on strategic policies and initiatives for clean and sustainable energy. This includes identifying and supporting First Nations-led clean energy opportunities related to CleanBC, the Comprehensive Review of BC Hydro, and the BC Utilities Commission Inquiry on the Regulation of Indigenous Utilities."*
- Through the ICEO, the Ministry and FNEMC are exploring opportunities for First Nation utilities to enhance First Nation's participation in the clean energy sector.

Engagement & Capacity Building:

- Key themes heard from Indigenous Peoples during engagements consistently include the need for:
 - a greater degree of Indigenous capacity building and First Nations decision-making authority related to energy system planning and projects,
 - economic opportunities, and
 - skills training and capacity building.
- A recurring theme in engagement with FNEMC is the establishment or expansion of a First Nation led clean energy organization to support First Nation capacity building and participation in the clean energy sector.
- Powering our Future: BC's Clean Energy Strategy indicates that a key topic for the ICEO in 2024/2025 is to identify obstacles to participation in the clean energy sector faced by First Nations including consideration of this organization.

Calls for Power:

- Indigenous participation in BC Hydro's 2024 Call for Power is supported by:
 - a requirement for a minimum of 25% equity ownership held by First Nation(s) on whose territory the project is located,
 - the Canada Infrastructure Bank's loan program to support First Nation's

Key Program or Project Overview

First Nations and Reconciliation in the Clean Energy Sector

- access to capital and to enable proponents to meet this requirement, and
- in the 2024 budgets, the provincial and federal governments announced Indigenous loan guarantee programs that could support energy projects.
- BC Hydro has committed to launch Calls for Power approximately every 2 years starting in 2026.
- FNEMC and the Ministry indicated interest in exploring options in close cooperation with BC Hydro to enable preferential access for First Nations owned clean energy projects in future Calls for Power.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC)
- First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC)
- BC Hydro

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

- EPB and ICEO work closely with other Ministry teams, including the Clean Energy Major Projects Office and Community Clean Energy Branch, to ensure alignment and coordination between initiatives that influence reconciliation in the clean energy sector.

Indigenous Clean Energy Opportunities:

- ICEO is establishing a Legislative Standing Table with FNLC to enable collaborative dialogue on clean energy policy, program, legislative and regulatory amendments.
- Policy development towards a regulatory framework for First Nations utilities is underway.
 - To begin, the Ministry proposed that this work focus on First Nation community utilities (FNCU) limited to reserves and treaty lands.
 - EPB proposed the University of Victoria's Accelerating Community Energy Transformation group study sustainable business models for FNCUs.
 - Geographical scope is a key issue in the joint work on First Nation utilities. FNEMC expressed that this work must be expanded to traditional territories.

Engagement & Capacity Building:

- ICEO is exploring an assessment of First Nation's capacity and skills training needs in the clean energy sector to address identified gaps including consideration of a First Nation clean energy organization.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Key Program or Project Overview

First Nations and Reconciliation in the Clean Energy Sector

organization or expansion of an existing organization's mandate into this role.

Calls for Power:

- In BC Hydro's 2024 call for power, the submission deadline for request for proposal (RFP) documentation was September 16, 2024.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Key Program or Project Overview

Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund

Branch Responsible: Energy Innovation Branch (EIB)

Background:

Mandate:

- Established in 2007, the ICE Fund is a legislated Special Account designed to support government's energy and environmental priorities and advance B.C.'s clean energy sector.

Programming:

- The ICE Fund has two streams of funding:
 - The new Targeted Call was launched in May 2024, and commits \$12.3M over 3 years.
 - The Open Call for Innovation and Partnerships accepts applications year-round and supports co-funding by likeminded organizations.

Funding:

- The ICE Fund's legislated special account structure is unique as funds are collected, managed and disbursed in a separate stream compared to most government programs.
- The ICE Fund is funded through a levy of 0.4% on the final sale of specified energy products: natural gas; fuel oil; and grid-delivered propane (~\$9M in 2024/25).
- Since 2008, approximately \$114M has been allocated to support pre-commercial clean energy and technology projects and various programs and initiatives. Over the past 15 years, ICE Fund investments have supported projects worth over \$415M, creating or sustaining more than 940 direct jobs.
- In Budget 2024, the ICE Fund was approved for \$30.771M over three years. The budget allocation is \$11.768 M in 2024/2025; \$10.268M in 2025/2026; and \$8.735M in 2026/27.
- At the direction of Treasury Board, the Ministry submits an annual rolling three-year spending plan for the Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund Special Account.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

Partnerships and Leveraged Funding:

- Partnerships, particularly with federal agencies, have been effective at

Key Program or Project Overview

Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund

supporting the mandate of multiple organizations and securing investment in B.C. Predictable and substantive funding are the foundation that best supports opportunities to bring additional investment into B.C.

- B.C. can continue to position itself as a leading “test bed” for clean energy technologies that could then be deployed across Canada which supports both provincial and federal clean energy mandates.
 - In 2017 the ICE Fund and federal funder SDTC implemented a joint-call partnership to accelerate technology development in BC by each committing \$20M to project investments.
- The ICE Fund has had success and is continuing with efforts to partner with federal funding agencies (e.g., Natural Resources Canada (NRCan); Innovation, Science and Industry Canada; and Pacific Economic Development Canada).
 - In August 2024, the ICE Fund established a partnership with NRCan; focus areas for this collaboration are to identify shared funding priorities and to better understand the potential for federal funding in clean energy ecosystem initiatives (e.g., pursue investments like NRCan’s \$12M investment in Alberta’s Hydrogen Centre of Excellence and \$10M in Nova Scotia’s Battery Innovation Centre).

Government Financial Information

Decision(s) Required / Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Key Program or Project Overview

Closure of Fort Nelson Gas Plant

Branches Responsible: Electricity Policy Branch (EPB) / Energy Decarbonization Branch (EDB)

Background:

Fort Nelson and the Fort Nelson Gas Plant:

- The Town of Fort Nelson is in the northeast of British Columbia (B.C.) and has a population of 4,400.
- The Fort Nelson Gas Plant (FNGP) is owned and operated by NorthRiver Midstream. It came into operation in 1964 and is the northern-most, and one of the largest and oldest, operating facilities in North America for gathering and processing natural gas.

Cabinet Confidences

- Operations at the FNGP have been suspended since May 2024 due to regional natural gas producers in the Horn and Liard basins keeping wells shut-in following recent wildfires.
- Fort Nelson is not connected to the integrated BC Hydro or FortisBC Energy Inc (FEI) grids. The FNGP is important to the local community because it is the only supplier of natural gas to BC Hydro and FEI.
 - BC Hydro owns and operates a 73MW gas-fired generation station and 4MW of diesel back-up for critical services in the downtown core. There is also a small intertie with Alberta (but is frequently unreliable due to wildfire damage and so is not included in resiliency planning).
 - FEI owns and operates a natural gas distribution grid which serves 2,300 customers. FEI purchases gas from upstream producers in the Horn and Liard basins which is then processed at the FNGP. Business Information

Business Information

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

Impacts to utility customers from FNGP shutdown:

Cabinet Confidences

Business Information

Date Updated: October 8, 2024

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Key Program or Project Overview

Closure of Fort Nelson Gas Plant

Business Information

Other Alternatives:

Business Information; Cabinet Confidences

Date Updated: October 8, 2024

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Key Program or Project Overview

Closure of Fort Nelson Gas Plant

Mid- to Long-term Options:

- Ministry staff have been engaging with FEI, BC Hydro, and the BCUC for several months in preparation for the upcoming winter. However, future work is required of Government to ensure the long-term energy security of Fort Nelson.
 - BC Hydro is developing various contingency plans: up to 20MW of diesel generation, additional reliance on the small Alberta intertie, and the long-term possibility of geothermal energy development.
 - FEI has few to no options to provide energy to customers without secure and long-term natural gas supply. As such, they are exploring commercial arrangements with natural gas producers outside of the region.
- Ministry staff continue to encourage collaboration between both utilities to ensure that plans for the Fort Nelson energy system are being coordinated.

Current Status:

- Ministry staff continue to meet with representatives from FEI, BC Hydro and NRM to better understand the current situation. Through these meetings, additional solutions may come to light.

Key Program or Project Overview

Cryptocurrency, Data Centres and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Branch Responsible: Electricity Policy Branch (EPB)

Background:

Cryptocurrency Mining

- In recent years, BC Hydro received an unprecedented level of interest from cryptocurrency mining operations for access to electricity.
 - Considering the volume and timing of these requests, BC Hydro and the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (Ministry) were concerned that the unchecked growth of cryptocurrency mining in B.C. could make it more difficult to support electrification and to keep rates low.
- In December 2022, Cabinet enacted a regulation under *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) that directed the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) to relieve BC Hydro of its obligation to serve certain classes of cryptocurrency customers for 18 months (temporary pause).
 - This provided time for the development of a permanent policy framework for the connection of cryptocurrency mining projects in B.C.'s.
 - Work on this permanent policy is underway. The Ministry engaged with B.C. First Nations, municipalities, utilities, industry associations, and the cryptocurrency mining industry to seek feedback on its development.
- In May 2024, the UCA was amended to provide Cabinet with regulation-making authority regarding the provision of electricity service for cryptocurrency mining. These amendments enable the implementation of the permanent policy.
- In June 2024, the temporary pause was extended, via the enactment of the Cryptocurrency Power Regulation, from 18 to 36-months to provide additional time for policy development and engagement. The pause will now expire in December 2025.

Data Centres and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- The term “data centre” is used to describe several projects that could have different business models including storage, cryptocurrency mining, high-performance computing, and AI.
- Data centres that are focused only on data storage are typically built at a much smaller scale in B.C. than the proposed cryptocurrency mining and AI projects.
 - Canadian data sovereignty laws create barriers to sharing certain types of data (e.g., personal) with other jurisdictions (e.g., the USA) which reduces the viability of companies based in those jurisdictions storing their data in

Key Program or Project Overview

Cryptocurrency, Data Centres and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Canada.

Business Information

- The Ministry is becoming increasingly aware of requests and inquiries for electricity from other types of high-performance computing data centres (e.g., AI). While requests for AI connections have not yet reached the level of cryptocurrency requests, they are beginning to grow.

Advice/Recommendations: Business Information

- Other jurisdictions (e.g., the USA) are expecting significant growth in this sector. The biggest cloud services providers, Amazon.com Inc., Microsoft Corp. and Google, have announced goals to run their data centers entirely on green energy—Amazon by next year, Google and Microsoft by 2030.

Business Information

- Some jurisdictions with high data centre loads have implemented policies targeting data centres including temporary pauses, limits on electricity connections or preference for self-generation (e.g., Ireland and Singapore).

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation (JEDI) work on AI

Advice/Recommendations

- While AI projects may provide value to other businesses and research institutions, thus contributing to the overall economy, the relatively low direct job creation and high electricity consumption is consistent across all data centres.
- The Ministry will work with JEDI to gather information on the economic benefits

Date Updated: August 26, 2024

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Key Program or Project Overview

Cryptocurrency, Data Centres and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

of the high-performance computing and AI sector to inform future policy development.

New Electricity Allocation Framework

Advice/Recommendations

Permanent Policy for Cryptocurrency Mining

- The extension of the temporary pause on cryptocurrency mining projects connecting to BC Hydro's system will expire in December 2025.

Advice/Recommendations

NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: ENERGY DECARBONIZATION DIVISION

ADM Responsible: Nat Gosman, Assistant Deputy Minister

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

The Energy Decarbonization Division develops and implements legislation, policies, and programs to support the decarbonization of the Province's energy systems while ensuring energy affordability, security and resilience through:

- low carbon energy resources and technologies;
- energy efficiency measures and programs;
- policies and programs that support low carbon innovation for communities, buildings, transportation, fuels, and industry;
- innovative market transformation strategies, and;
- economic development initiatives with local governments and First Nations .

The Division develops the Province's energy efficiency policy for buildings, promotes industry capacity for deployment of energy efficient technologies, develops energy efficiency standards for products and equipment, and leads provincial and utility energy efficiency programs. The Division is responsible for policies and programs to decarbonize community energy systems through clean energy projects in communities across British Columbia, including grid-connected and off-grid Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. This includes the administration of the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund.

The Division is responsible for the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS), which reduces the Province's reliance on fossil fuels and reduces the environmental impact of fuel use while spurring growth in low carbon fuel production in communities across B.C. The LCFS is the single largest contributor to meeting provincial climate targets and is an integral part of B.C.'s greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction policies.

The Division is responsible for advancing the decarbonization of B.C.'s vehicle fleet through zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) and lower emitting, more energy efficient transportation modes. This is achieved through implementing policies, programs and legislation which increase the availability, affordability, and acceptability of clean transportation options, including ZEVs, supporting infrastructure and industry capacity.

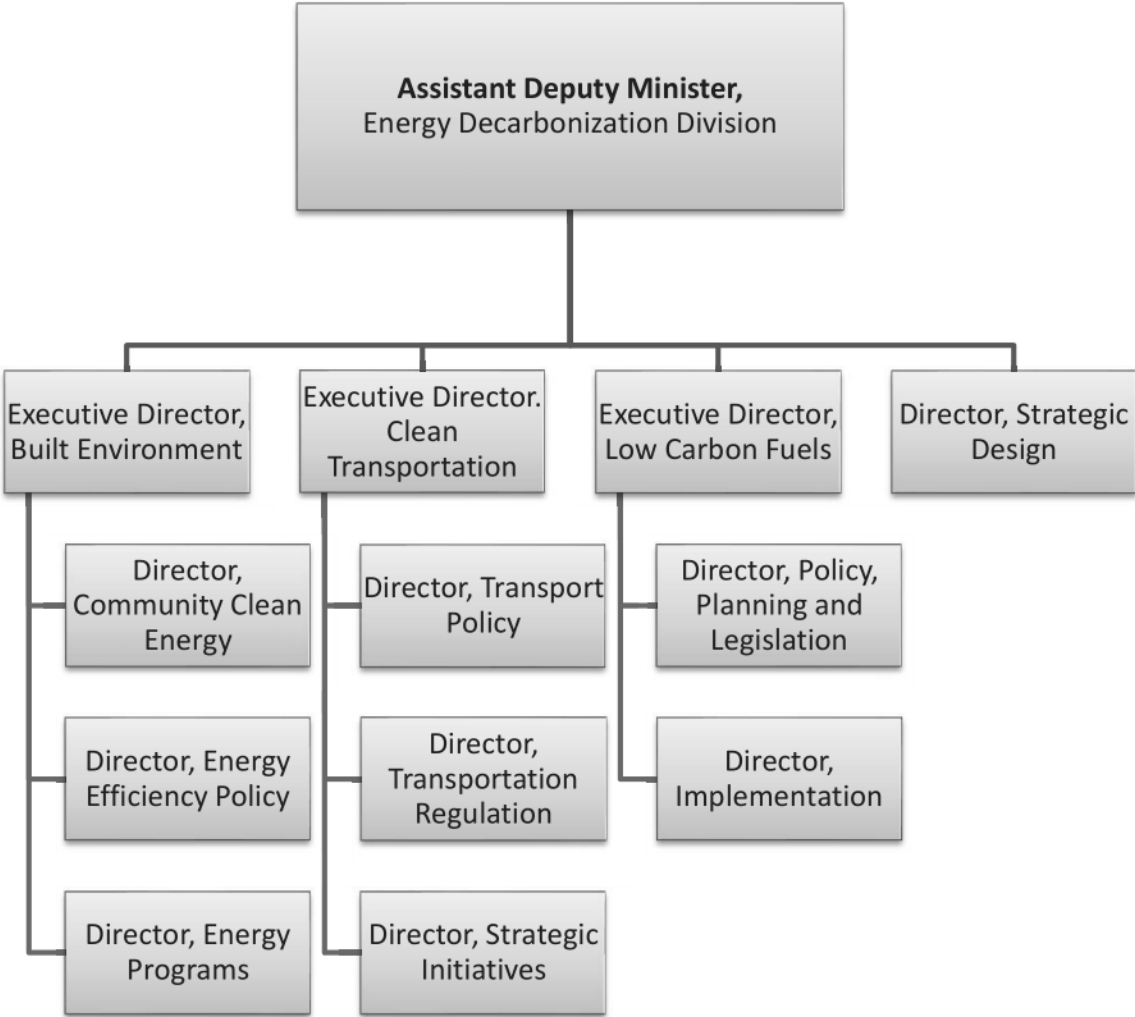
Budget: Government

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): Gover

Related Legislation:

- Utilities Commission Act
- Energy Efficiency Act
- Clean Energy Act
- Low Carbon Fuels Act
- Zero Emission Vehicles Act.

Organizational Chart:



Key Program or Project Overview

Clean Buildings Strategy

Branch Responsible: Energy Efficiency Branch (EEB)

Key Points and Background:

- The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (Ministry) plays a leading role in developing policies, programs and standards that improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in buildings. These activities also support government priorities on clean jobs and affordability, all while stimulating province-wide economic activity.
- Every \$1 million invested in energy efficiency is estimated to create between 30 and 57 job-years and \$4 to \$8 million of gross domestic product.
- The Ministry has developed a Clean Buildings Strategy (the Strategy) to guide implementation of its building sector mandates.
- The objective of the Strategy is to drive energy efficient and low carbon solutions to a tipping point of availability and affordability through targeted initiatives, followed by progressively more stringent codes and standards.
- The Strategy includes four primary streams of action to drive market transformation in the sector:
 1. **Energy information tools:** The BC Home Energy Planner provides homeowners with a home energy score and provides customized recommendations for energy saving retrofit opportunities.
 2. **Industry training:** The Ministry works with the utilities and Home Performance Stakeholder Council to develop home retrofit installation best practices, and subsidizes training for windows, insulation and heating system installers.
 3. **Targeted incentives:** The CleanBC Better Homes and Better Buildings programs provide: point of sale rebates for income-qualified households and energy coaching support; retrofit incentives for commercial buildings, social housing, and multi-unit residential buildings; top-up incentives for northern residential and commercial buildings; and First Nations community retrofit incentives. These programs are complementary to and coordinated with utility energy efficiency programs (and regulated under the Ministry's Demand-Side Measures Regulation and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Regulation).
 4. **Codes and standards:** The Ministry is responsible for: point-of-sale appliance and equipment efficiency standards through the Energy Efficiency Standards Regulation; development of product standards and performance benchmarks; and policy advice on energy and emissions codes for buildings.

Key Program or Project Overview

Clean Buildings Strategy

Partners & Stakeholders:

- BC Hydro
- FortisBC
- Pacific Northern Gas
- Home Performance Stakeholder Council
- Ministry of Housing and Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

Status:

- Heat pumps remain a major focus of the EEB portfolio given efficiency and resiliency benefits. About \$190 million has been allocated to the CleanBC Better Homes and Better Buildings portfolio since 2018, with most funding going towards heat pump adoption.
- Adoption continues to increase with heat pumps in over 250,000 B.C. households. In 2022 and 2023, B.C. heating equipment distributors imported more residential heat pumps than natural gas furnaces.
- The CleanBC Better Homes Energy Savings Program provides rebates for energy efficiency upgrades to income-qualified households (including up to \$16,000 for a heat pump). Since its launch on June 18, 2024, the program has seen exceptional interest with more than 3,700 pre-registrations.
- The Ministry is working with BC Hydro to launch a new energy efficiency and electrification retrofit offer for multi-unit residential buildings in Fall 2024. The program will initially focus on whole building retrofits but will provide in-suite incentives (e.g. for individual strata owners) starting in early 2025.
- The BC Home Energy Planner entered its pilot phase in April 2024 and is available in select communities across the province (including Smithers, District of Saanich, and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary). The pilot is expected to conclude in early 2025, before the program launches province wide.

Cabinet Confidences

Key Program or Project Overview

Clean, Efficient Transportation

Branch Responsible: Clean Transportation Branch (CTB)

Key Points and Background:

- CTB oversees Provincial zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) initiatives, including ZEV policies, programs and legislation under a mandate to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the transportation sector and maximize co-benefits from clean, efficient transportation. This supports economy-wide and transport sector GHG targets. The transport sector accounted for 41 percent (%) of British Columbia's (B.C.) GHGs in 2021.
- Market transformation guides the Province's support of clean technologies, including ZEV adoption. This approach includes targeting actions and investments to build market share, workforce readiness and infrastructure for mature ZEV technologies (e.g. light duty ZEV) and support for research, development and commercialization to scale up production of emergent ZEV technologies (e.g. medium and heavy-duty ZEV).
- In 2021, the ZEV sector in B.C. contributed \$1.15 billion to the provincial Gross Domestic Product and supported 11,300 jobs.
- Since 2011 ZEV programs and initiatives in B.C. are estimated to have avoided over 1 million tonnes of CO₂e emissions and current actions are projected to avoid 9.18 million tonnes in total CO₂e emissions.
- Clean, efficient transportation policies also: improve affordability for people and businesses/organizations (e.g. a ZEV saves on average \$2,500 a year); improve air quality and reduced healthcare system impacts; reduce energy demand; reduce congestion; and increase clean technology jobs and economic development.
- Since 2007, emissions of nitrogen oxides in B.C. have decreased 27% largely due to reductions from the transportation sector, driven by vehicle efficiency improvements and ZEV uptake.
- The CleanBC GoElectric suite of programs support ZEV technology across all modes (passenger, on-road medium and heavy duty, off-road vehicles and equipment, and rail, marine and air).
- GoElectric programs make it easier for people and businesses/organizations to purchase and operate a ZEV by bringing down the price, making it easier to charge or fuel, and by supporting research, jobs training and economic development in B.C.'s ZEV sector. \$650 million has been allocated since 2011 to support ZEV adoption.
- CTB regularly engages First Nations and Indigenous peoples on program, policy and regulatory design, offers enhanced supports in GoElectric programs for First

Key Program or Project Overview

Clean, Efficient Transportation

Nations recipients, and is funding the First Nations Low Carbon Transportation Project, led by the BC Assembly of First Nations.

- B.C. was one of the first jurisdiction to legislate a 100% ZEV sales requirement for light-duty (passenger) vehicles (*Zero-Emission Vehicles Act*) to be achieved by 2035. B.C. leads Canada in ZEV adoption: 22.65% of new passenger vehicle sales in 2023 were ZEVs, totalling over 150,000 ZEVs in B.C.
- The CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 (Roadmap) committed the province to introducing new ZEV targets for on road medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) vehicles. Emission reductions are required from MHD vehicles to meet Provincial GHG emission reduction targets (they accounted for 21% of B.C.'s GHGs in 2021) but MHD ZEV numbers are currently low with 0.57% of all new MHD vehicle registrations in 2023 being ZEVs in B.C.
- The Roadmap set a target of 10,000 public charging stations in B.C. by 2030 and a fully connected electric highway across all highways in the province by 2024. As of December 2023, there were over 4,700 public charging stations and B.C. is set to complete the electric highway in 2024. Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Key internal partners include the Ministries of Transportation and Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change Strategy, Housing, Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation, and Finance.
- CTB engages with a broad range of external interested parties including vehicle manufacturers, industry associations, fleet operators, transit agencies, utilities (including BC Hydro, FortisBC), non-governmental organizations, academia, local governments, the federal government and First Nations and Indigenous groups.

Status:

- CTB's ZEV initiatives will continue to evolve with the market. Advice/Recommendation
Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information
- For MHD ZEV requirements, Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information
Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

Key Program or Project Overview

Low Carbon Fuel Standard

Branch Responsible: Low Carbon Fuels Branch

Key Points and Background:

- The Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) is a market transformation regulatory mechanism introduced in 2008 to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from transportation fuels in British Columbia (B.C.).
- The LCFS creates a financial incentive to reward low carbon fuels in proportion to the amount of real, quantifiable emissions reductions they yield when substituted by fuel suppliers for conventional fossil fuels. LCFS jurisdictions (led by B.C., Washington, Oregon and California) attract investment in low carbon fuel production and supply.
- The LCFS is a cornerstone of the Province's actions to achieve legislated climate goals; it is expected to deliver 5.7 million tonnes of GHG emissions reductions in 2030, representing 21.3% of the total expected reductions from the CleanBC plan.
- Between 2010 and 2023, actions taken to comply with the LCFS have avoided over 22.6 million tonnes of global GHG emissions.
- The LCFS requires a minimum percentage of renewable content in gasoline, diesel, and jet fuel on a provincial average basis, and sets annual carbon intensity (CI) reduction targets using lifecycle analysis that encompasses all stages of a fuel's life from raw material to its final use.
- A fuel supplier's annual compliance with the LCFS is calculated in terms of compliance units, a positive number (credits) for low carbon fuels and a negative number (debits) for high carbon fuels.
- At the end of each compliance period (i.e., calendar year), suppliers must have a balance of zero or more credits to avoid non-compliance penalties.
- Debit-generating suppliers have three pathways to address their debits:
 - supply low carbon fuels to generate credits;
 - purchase credits from other low carbon fuel suppliers; and/or
 - undertake actions through the Initiative Agreement program.
- Initiative Agreements are agreements between a fuel supplier and the statutory director for actions that increase the use of low carbon fuels or reduce the carbon intensity of fuel sooner than would have occurred otherwise.

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Advice/Recommendations ; Government Financial Information

Key Program or Project Overview

Remote Community Energy Strategy (RCES)

Branch Responsible: Community Clean Energy Branch

Key Points and Background:

- The Remote Community Energy Strategy (RCES) is a multi-stakeholder initiative to achieve the goal of reducing diesel consumption for generating electricity and heating in remote communities by 80% by 2030.
- There are approximately 44 remote communities in B.C. that are not connected to the provincial electricity grid. Most are First Nation communities that depend on diesel fuel to generate electricity and heat.
- BC Hydro Non-Integrated Areas (NIA) communities consume over 20 million litres of diesel fuel per year, resulting in about 50,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Independent communities not served by BC Hydro consume about 2.75 million litres per year, resulting in about 7,500 tonnes of GHG emissions.
- Additionally, local environmental pollution from diesel, such as particulates and spills in sensitive areas, can damage marine life and the traditional diet of First Nations, and can cause health problems for residents.
- The Ministry established a RCES Working Group with seven remote First Nations to strengthen relationships and gain a further understanding of community priorities and effective program approaches. In June 2022, the Working Group provided recommendations for provincial actions to achieve the diesel reduction target and support reconciliation commitments, such as First Nations' right to self-determination.
- RCES includes three streams of action: (1) build remote community capacity to lead energy efficiency and clean energy projects; (2) support remote community efforts to improve energy efficiency and minimize GHG emissions in new and existing buildings; and (3) implement renewable energy generation projects to displace diesel generation.
- Budget 2021 included a \$34 million investment in new RCES programs to support the capacity of First Nations remote communities, and for the Community Energy Diesel Reduction (CEDR) program, which supports the planning, development and implementation of diesel-displacing energy efficiency and renewable energy generation projects.
- In 2022, a first round of CEDR funding provided \$7.1 million to 12 remote communities.
- In February 2023, Treasury Board approved the addition of \$30 million to CEDR, extending the program until March 2028. In December 2023, the second intake allocated \$5.5 million to 13 projects.

Date Updated: August 21, 2024

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Key Program or Project Overview

Remote Community Energy Strategy (RCES)

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Remote First Nation communities, including: Gitga'at First Nation, Haida Nation, Heiltsuk Nation, Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation, Xenigwet'in First Nation Government, Nuxalk Nation, and Ulkatcho First Nation.
- Federal government (Natural Resources Canada, Indigenous Services Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada)
- New Relationship Trust
- Coastal First Nations – Great Bear Initiative
- BC Hydro

Status:

- The third intake for CEDR closed in July 2024; evaluation of applications is underway.
- RCES Projects currently in development in NIAs are forecast to reduce approximately one third of diesel consumption by 2030. In independent communities not served by BC Hydro, diesel use has been reduced by approximately 84%.
- To reach the overall 80% diesel reduction target, a large renewable energy project is required on Haida Gwaii. Interests of an Indigenous People; Intergovernmental Communications
- In spring 2024, the Ministry amended the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Regulation to enhance regulatory certainty for renewable energy projects that displace diesel in remote communities served by BC Hydro. The amendments ensure the BC Utilities Commission will allow BC Hydro to recover costs for electricity purchase agreements.

Related Initiative: In June 2023, the Ministry announced a contribution of \$140 million to the New Relationship Trust (NRT) to expand the BC Indigenous Clean Energy Initiative and further support small-scale, Indigenous-led clean energy projects in on-grid communities. The branch is working with NRT, Pacific Economic Development Canada (PacifiCan), and BC Hydro on the design of the new funding stream, which will be available to First Nations in 2026.

NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: MINES HEALTH, SAFETY and ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

ADM Responsible: George Warnock, Assistant Deputy Minister

Overview of the Division:

The Mines, Health, Safety and Enforcement Division (MHSE) provides compliance oversight of the mining sector in British Columbia. As a regulatory body, the Division's core business includes compliance promotion, verification and enforcement activities, and oversight and risk management associated with abandoned mines in the province. The Division is committed to continuous improvement of the regulatory framework for mines in BC, in response to recommendations by the Chief Auditor, and through the work of the Standing Code Review Secretariat.

While maintaining the important separation between permitting and compliance management, MHSE works in partnership with the Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division, with shared strategic goals for fair, effective, and transparent regulatory oversight, a competitive mining sector, and advancing Indigenous reconciliation. Through the work of its two mines divisions, EMLI is a global leader in regulating a safe and environmentally responsible mining sector.

The Office of the Chief Inspector of Mines (OCIM)

The Chief Inspector of Mines leads the OCIM business area and is a *Mines Act* designated position appointed by the Minister under the *Public Service Act*. The OCIM includes operation of the Ministry's risk-informed mine inspection program, mine emergency and incident response, public complaints response, mine certifications, and compliance promotion. The OCIM consists of the Mines Investigations Unit, Technical Compliance Unit, Health and Safety Specialist Unit, and the Health and Safety Compliance Unit.

Mines Audit & Strategic Services (MASS)

The MASS program area includes the Mines Audit Unit, which is responsible for conducting and publicly reporting on audits to evaluate the effectiveness of the province's mining regulatory framework. The MAU is led by the Chief Auditor, which is a Minister appointed position and independent Statutory Decision Maker under the *Mines Act*. The MASS business area also provides MHSE strategic policy and planning, as well as digital and data services that support a transparent, efficient and effective regulatory environment.

Regulatory Management and Enforcement Branch (RMEB)

The RMEB program area oversees the development and implementation of updates to the Mines Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia, with collaborative input from Indigenous, labor, and industry representation through the Code Review Secretariat. RMEB also carries out compliance case management, oversees the Administrative Monetary Penalty program, develops operational policy and manages the staff training and development program. Additionally, the RMEB works to advance reconciliation through the Indigenous Accompanied Inspection Program (AIP). Approximately 50 accompanied inspections are conducted through the AIP annually, sharing mining knowledge and providing mutual learning opportunities for both the inspectorate and Indigenous partners across the province.

Abandoned Mine Branch (AMB)

The AMB protects public safety and works to reduce potential hazards and environmental impacts from abandoned and historic mines that do not have current owners or responsible parties. AMB's key functions include: inventorying and assessing abandoned mines, managing de-risking activities at orphaned mines, overseeing the abandoned Tailings Storage Facility Dam Safety Program, and mitigating high-risk mine hazards.

Tulsequah Chief Mine Reclamation

MHSE provides provincial leadership and coordination to reclaim and close the historic Tulsequah Chief Mine. The Tulsequah Chief Mine site is of significant concern to the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN) and State of Alaska due to ongoing pollution of the Tulsequah River associated with this site. BC is working collaboratively with Teck Metals Ltd. and the TRTFN to see this work completed as soon as possible.

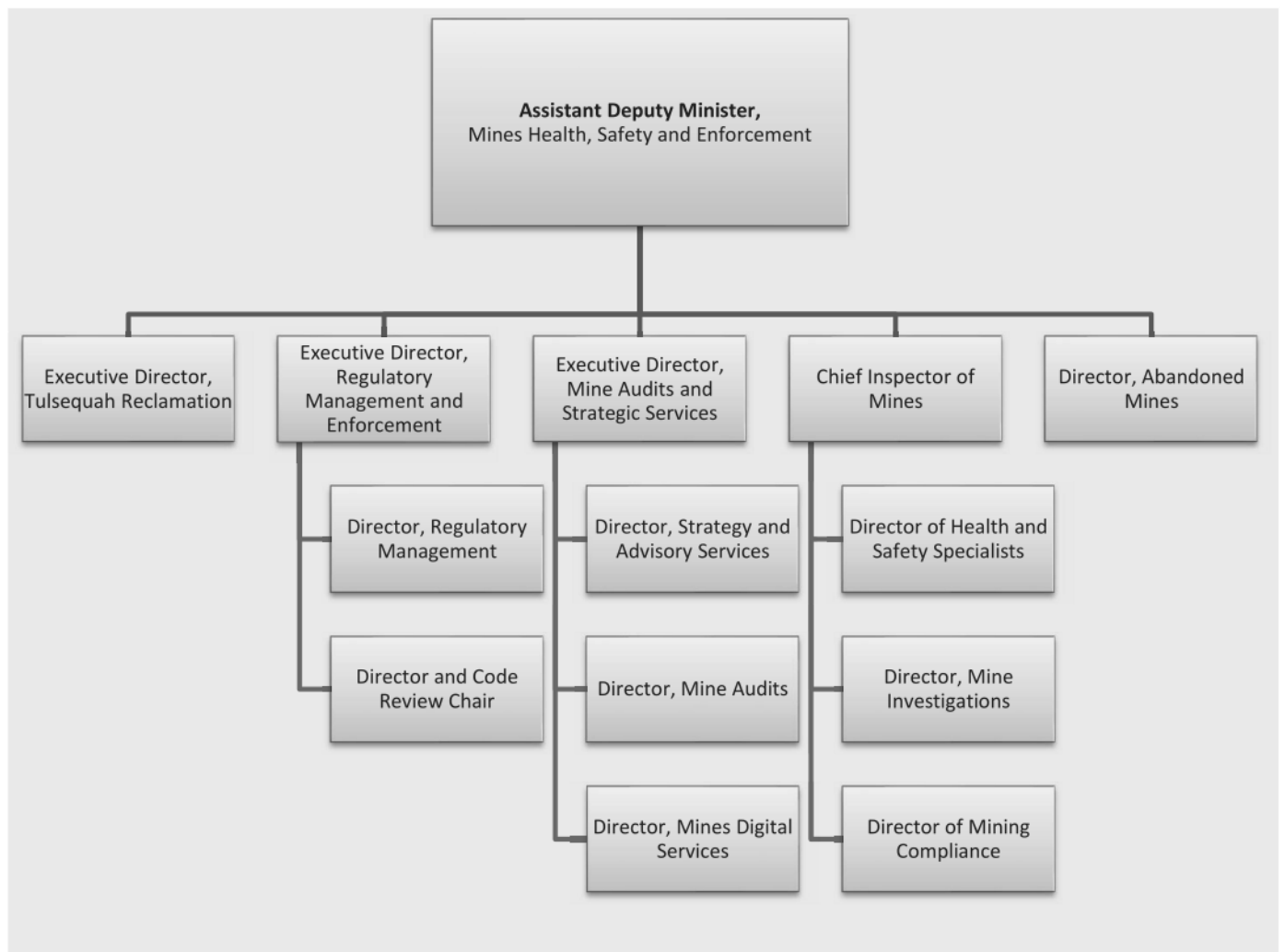
Budget: Government Financial Information

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): Govern

Related Legislation:

- [Mines Act](#)
- [Mineral Tenure Act](#)
- [Coal Act](#)
- [Mineral Land Tax Act](#)
- [Mineral Tax Act](#)

Organizational Chart:



Key Program or Project Overview

Mines Audit Unit and Audit Plan

Branch Responsible: Mine Audit and Strategic Services Branch

Key Points and Background:

- The Mine Audits Unit (MAU) was established in 2019 to conduct audits to evaluate the effectiveness of mining regulation and is an important component of the mining regulatory framework in B.C.
- In August 2020, the Mines Act (the Act) was amended to establish the statutory role of the Chief Auditor. MAU operates under the authorities and duties established for the Chief Auditor under Section 2 of the Act, which formalizes the the independence of their work.
- Under section 2.3 of the Act, the Chief Auditor must develop an annual Audit Plan setting out the audits that the MAU will prioritize in that year. The Audit Plan is published on the Audit Unit's website.
- Each audit focuses on an area of mining regulated by EMLI and generally considers current regulatory requirements, government policies and actions, and mining sector compliance and outcomes.
- After completing an audit, the Chief Auditor must provide a final report to the Minister outlining the audit's findings, conclusions, and any recommendations. This report must also be published on the MAU website.
- Pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Chief Auditor and EMLI, EMLI is committed to providing the Chief Auditor with a response to each audit and annual progress updates, both of which the Chief Auditor will post on their website. EMLI has an internal team responsible for working with and coordinating Ministry audit responses and progress updates.
- EMLI, the MAU and the First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC) abide by an MOU that sets out collaboration points in the annual planning process, audits, and ministry responses to help ensure Indigenous interests are meaningfully considered. The FNEMC's collaboration under the MOU has had a positive impact on audits and has contributed to integrating Indigenous perspectives and interests into the audit process.
- To date, the MAU has published two audit reports focused on (1) requirements for tailings storage facilities and (2) worker protection in mobile equipment working near water. Combined, these audits resulted in 10 recommendations for EMLI.
- EMLI accepted all recommendations from the two audits and developed and implemented 15 actions in response.

Key Program or Project Overview

Mines Audit Unit and Audit Plan

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division
- First Nations Energy Mining Council (FNEMC)
- Mining Association of British Columbia (MABC)
- Association of Mineral Exploration of British Columbia (AMEBC)
- British Columbia Stone Sand & Gravel Association (BCSSGA)

Status:

- The annual audit plan and its accompanying joint briefing note between the Chief Auditor and the FNEMC were finalized in August 2024. A new audit on the management of non-compliance will commence in September 2024. The plan is published on the MAU's website.
- Currently, the team has 4 active projects at varying stages:
 - Security for Exploration Activities audit is nearing completion and can likely be presented to the minister after the interregnum period.
 - Confined Spaces audit is in reporting with an expected completion in 2024.
 - Occupational Health and Safety Committees audit is entering reporting phase and is expected to be completed in 2024.
 - Major Mine Closure audit is in examination phase and the project is planning to complete in early 2025.
- The FNEMC has been engaged in the annual planning process and in all of the projects identified above. All collaboration points outlined in the MOU have been met.

Key Program or Project Overview

Health, Safety and Compliance Overview

Branch Responsible: Office of the Chief Inspector of Mines (OCIM)

Key Points and Background:

- The role of the OCIM is to regulate the mining industry in BC with respect to the protection and improvement of the health and safety of workers and the public and the protection of the environment as prescribed in the Mines Act, Mines Regulations, the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in BC and through Permit Conditions.
- The OCIM includes:
 - Specialist Services (Electrical, Mechanical, Occupational Health, Ergonomics, Emergency Preparedness and other Specialists)
 - Mining Compliance (Inspections, Standards and Certifications, Incident follow-up, Complaints, and Permit Condition Adherence)
 - Technical Compliance (TSF and Dams, Geotechnical, Geoscience, Reclamation and Environment, and Inter Agency Liaison)
 - Mines Investigations (Sect 7, Reg 1, Sect 14, Escalated Enforcement, and Liaison with Crown).
- Over 1600 inspections are conducted every year at mine sites throughout the province.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Ministries
 - Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
 - Environmental Assessment Office
 - Ministry of Forests
 - Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
 - Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship
- Divisions
 - Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division
- Crowns
 - BC Hydro
- Other Organizations
 - WorkSafe BC
 - Technical Safety BC
 - RCMP
 - Coroner Services

Key Program or Project Overview

Health, Safety and Compliance Overview

Status:

- The OCIM follows an integrated risk-based approach to regulating the industry. Inspections are planned based on various risk factors and are conducted by the Compliance Unit, Specialist Unit and Technical Compliance Unit.
- The Mines Inspection Unit (MIU) is leading, and/or providing the inspectorate assistance on twelve (12) administrative investigation files, eight (8) discrimination files and five (5) regulatory offence files.
- OCIM is leading a working group to evaluate the concept of 'restorative justice' as a tool to encourage regulatory compliance. The working group includes members from across the Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement Division.
- Outside agency assistance is being provided to the Yukon Government after a recent event in their jurisdiction and to the Mount Polley Integrate Investigation Task Force as needed.

Key Program or Project Overview

Standing Code Review

Branch Responsible: Regulatory Management and Enforcement Branch (RMEB)

Key Points and Background:

- The Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia provides the foundation for the regulation of the mining industry establishing requirements for industry that are verified through routine inspections, and other compliance and enforcement activities by the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI).
- The Code is subject to ongoing review to enhance worker safety and the protection of the public and environment and to ensure that it stays current in relation to changing standards, federal regulations, and technologies.
- To review the Code, the Minister appoints members of the Code Review Committee (Committee) under section 34 of the Mines Act.
- The Committee consists of 12 members with an equal number of representatives from Indigenous Nations, industry and labour unions.
- The Chief Inspector of Mines or their delegate chairs the Committee.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Other divisions within EMLI
- Industry: MABC, AME, BCSSGA
- Labour: USW, UNIFOR
- Indigenous Nations: FNEMC, Upper Similkameen Indian Band, Citw Nlaka'pamux Assembly, Tahltan Nation.

Status:

- In 2022 the Committee created the UN Declaration sub-committee to ensure the revisions of the Code are aligned with the UNDRIP/DRIPA.
- It is the Minister's decision to bring any recommended amendments to the Code to Cabinet for consideration.
- The most recent revisions were published in April 2024, and the next version of the Code is expected to be released by December 2025.
- Recent Code revisions include enhancements to the regulation of tailings storage facilities, worker safety near water, and worker safety near moving machinery.

Key Program or Project Overview

Accompanied Inspection Program

Branch Responsible: Regulatory Management and Enforcement Branch

Key Points and Background:

- Engagement with First Nations in the oversight of mining is critical to advancing the Province's commitments under the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, and Articles 5, 18, 25, 29 and 32 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- The AIP is intended to:
 - build and strengthen relationships with First Nations in their respective traditional territories where mining occurs;
 - increase First Nations' participation in and understanding of EMLI's compliance verification framework;
 - ensure that the interests and values of First Nations are considered and incorporated into compliance activities;
 - provide opportunities for First Nations to participate in compliance verification activities related to permit conditions;
 - enhance EMLI inspectors' understanding of First Nation interests, values and perspectives related to compliance; and,
 - build a trust-based relationship by providing a transparent approach for compliance-related engagement with both Indigenous communities and Industry.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Both Mining Divisions (RMCD, MHSE)
- Industry Associations: MABC, AME, BCSSGA
- First Nations Collaborative (policy/program development, through IFP funding):
 - Nisga'a Lisims Government
 - T̓silhqot'in National Government
 - Upper Similkameen Indian Band
 - Tahltan Central Government
 - Lake Babine Nation
 - Haisla Nation
 - McLeod Lake Indian Band
- Other Ministries: ENV/EAO mining compliance, WLRS Guardian Program

Status:

- The Accompanied Inspection Program was established by policy in 2020, with

Date Updated: August 21, 2024

Page 1 of 2

Key Program or Project Overview

Accompanied Inspection Program

supportive amendment to the Mines Act in 2021.

- Since that time, we have worked internally to increase inspector experience and capacity to support this work, and externally with First Nations to build a better understanding of the mining industry and BC's regulatory framework.
- Currently, we are re-visiting our policies, procedures, guidance, and training in collaboration with First Nations in order to incorporate learnings and experiences conducting Accompanied Inspections to date. We are also actively seeking to include First Nations perspectives in the program framework, and to develop the program collaboratively and in alignment with DRIPA. This collaborative work is currently being supported by IFP funding shared between seven First Nations.
- MHSE's overall Indigenous Relations program (of which the Accompanied Inspections Program is one element) supports both Mines Divisions in matters of compliance / regulatory oversight, and seeks to establish and grow relationships with Nations throughout the lifecycle of mines.

Key Program or Project Overview

Bankrupt/Insolvent Mines – Hedley Tailings, Quinsam Coal and Tulsequah Chief

Branch Responsible: Abandoned Mines Branch/Tulsequah Reclamation Team

Key Points and Background:

Quinsam Coal Mine

- The Quinsam Mine is a thermal coal mine near Campbell River that operated from 1986 to 2016.
- In 2019, Quinsam Coal Corporation declared bankruptcy and the mine was abandoned by the trustee.
- The abandonment resulted in significant risks, including potential explosions from accumulated gas and the discharge of metal-leaching acidic mine water into the surrounding environment.
- In 2019, EMLI petitioned the BC Supreme Court to appoint a Receiver over all of Quinsam's assets, to attempt a sale of the mine and to manage the associated risks. The receivership application was approved.
- The receiver was unable to find a buyer for the mine, and EMLI has funded the receivership since 2019 at a cost of approximately Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial

Business Information

Hedley Tailings

- From 1904 to 1955, mine waste (tailings) from the historic Nickel Plate mill was deposited in several locations surrounding Hedley. These tailings are highly contaminated and present a risk to the environment.
- Between 1988 and 1997, Candorado Mines Inc. operated a heap leach facility under a Mines Act permit, aiming to extract residual gold from the tailings and reclaim the affected areas.
- In 1999, Candorado filed for bankruptcy and the site was never fully reclaimed. The abandoned heap leach facility, ponds containing toxic water, and the tailings piles continue to impact the environment, causing significant concern to the community of Hedley and to the Upper and Lower Similkameen Indian Bands.

Business Information

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Date Updated: October 11, 2024

Page 1 of 3

Key Program or Project Overview

Bankrupt/Insolvent Mines – Hedley Tailings, Quinsam Coal and Tulsequah Chief

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Tulsequah Chief Mine

- The Tulsequah Chief Mine is a closed polymetallic mine located south of Atlin on the Tulsequah River, within the traditional territory of the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN). The Tulsequah River flows into the Taku River, which drains into southeast Alaska.
- The Mine, operated by Consolidated Mining and Smelting (later known as Teck Cominco) from 1951 to 1957, left behind a legacy of acid rock drainage (ARD) that persists today and remains a significant concern for the TRTFN community and downstream stakeholders in Alaska.
- In 2010, Chieftain Metals acquired the property, with all authorizations transferred to its name. In 2016, Chieftain was placed in court-appointed receivership, leading to the resignation of its directors. Despite a lengthy sales process, no buyer was found. In 2022, the Ontario court ended the receivership, which cleared the way for the Ontario Corporate Registry to dissolve Chieftain Metals, but this did not occur.

Business Information

- Recently, Alaskan State legislators and Tribes have intensified their calls for BC to address the ARD concerns at the site, citing the International Joint Commission under the Boundary Waters Treaty between Canada and the United States

Business Information

Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People

Date Updated: October 11, 2024

Page 2 of 3

Key Program or Project Overview

Bankrupt/Insolvent Mines – Hedley Tailings, Quinsam Coal and Tulsequah Chief

Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People

- A final reclamation plan is expected by late 2025 or early 2026. Provincial SDMs have committed to a streamlined regulatory review and approval process to ensure the timely implementation of the Tulsequah Chief Mine reclamation.
- EMLI and ENV continue to engage US, Canada, BC and Alaskan partners regularly to ensure transparency and understanding regarding the progress being made at this site. This includes meetings, email updates and an improved web-content strategy,

Partners & Stakeholders:

Quinsam Coal Mine

- ENV, CSNR, FIN, MAG
- Wei Wai Kum First Nation/Wei Wai Kai First Nation

Hedley Tailings

- The community of Hedley
- Upper Similkameen Indian Band/Lower Similkameen Indian Band

Tulsequah Chief Mine

- Taku River Tlingit First Nation
- State of Alaska
- ENV, MAG

**NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: RESPONSIBLE MINING AND COMPETITIVENESS
DIVISION**

ADM Responsible: Tania Demchuk, Assistant Deputy Minister

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

The Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division (RMCD) supports the competitiveness of B.C.'s mining sector, including strategic and economic policy currently focused on delivery of the B.C. Critical Minerals Strategy actions to drive improvement of the B.C. mining sector's global investment position. The RMCD is focused on enhancing B.C.'s status as a globally competitive mining jurisdiction by undertaking projects that promote innovation, streamline permitting processes, improve certainty for investors and build the B.C. brand.

RMCD delivers on its mandate through:

- implementing the provincial mineral and coal tenuring systems that set the foundation of B.C.'s mining sector, which will undergo transformative change as part of ongoing Mineral Tenure Act modernization
- delivering public geoscience by the BC Geological Survey through world-class research and information systems to support the industry, First Nations and policy makers in their decision making.
- leading authorizations, Indigenous relations and policy for the mining cycle from mineral tenuring, early mineral exploration, development and operation of major and regional mines, through to mine closure and reclamation.
- provides fair, effective and transparent authorizations, regulatory certainty and Indigenous reconciliation and partnerships, while driving innovation and upholding leading environmental standards across the mining sector at all stages of the mining cycle (mineral tenuring, exploration, development and operation of regional and major mines through to mine reclamation and closure).

Maintaining and enhancing a robust and competitive regulatory framework is essential to maintain a strong mineral exploration and mining sector that creates opportunity for reconciliation and lasting economic benefits for British Columbians. The RMCD is one of two mining divisions in the Ministry, which reflects an intention separation of competitiveness and permitting functions away from compliance, enforcement and auditing for continuous improvement that are led by the Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement Division (MHSE).

As a foundational natural resource industry with active mines, proposed mines, and exploration and aggregate sites located throughout B.C., the mining sector represents an annual production value of over \$12 billion, 27% of B.C.'s total exports, contributes over \$400 million in mineral taxes annually to the Province, directly employs 10,000 workers and provides \$52 million in annual revenue sharing with First Nations.¹

Budget: Government Financial Information

Government Financial Information

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs): Government Financial Information

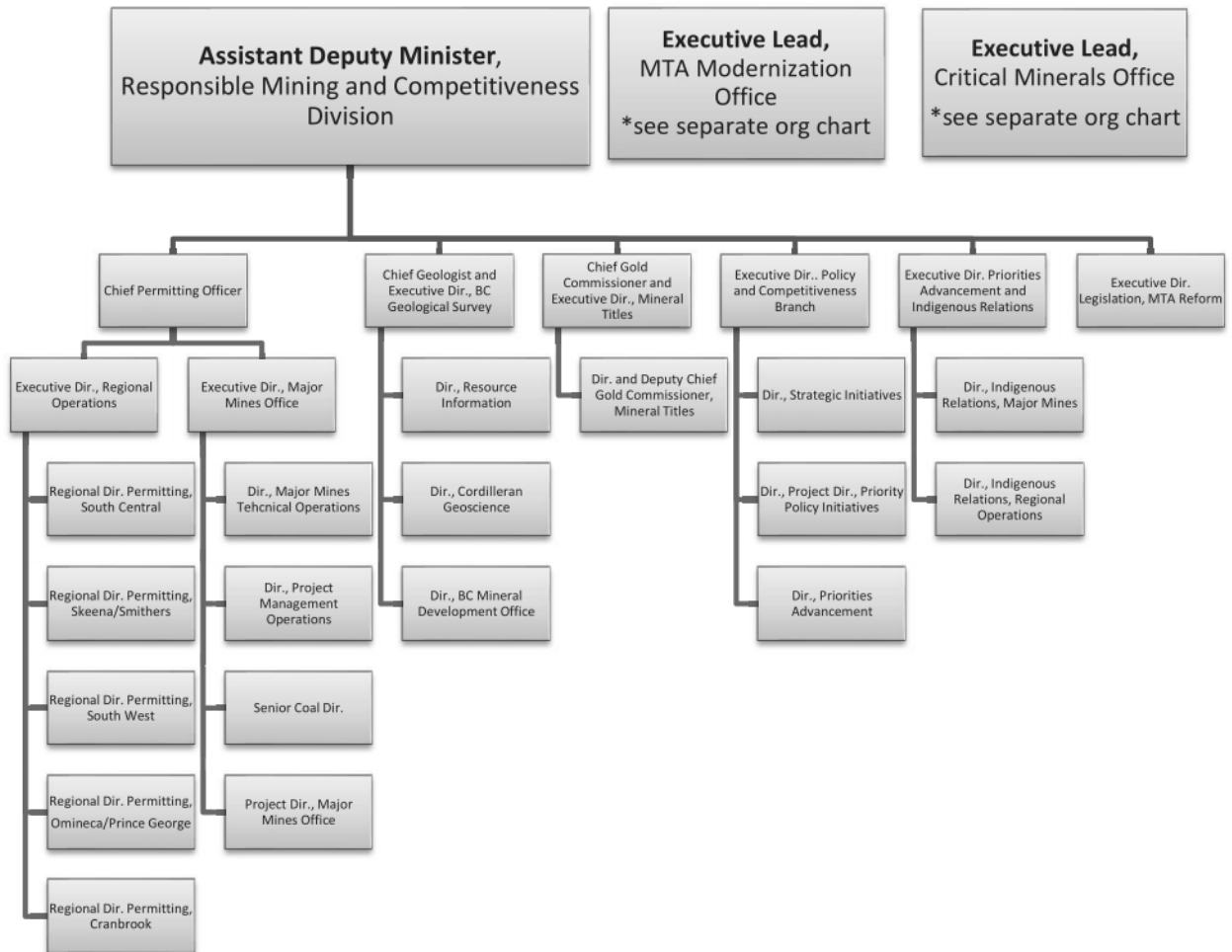
Government Financial Information

¹ All statistics are 5-year averages.

Related Legislation:

- [Mines Act](#)
- [Mineral Tenure Act](#)
- [Coal Act](#)
- [Mineral Land Tax Act](#)
- [Mineral Tax Act](#)

Organizational Chart:



NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: MINERAL TENURE ACT MODERNIZATION OFFICE

Executive Lead Responsible: Julia Iwama

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

Reforming the *Mineral Tenure Act* (MTA) is a longstanding priority shared by First Nations, First Nations organizations, and the province and is being undertaken pursuant to section 3 of the Declaration Act. The *Mineral Tenure Act* (MTA) and associated regulations (such as Mineral Tenure Act Regulation (MTAR)) establish BC's mineral tenure framework - which is the system for registering and maintaining mineral titles (i.e., claims and leases).

In the March 2022 Declaration Act Action Plan, the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) committed to working in consultation and cooperation with First Nations and First Nations Organizations to reform the MTA in alignment with the UN Declaration. In addition to UN Declaration alignment, MTA reform is also expected to consider important issues such as:

- adding clarity and predictability in mineral tenure decision-making and regulatory processes;
- changing economics and realities including responsible mining and global interest in critical minerals; and
- new approaches to land use planning, environmental stewardship and management within the context of mineral exploration.

In the September 2023 *Gitxaala vs British Columbia* (Chief Gold Commissioner) ruling, the BC Supreme Court found that the province had breached its duty consult prior to registering mineral claims and provided the ministry 18 months to establish a consultation program for registering mineral claims.

The Mineral Tenure Act Modernization Office (MTAMO) was established in 2023 in response to these requirements (alignment with the UN Declaration and addressing the court ruling) and is led by an Executive Lead associated with the Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division (RMCD) and reports to the Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation.

The MTAMO will deliver on two requirements concurrently:

- (1) The development and implementation of a Mineral Claims Consultation Framework (MCCF) in response to the September 2023 BC Supreme Court decision by March 26, 2025;
- (2) The legislative reform of the *Mineral Tenure Act*, targeted for Fall 2026.

The MTAMO has three core business areas to deliver on these requirements:

- (1) Policy and Legislation team leading foundational policy and legislation development;
- (2) Engagement and Communications team leading the consultation and cooperation with First Nations for legislative reform in alignment with the Interim Approach for the Implementation of Section 3 of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, and engagement with industry and other interested groups;
- (3) Systems Transformation team leading change management processes and the transformation of the Mineral Titles Online system (which is foundational to the operation of mineral, coal and placer title registration and management for the province).

The reform of the MTA is the first step in the broader commitment to mining regulatory reform (e.g., reforming related statutes such as the Mines Act) and will have consequential impacts to several other major land-based

statutes and associated regulations. The MTAMO is envisioned to scope this work and associated resourcing requirements as the reform of the MTA is underway.

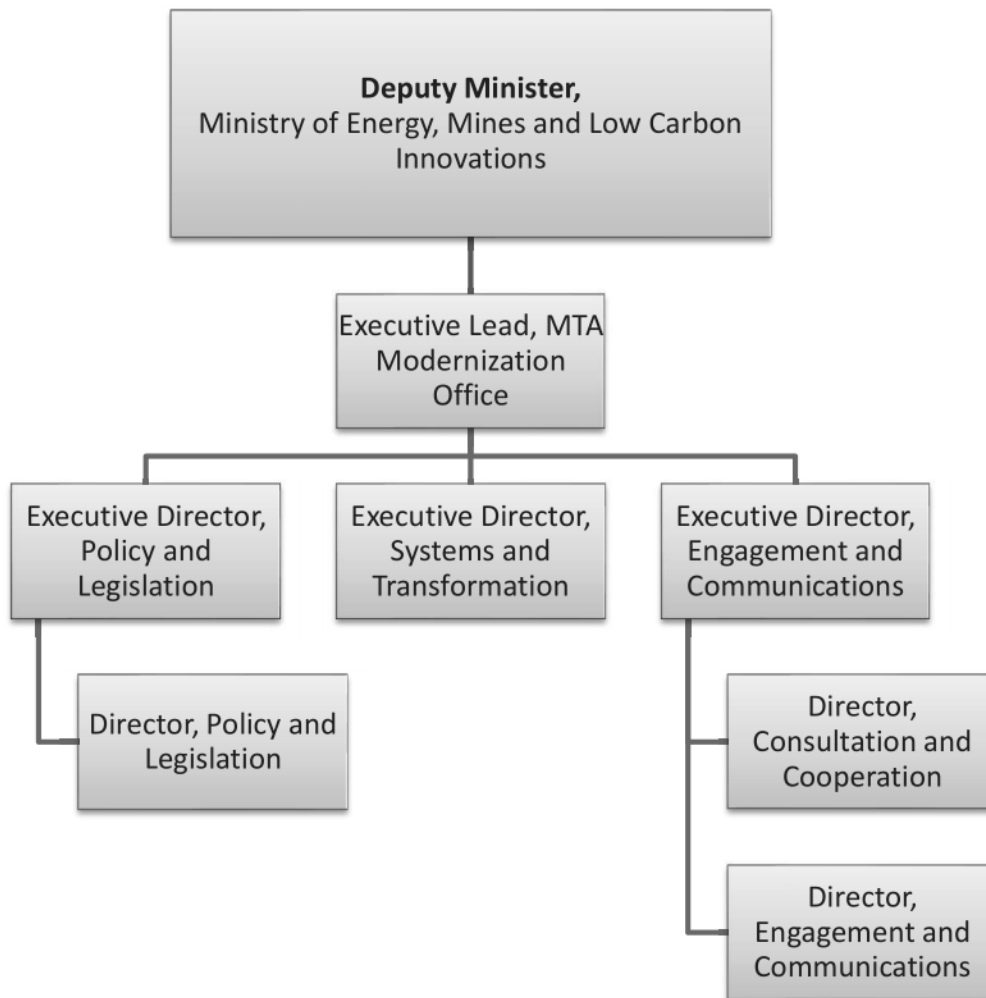
Budget: Government

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 2

Related Legislation:

- [Mines Act](#)
- [Mineral Tenure Act](#)
- [Mineral Land Tax Act](#)
- [Mineral Tax Act](#)
- [Mining Right of Way Act](#)

Organizational Chart:



NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: MAJOR MINES OFFICE

ADM Responsible: Tania Demchuk, Assistant Deputy Minister

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

The Major Mines Office (MMO) is a part of the Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division (RMCD). MMO is comprised of a project management team that develops and manages multi-agency major mine authorization processes and specialized technical experts who conduct detailed application reviews and make recommendations to the statutory decision maker (SDM) for permit decisions. This group also provides specialized support for on the ground compliance and enforcement related to permit requirements.

The MMO leads the authorization processes for major mines, including mineral (metal) and coal mines. Major mine authorizations are technically complex, involve multiple agencies, significant engagement with First Nations and community input. Substantial portions of the permitting timelines are outside the control of MMO and depend on the proponent's planning and qualified professional staff. MMO responsibilities include a range of authorizations, from minor to major amendments of permits, departures from approval, Five Year Reclamation and Closure Plan reviews, administrative amendments, complex regional projects, and input on environmental assessment applications.

Internally, MMO is also responsible for the development, implementation, and updating of permitting related operational policies, procedures, and regulatory tools. Staff also hold a limited set of compliance and enforcement responsibilities on mine sites. Staff are focused on continuous improvement of authorization processes to ensure clarity and consistency for industry, which results in reduced review timelines.

Capacity of MMO has increased over the past four years through the creation of a dedicated compliance and enforcement team and an indigenous relations branch. In 2023, the Indigenous Relations Branch was created and has assumed responsibility for leading consultation efforts for all stages of mining projects. The ministry also continues to rely on consultation resources in other ministries in some regions of the province.

Since 2022, the MMO has successfully reduced permitting for existing mines with creation of the Departure from Approval process, which provides the ability for proponents to self-assess proposed changes to their mine plans and identify those changes that do not require permit amendment applications. To date, this process has determined approximately 150 projects to be 'non-substantial' that would previously have required an authorization process.

The MMO remains committed to efficient permitting processes and has reduced the average timelines for Major Amendment authorizations from 259 to 163 business days between 2019 and 2023.

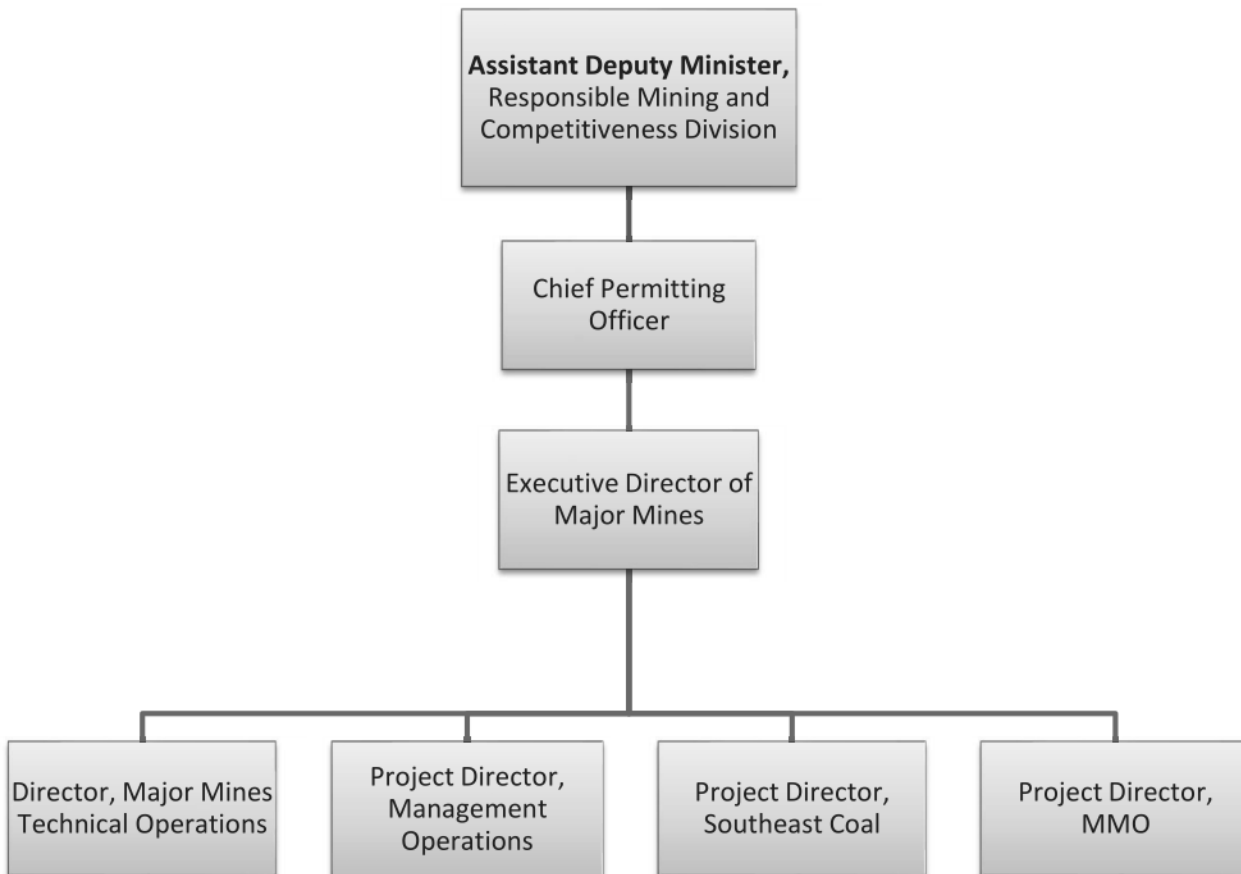
Budget: Government

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 6

Related Legislation:

- [Mines Act](#)
- [Mineral Tenure Act](#)
- [Coal Act](#)
- [Mineral Land Tax Act](#)
- [Mineral Tax Act](#)

Organizational Chart:



NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: CRITICAL MINERALS OFFICE

Executive Lead Responsible: Tejindar (TJ) Parhar

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

In January 2024, the Province announced phase 1 of its Critical Minerals Strategy (the Strategy) that will advance critical minerals projects in BC to support the global and domestic clean energy transition. Phase 1 of the Strategy introduced 11 actions that included standing up a Critical Minerals Office (CMO). The CMO works in collaboration within the Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division (RMCD) as an associated office, and across EMLI, other Ministries and partner agencies. The Executive Lead reports to the Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation regarding delivery of CMO projects. The establishment of this office has been welcomed by industry.

The initial scope of the CMO is focused on leading external-facing engagement with industry to project development [pre-permitting, expansion], the Federal government for critical minerals programs and funding access, and capital markets for investment attraction.

This will include:

- Developing a framework to prioritize and manage critical mineral projects
- Providing a concierge service for proponents of critical minerals projects into coordinated B.C. processes;
- Efficient critical minerals project advancement with a focus on addressing pre-permitting project development barriers;
- Promoting First Nations collaboration and partnership, setting expectations and advocating;
- Providing outward facing engagement and promotion of B.C.'s mineral exploration and mining sector in coordination with industry and First Nations partners

The CMO is projected to evolve over time as informed by development of phase 2 of the B.C. Critical Minerals Strategy, industry needs and future resourcing opportunities. The Ministry has not received funding for the CMO. Current scope is reflective of available resourcing from RMCD and by critical minerals related priorities identified through internal project planning and industry conversations.

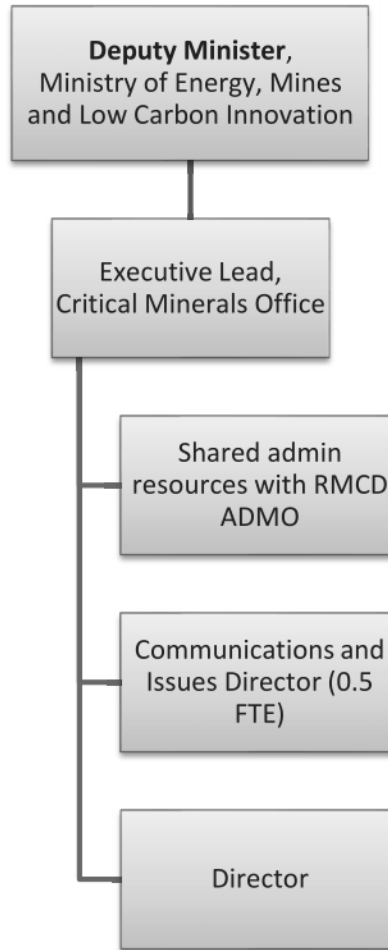
Budget: Government

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs): c

Related Legislation:

- [Mines Act](#)
- [Mineral Tenure Act](#)

Organizational Chart:



Key Program or Project Overview

British Columbia Geological Survey

Branch Responsible: British Columbia Geological Survey

Key Points and Background:

- The British Columbia Geological Survey (BCGS) is the provincial government agency that links the mineral industry, government, and British Columbians to the Province's geology and mineral resources by developing, disseminating, and acting as the custodian for its geoscience information.
- BCGS carries out geological field surveys and publishes the resulting maps, data, and reports, and provides geoscience expertise to support Government's objectives of responsible resource development and job creation.
- BCGS monitors industry activity, connects investment to BC's mineral resources and provides sector intelligence through the Mineral Development Office in Vancouver.
- Public geoscience is an economic stimulant, and the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) notes that every \$1 provided to public geoscience is expected to bring \$5 of private sector investment.
- According to a recent Geological Survey of Canada evaluation on public geoscience funding, the return is greater than \$7 and audits of several Australian public geoscience programs have realized more than \$20 return.
- Prompted by the global demand for critical minerals for a low-carbon future, BCGS is responsible for modelling critical mineral potential to identify opportunities and support decision-making processes, including land-use discussions with implications for conservation and to economic reconciliation opportunities for First Nations rights holders.
- Through the BCGS Engagement Geologist, trusted and unbiased geological information is being provided to foster relationship with Indigenous Peoples to support all rights holders in making evidence-based decisions for their lands and communities.
- BCGS has staff geoscientists that provide in-house expertise, whereas Geoscience BC is an independent society, external to government, with an administrative staff that redistributes government grants to proponents.
- EMLI has taken the position to ensure the BCGS, is resourced to deliver a mandate of public geoscience and to define BC's critical minerals potential. Geoscience BC receives project-specific support from EMLI when priorities are aligned.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- BCGS provides technical expertise, geoscience services, and support to:

Date Updated: August 20, 2024

Page 1 of 2

Key Program or Project Overview

British Columbia Geological Survey

- Mining divisions and BC Ministries
- Exploration and mining industry and investment sector
- Indigenous groups, organizations, and communities
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and the Geological Survey of Canada
- Other Provinces and Territories and National and State geological survey organizations

Status:

- Budget 2023 provided \$6 million over 3 years to develop a BC Critical Minerals Strategy which includes increased access to geoscience to facilitate exploration and assess potential for critical minerals opportunities. BCGS is delivering foundational geoscience that is informing strategy development.
- Specifically, over 4 years starting in FY22/23, a total of 7 FTEs and \$3.90M are allocated to BCGS (CleanBC FY22/23 - FY24/25: 3 FTEs and \$1.85M; and Critical Mineral Strategy FY23/24 - FY25/26: 4 FTEs and \$2.05M)
- In 2023, BCGS completed an inventory of BC's critical minerals, the BC Critical Mineral Atlas, and delivered reports on critical minerals geoscience. Ongoing work is assessing critical minerals in BC's major mineral deposits and enhancing exploration for under-explored opportunities.
- Focusing on mineral potential modelling for major critical mineral systems, BCGS has revitalized its mineral potential mapping efforts, taking advantage of 30 years of new data, knowledge, and advances in modelling technology.
- By leveraging Provincial funding, BCGS was successful in acquiring \$2M (operating and 1 FTE) for four projects over three years from NRCan's Critical Mineral Geoscience Data program.
- In partnership with Memorial University and the University of British Columbia, Provincial funds also leveraged \$2.2M through National Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Alliance Grants intended to grow Canadian expertise and provide support for research activities that will advance Canadian knowledge, models, processes, tools and technologies that support data-driven decisions along domestic critical mineral value chains.
- BCGS is a Canadian leader in delivering digital geoscience and has undertaken a major initiative to modernize legacy information systems and update geoscience and mineral resource databases to improve efficiency, reduce costs in data processing, enabling artificial intelligence and machine learning, and delivering web services.

Key Program or Project Overview

Overview of Regional Operations

Branch Responsible: Regional Operations Branch

Key Points and Background:

- Mineral and coal exploration, placer and jade, aggregate and rock quarry *Mines Act* permits are managed by regional offices located in Victoria, Kamloops, Cranbrook, Prince George, and Smithers.
- The Ministry continues to work with industry associations to reduce permitting backlogs and review timelines for Notice of Work (NoW) applications.
- First Nations have repeatedly identified placer mining as being inconsistent with their environmental values, and as providing limited economic return.
- The Ministry has taken a province-wide approach to implementing placer mining reform, including proposed revenue model reform. This work is advancing slowly.
- The cumulative impacts of jade mining within Tahltan and Kaska territory has caused harmful effects to sensitive alpine environments and created significant regulatory challenges for permitting, compliance and enforcement.
- These issues threaten to impact First Nations' support for other significant hard-rock mining for precious and critical minerals.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Association for Mineral Exploration
- Mining Association of BC
- BC Placer Mining Association
- Stone, Sand and Gravel Association

Status:

Permitting Timelines:

- The Ministry is working to address industry concerns related to permitting timelines for NoW applications, with specific focus on mineral exploration.
- The Ministry has made improvements to application forms and has provided guidance to assist operators in submitting high quality applications.
- The Ministry introduced a permit intake window (batching) process in the fall of 2022, for mineral exploration files. This new process provides a scheduled approach to permit reviews and provides operators with more predictability with respect to when their applications will be reviewed.
- The Ministry has also filled 13 new positions to support regional permitting.
- New resources and process improvements have had a positive impact on reducing

Date Updated: August 20, 2024

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Key Program or Project Overview

Overview of Regional Operations

backlogs (currently down to 100 permit applications, a reduction of 52 percent) and are starting to improve permitting timelines for new submissions.

Placer Mining:

- First Nations have repeatedly identified placer mining as being inconsistent with their environmental values, and as providing limited economic return.
- Regulating the placer sector is resource intensive and provides minimal revenue to the Province or benefits to impacted communities.
- The Ministry has taken a province-wide approach to implementing sector reform, including proposed revenue model reform. The proposed changes are intended to improve the standards of placer operators, increase provincial revenues, and provide opportunities to explore revenue sharing with First Nations.
- In 2022, the Ministry released a Placer Revenue Intentions Paper, outlining proposed changes to placer permitting fees, inspection fees, and the mineral tax rate. Work on the placer revenue reform was put on pause due to a shift in priorities, however, the Ministry is positioned to restart this work.

Jade Mining:

- The cumulative impacts of jade mining within Tahltan and Kaska territory have caused harmful effects to sensitive alpine environments and created significant regulatory challenges for permitting, compliance and enforcement.
- The jade sector also generates minimal economic revenue for the Province with regulatory costs (approximately \$400,000 a year) far exceeding mineral tax revenue (approximately \$11,000 a year).
- First Nations, specifically Tahltan Central Government and Kaska Dena, have raised concerns regarding these environmental impacts and have called for the end of jade mining in their territories.
- On May 10, 2024, the Province established an *Environment and Land Use Act* order, prohibiting jade mining on new tenures in Northwest BC, while existing tenure holders can continue jade mining for a period of five years (jade transition period).
- At the end of the jade transition period, all jade mining will be prohibited in Tahltan and Kaska territory, except for reclamation activities.
- Allowing existing tenure holders to operate over the five-year period is intended to address the Province's outstanding reclamation liability (\$6.5M - \$9M). The Ministry plans to take a phased approach to increase bonding, with the intention of achieving 100 percent coverage by April 1, 2030.

Key Program or Project Overview

Priorities Advancement and Indigenous Relations Branch

Branch Responsible: Priorities Advancement Indigenous Relations

Key Points and Background:

- The Priorities Advancement Indigenous Relations (PAIR) Branch supports the Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division (RMCD) with Indigenous engagement and the negotiation of agreements pertaining to regional and major mine applications.
- PAIR provides advice and support on Indigenous Relations for key priorities including Declaration Act Action Plan commitments, alignment with Clean BC Plan, Mineral Tenure Act Modernization and British Columbia's (BC) Critical Mineral Strategy.
- Engagement and consultation from PAIR's subject matter experts supports durable decision-making in consideration of the diverse rights and interests of Indigenous peoples across the Province by ensuring that Indigenous interests are recognized as legally meaningful and critical for the sustainability of mining and exploration activities.
- Previous models, such as receiving consultation support from other agencies, resulted in inconsistent consultation processes and uneven outcomes across the province. PAIR's model, with dedicated EMLI Indigenous Relations staff, supports a consistent approach and relationships to Indigenous engagement across BC's Regions and throughout the mining life cycle.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Key EMLI Partners of the PAIR Branch include:
 - Major Mines Office, RMCD
 - Regional Operations Branch, RMCD
 - Mineral Titles Branch, RMCD
- PAIR undertakes extensive collaborative work with MIRR, EAO, ENV and WLRS. This work consists of the negotiation of shared decision-making agreements, consent agreements, collaboration agreements, transboundary policy development, and support for staff developing relationships with First Nations in relation to other aspects of RMCD work.
- PAIR fosters collaborative partnerships and relationships with First Nations across the Province with at goal of creating a foundation of trust and transparency.
- PAIR works closely with mining proponents on projects ranging from early exploration to major mine development and post mine closure management.

Date Updated: August 22, 2024

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Key Program or Project Overview

Priorities Advancement and Indigenous Relations Branch

The aim of this work is to support proponents in navigating the complexities of reconciliation in the mining context.

Status:

- In the two years since PAIR's inception, there is strong recognition both internally and externally of the relationships that have been developed and sustained with both First Nations and the mining industry.
- PAIR has been able to successfully negotiate mining-specific government to government agreements with multiple First Nations to support exploration and major mine permitting.
- Collaboration and coordination between RMCD Indigenous Relations staff, and between teams in EMLI and other agencies, has been streamlined since PAIR was established as the team responsible for RMCD's mining engagement.

Key Program or Project Overview

Reclamation Securities

Branch Responsible: Major Mines Office

Key Points and Background:

Reclamation Requirements:

- Since 1969, mining companies have been required by law to reclaim all lands disturbed by mining.
- What is considered effective reclamation of mine sites is constantly evolving in lockstep with the science, professional best practices, and the continued integration of Indigenous knowledge and concerns. EMLI is continuously updating its reclamation requirements to respond to the evolution of the profession.
- To be returned to the Province, a site must complete all required reclamation, monitor and demonstrate that the reclamation has been successful and sustainable, demonstrate that it is not a source of impact to the receiving environment water quality, and ensure that all facilities (pits, tailings storage facilities, waste rock dumps, etc.) are stable to the point they no longer require monitoring and maintenance.
- The Province requires that mining companies continue to manage their mine sites until all these liabilities have been removed. Until this occurs, they are required to provide updated liability estimates to ensure that the province holds sufficient security.
- Companies are required to provide a reclamation liability cost estimate (RLCE) for all activities required to complete reclamation of their sites as well as maintain compliance with all regulatory approvals. RLCEs must be provided a minimum of every five years and with any permit amendment applications.

Security Policy:

- The Major Mine Reclamation Security Policy was released in April 2022.
- The policy was developed through substantial internal work to review securities practices and significant consultation with Indigenous groups, environmental organizations, and industry.
- The Major Mine Reclamation Security Policy strikes a balance by:
 - Supporting the continued competitiveness of BC's mining industry by promoting economically sustainable mines and promoting on-going exploration.
 - Enhancing the environmental sustainability of BCs mining industry by encouraging progressive reclamation and proactive reductions in water treatment and other liabilities.

Date Updated: August 15, 2024

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Key Program or Project Overview

Reclamation Securities

- EMLI and ENV have a long-standing Memorandum of Understanding, whereby, EMLI assesses and secures the liabilities associated with discharge permits, issued under the *Environmental Management Act*, for major mines.
- In 2024, EMLI and ENV developed and released the Major Mine RLCE Guidance, which provides a detailed set of information requirements for the development of RLCEs.

Securities:

- Since 2016, The total estimated liability for major mines has increased by \$2.8 billion, while the total bonded amount has increased by \$3.9 billion.
- Since 2016, through the diligent and focused efforts of the Major Mines Office (MMO), the differential (estimated liability vs. total bonded amount) for major mines has been reduced from 60 percent to under 10 percent.
- As of Aug 2024, the estimated liability for major mines is \$5.44B and the total bond amount held by EMLI is \$4.97B.
- As of March 2024, EMLI holds \$108M in securities for all exploration, sand & gravel, quarries, and placer mines.

First Nations:

- RLCE reviews are included in amendment application review processes, which include consultation and participation by First Nations.
- EMLI must strike a balance between being open and transparent with First Nations with submitted RLCEs and their review and protecting the confidentiality of financial information shared by mining companies.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Regional Operations Branch, EMLI
- Mining Operations Branch, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Status:

Advice/Recommendations

Key Program or Project Overview

BC-Alaska Transboundary Relations

Branch Responsible: Policy and Competitiveness

Key Points and Background:

- The Province and Alaska signed the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation Between the State of Alaska and the Province of British Columbia (MOU) in 2015. The MOU is being implemented through a Statement of Cooperation (SoC) on the Protection of Transboundary Waters.
- The SoC implementation is overseen by a Bilateral Working Group (BWG) of BC Deputy Ministers and Assistant Deputy Ministers from the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV), as well as the recent addition of the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) and Alaska department commissioners of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Fish and Game (DF&G) and Natural Resources (DNR).
- The BWG meets on a bi-annual basis to discuss transboundary matters and developments on projects proximate to the Alaskan border.
- The State of Alaska has reiterated on a number of occasions that their 'top transboundary concern' is the timely remediation of the Tulsequah Chief Mine.
- To address these concerns, EMLI staff provide regular updates to their State of Alaska counterparts, typically during bi-annual BWG meetings and monthly staff-level meetings.
- Separately from the province-state relationship, the Southeast Alaska Indigenous Transboundary Commission (SEITC) is a consortium of Alaska-based Tribes, who have asserted s.35 rights assertions, and have requested Participating Indigenous Nation status through BC's Environmental Assessment (EA) process for a number of mining projects located in the transboundary region. Since 2021, SEITC has been publicly vocal about their concerns regarding mining in Northwest British Columbia (BC), specifically the potential impacts mining may have on transboundary watersheds and the ineffectiveness of BC's regulatory regime to address these impacts.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Key EMLI partners of the BC-Alaska transboundary work include the following:
 - ENV and EAO,
 - State of Alaska's DEC, DNR, and DF&G.
- Primary stakeholders and interest groups include the following:
 - Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat (Premier's Office),
 - The United States (US) Environmental Protection Agency,
 - Teck Resources,

Date Updated: September 5, 2024

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Key Program or Project Overview

BC-Alaska Transboundary Relations

- A variety of US and Alaska Legislators,
- Global Affairs Canada,
- Rivers Without Borders,
- Salmon Beyond Borders,
- Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN), and
- SEITC [see Appendix A – Corporate Transition Note from the Environmental Assessment Office].

Status:

- To fulfill previous commitments made at BWG meetings, a delegation of staff from the ministries of EMLI, ENV and EAO travelled to Juneau, Alaska in June 2024, for the bi-annual BWG meeting.
- In addition to the BWG meeting, BC co-hosted a transboundary open house with the Commissioners and staff from DNR, DEC, and DF&G. The transboundary open house provided an opportunity for representatives from both governments to engage in dialogue with those interested in mining within the BC/Alaska transboundary region.
- Representatives from Teck Resources and TRTFN attended the open house, as well as the pre-brief with BC and Alaska staff that was arranged in advance of the open house for the purposes of providing a Tulsequah-specific update.
- The trip was successful in that it helped strengthen relations with the State of Alaska, demonstrated BC's commitment to the long-standing partnership with Alaska, and provided an opportunity to share factual information regarding BC's mining regulatory regime.
- There is a potential for negative sentiments to be expressed toward transboundary mining by US and Alaska legislators in the lead-up to the upcoming US election.
- BC staff will continue to meet with Alaska counterparts monthly to share updates on transboundary mining projects, work together to advance shared priorities, prepare for the bi-annual BWG meetings, and address transboundary-related items as they arise.
- The next BWG meeting is anticipated for January 2025, to coincide with the Association for Mineral Exploration's annual Round-up Convention in Vancouver.

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Intergovernmental Communications ; Legal Information

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Advice/Recommendations ; Intergovernmental Communications ; Legal Information

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Cabinet Confidences ; Intergovernmental Communications ; Legal Information

**NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: STRATEGIC AND INDIGENOUS PARTNERSHIPS
DIVISION**

ADM Responsible: Viva Wolf, A/Assistant Deputy Minister

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

Strategic and Indigenous Partnerships Division (Division) was formed in late 2017^{Intergovernmental}
Intergovernmental Communications

^{Intergovernmental} The Division works to advance Indigenous reconciliation and key sector negotiations, supports cross-ministry policy, intergovernmental relations, ministry planning and strategic initiatives.

The Division leads strategic initiatives and supports EMLI's mandate to advance reconciliation with First Nations including the negotiation of Reconciliation and other agreements and engaging with Indigenous groups on policy matters. The Division also works with other EMLI divisions; the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation on key reconciliation related matters and initiatives including economic recovery matters such as the Mining Reform Project, and modernized land use planning. This work is consistent with Government's objectives under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) and ensures that First Nations actively participate in natural resource development in their Traditional Territories.

The Division manages the Relationship Protocol, an agreement that formalizes how EMLI, the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) and First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC) work together to support DRIPA implementation. The Minister and FNLC set priorities, while the FNEMC and EMLI staff develop and execute an annual work plan based on these priorities.

To ensure that EMLI takes a strategic approach to the delivery of its programs and services, the Division provides corporate oversight and coordination of policies, leads intergovernmental relations, coordinates Cabinet and legislative initiatives, designs and delivers employee communications and engagement, develops and coordinates service plans and annual reports, and manages corporate reporting processes. Examples of this work include: support of the Estimates Debate, Energy and Mines Ministers' Conference, Council of the Federation, and Federal/Provincial forums, the Union of BC Municipalities Convention and the First Nations Leadership Gathering.

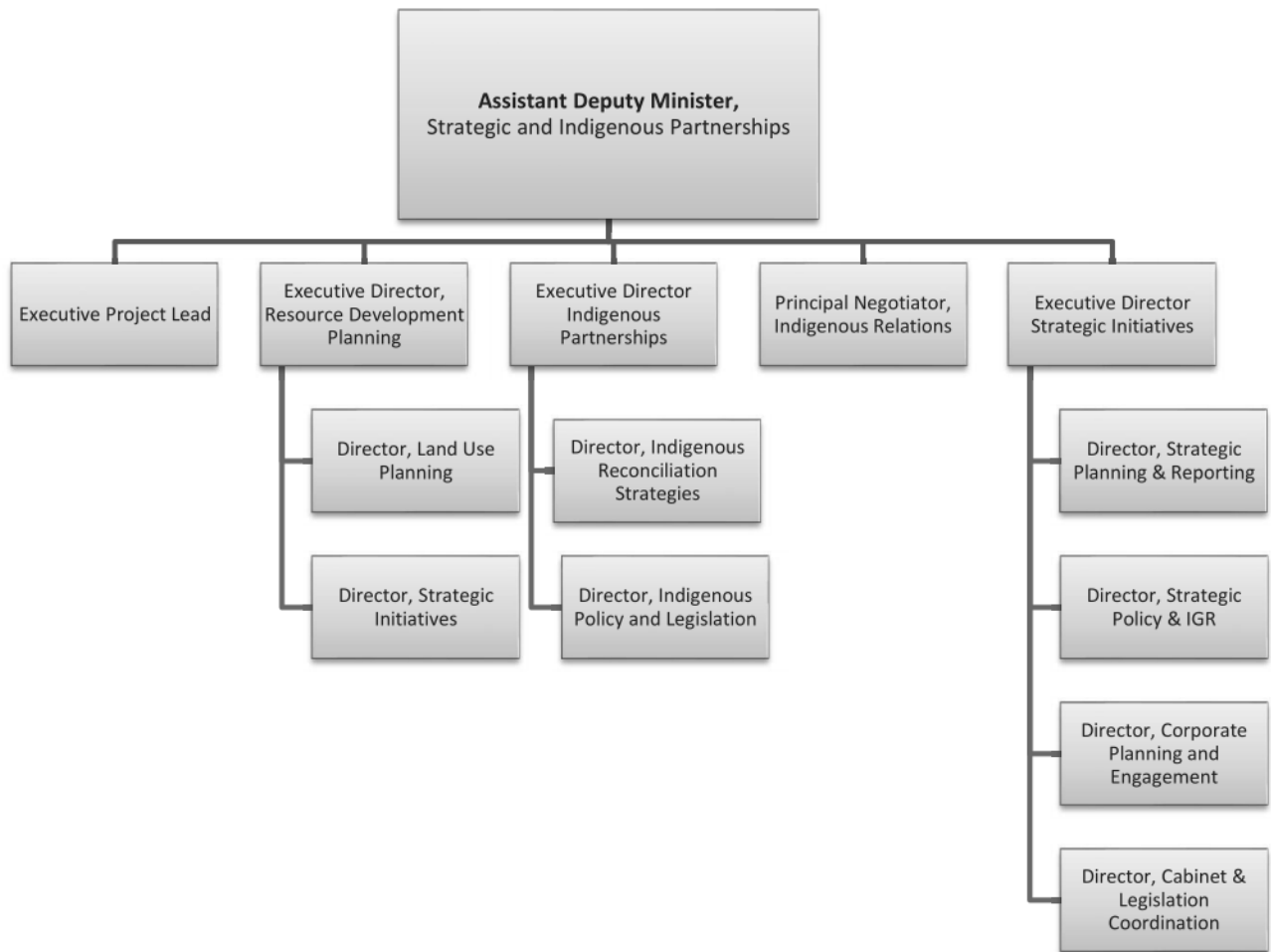
Budget: Government

Full Time Equivalent (FTEs): Gover

Related Legislation:

- Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act
- Budget Transparency and Accountability Act (Corporate Reporting)

Organizational Chart:



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Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommendations ; Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommendations ; Intergovernmental Communications

Key Program or Project Overview

Tahltan Central Government

Intergovernmental Communications

- These comments have emphasized the priority on establishing a 'joint narrative', by co-created messaging and workplans or where explicit concurrence is sought and received prior to approval.

Intergovernmental Communications

Date Updated: August 20, 2024

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Key Program or Project Overview

Reconciliation Plan Review

Branch Responsible: Indigenous Partnerships Branch

Key Points and Background:

- The Indigenous Partnerships Branch (IPB) of the Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovations (EMLI) created the Reconciliation Plan (the Plan) in 2021 in response to the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA).
- The Plan is intended to help support EMLI staff in advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in accordance with DRIPA's mandate by introducing concepts, tools, examples, and learning opportunities.
- The Plan is housed on EMLI's intranet site and is comprised of four pillars:
 1. Supporting Declaration Act Implementation;
 2. Reconciliation Engagement Toolkit;
 3. Profiling Current Initiatives; and,
 4. Reconciliation Learning Plan.
- In early 2024, IPB engaged EMLI staff on its Reconciliation Engagement Toolkit (Pillar 2 of the Plan). Three themes emerged from the feedback:
 1. Accessibility – difficulty locating it on the Intranet site and finding key pieces of information within the documents;
 2. Educational Needs – requests for webinars and training sessions to outline Indigenous engagement processes and timelines; and,
 3. Toolkit Improvements – need for templates and guidance on emerging topics such as the distinctions-based approach.
- The Plan has not been updated since it was created in 2021. To address the feedback received and modernize the Plan's content and design, IPB is reviewing and revising it with these recommendations:
 1. Establish an EMLI First Nations Engagement Community of Practice (COP), facilitated by IPB;
 2. Develop additional templates and guidance for EMLI staff; and
 3. Revise the Reconciliation Plan and intranet site to be more user friendly and reflect current government approach to Indigenous engagement.
- The purpose of the COP is to collaborate across divisions on matters of Indigenous engagement and consultation through sharing learnings, key updates, and fostering collective thinking. The target audience is EMLI staff involved in Indigenous engagement and consultation and the format will be monthly one-hour sessions with presentations from guest speakers, discussions, and updates.

Key Program or Project Overview

Reconciliation Plan Review

Partners & Stakeholders:

- EMLI Divisions and staff
- Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
- Declaration Act Secretariat
- First Nations Energy and Mining Council
- First Nations Leadership Council

Status:

- Plan review to be completed in the fall of 2024.
- EMLI First Nations Engagement COP to be established in the fall of 2024.
- Additional templates and guidance materials will be drafted by the end of 2024, followed by updates to the Plan, including updates to the IPB intranet site, in early 2025.

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Government Financial Information ; Intergovernmental Communications

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Government Financial Information ; Intergovernmental Communications

Initiative	Amount (\$M)	Approved by IFP	Removed IFP	IFP Denied	Approved by CleanBC	Comments
Government Financial Information						
FNEMC: ICEO:Indigenous Engagement support commitments in CleanBC and Dec.Action Plan						
FNEMC - Clean Energy Engagement Drop-In						
FNEMC, FNHIC, AHMA CleanBC new Indigenous energyefficiency and retrofit rebate offer - Indigenous Advisory Council						
Gitga'at, Haida Heiltsuk, Kwikwasut'inuwn Haxwa'mis ect. - Remote CommunityEnergy Strategy RECS Working Group Admin						
Haida- Haida Gwaii Diesel reduction strategy						
Heiltsuk- Heiltsuk renewable diesel pilot project						
Nuxalk- Remote community electricity data sharing project						
RTA: First Nations Community Utilities Framework						
RTA: Actions Related to Powering ou Future BC's Energ Stratey						
RTA: Critical Mineral Strategy						
RTA: New Afton SSN Authorization Process						
RTA: Highland Valley Copper SSN Authorization Process						
RTA: Taltan NWRII						
RTA: Tahltan Red Criss Management Agreement						
RTA: Xatsull FN G2G						
RTA: High BarFN Mining Engagement						
RTA: Ulkatcho FN Blackwater Mine Capoose MOU						
Total						

Key Program or Project Overview

Regional Energy and Resource Tables

Branch Responsible: Strategic Initiatives Branch

Key Points and Background:

- The British Columbia Regional Energy and Resource Table (BC Regional Table) was launched in June 2022.
- Through this Regional Table, the Government of Canada, the Province of B.C., and the First Nations Leadership Council have agreed to accelerate progress in six strategic areas of opportunity to enhance B.C.'s competitive advantage in the clean energy and natural resources sectors: critical minerals; electrification; clean fuels/hydrogen; the forest bioeconomy; carbon management technology and systems; and regulatory efficiency.

Partners & Stakeholders:

- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
- First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC)
- First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC)
- First Nations Forestry Council (FNFC)
- Clean Energy Canada, Hydrogen BC
- BC Federation of Labour
- Association for Mineral Exploration, Mining Association of BC, Business Council of BC, Council of Forest Industries

Status:

- Canada, B.C. and First Nations partners have made progress on 18 of 43 actions identified in the June 2023 Regional Table Framework for Collaboration on the Path to Net Zero.
- From June 2023 to May 2024, the BC Regional Table hosted eight engagement sessions with representatives from over 40 organizations. The sessions highlighted the importance of training workers; improving regulatory efficiency; and supporting Indigenous reconciliation, including equity ownership in projects.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommendations ; Intergovernmental Communications

**NAME OF CORE BUSINESS / PROGRAM AREA: CORPORATE SERVICES FOR THE
NATURAL RESOURCES MINISTRIES**

ADM Responsible: Sonja Martins (FOR and WLRS) and Ranbir Parmar (AF, EMLI, ENV and MIRR)

Overview of Core Business / Program Area:

Corporate Services for the Natural Resource Ministries (CSNR) is a corporate services organization providing services for approximately 8,000 employees in the natural resource ministries in over 100 locations throughout the province.

We serve the following ministries:

- Agriculture and Food (AF)
- Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI)
- Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV)
- Forests (FOR)
- Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR)
- Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS)

CSNR Services:

Facilities, Fleet & Corporate Security

- Facilities – workspace accommodation, project and issue management for all six natural resource ministries
- Fleet and Assets – planning, analysis, reporting, maintenance and procurement for AF, ENV, FOR and WLRS
- Risk and Corporate Security – planning, response and recovery assistance for business disruptions and physical security issues for all six natural resource ministries

Financial Services

- Budgeting, forecasting and financial analysis/reporting and support; expenditure, revenue management and recovery processing and reporting
- Financial planning and reporting
- Financial operations
- Accounting
- Financial systems and data entry
- Financial policy, compliance and procurement

Human Resources

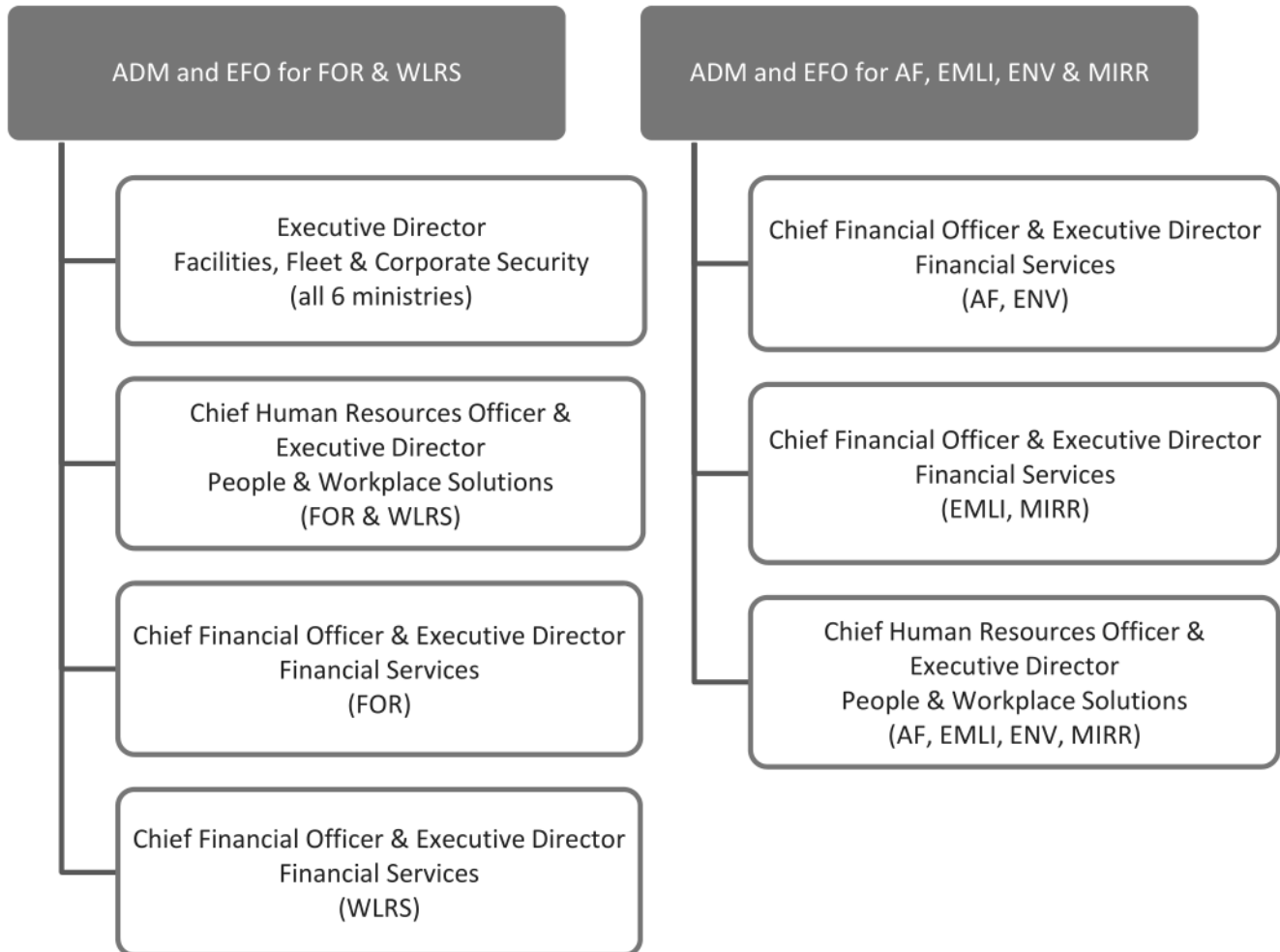
- Recruitment resources
- Hiring support services, including permitting recruitment team, onboarding and classification and exclusion support services
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion programs and resources
- Learning and development / Leadership development
- Corporate initiatives including Work Environment Survey reports and resources
- Health and workplace wellness
- Workforce planning including analytics

Budget: Government

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs): 365 (as of July 2024)

Related Legislation: N/A

Organizational Chart:



MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION
 KEY STAKEHOLDERS & INDIGENOUS PARTNERS
 (order of contact, alphabetical)

****Note – There are events in December 2024 and January 2025 that will provide an opportunity to connect with select stakeholders and Indigenous partners – for example, First Nations Clean Energy Summit (December 2-3), Natural Resources Forum (January 14-16), AME Roundup (January 20-24) and the First Nations Leaders’ Gathering (January 21-22). For more information on these events, please see “Key Event Overviews, in Section 4”.**

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
30 days				
Alberta’s Ministry of Affordability and Utilities	30 days		Intergovernmental Communications	
Alberta’s Ministry of Energy and Minerals	30 days			
Artemis Gold Inc.	30 days		Advice/Recommendations	

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Association for Mineral Exploration		Advice/Recommendations		
Cedar LNG		Intergovernmental Communications		
Elk Valley Resources (Glencore plc)		Advice/Recommendations		
Energy and Natural Resources Canada				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
FortisBC	Advice/Recommendations			
FPX Nickel Corp.				
Haisla Nation	Intergovernmental Communications			
International Union of Operating Engineers	Advice/Recommendations			

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Ktunaxa Nation Council (4 First Nations)			Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications	
LNG Canada			Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences	
Mining Association of BC				
Mining Association of Canada (MAC)				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Newmont Corp			Advice/Recommendations	
Nisga'a Nation			Intergovernmental Communications	
Osisko Development Corp.			Advice/Recommendations	
Skeena Resources Ltd.				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Stk'emlupsemc Te Secwepemc Nation	Intergovernmental Communications			
Tahltan Central Government				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Teck Resources Ltd.	Advice/Recommendations			
UNIFOR				
United Steelworkers				
Woodfibre LNG				
yaqan nu?kiy (Lower Kootenay Band)	Intergovernmental Communications			

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Yaqit ʔaknuqliʔit (Tobacco Plains Indian Band)			Intergovernmental Communications	
60 days				
Arc Resources			Advice/Recommendations	
BC Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association				
Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Carrier Sekani First Nations (7 First Nations supported by the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council)			Intergovernmental Communications	
Canadian Gas Association (CGA)			Advice/Recommendations	
Canadian Natural Resources Limited				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly			Intergovernmental Communications	
Columbia River Treaty Local Governments Committee (LGC)				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
ConocoPhillips Canada		Advice/Recommendations		
Conuma Coal Resources				
Dolly Varden Silver Corp				
Environment and Climate Change Canada		Intergovernmental Communications		
EPAC (The Explorers and Producers Association of Canada)		Advice/Recommendations		
First Nation Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC)		Intergovernmental Communications		

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
First Nations Major Projects Coalition (FNMPC)		Intergovernmental Communications		
Gitanyow				
Hydrogen Technology & Energy Corporation (HTEC)		Advice/Recommendations		
K'uul Power		Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications		
Murphy Oil		Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences		

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
New Car Dealers Association of BC (NCDA)		Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences		
Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council (4 First Nations)		Intergovernmental Communications		
NorthIsle Copper and Gold Inc		Advice/Recommendations		
NorthWest Copper				
Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA)		Intergovernmental Communications		

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Ovintiv	Advice/Recommendations			
Pacific Canbriam				
Pacific Northern Gas (PNG)				
Petronas				
Prophet River First Nations	Intergovernmental Communications			
Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (SNTC)				
Shell Canada	Advice/Recommendations			

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Taku River Tlingit First Nation			Intergovernmental Communications	
Tourmaline			Advice/Recommendations	
Trans Mountain Canada				
Williams Lake First Nation			Intergovernmental Communications	

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Xat'sùll First Nation			Intergovernmental Communications	
Yukon's Department of Energy, Mines and Resources				
90 days				
Advanced Biofuels Canada			Advice/Recommendations	
BC Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy (CICE)				
BC Placer Mining Association				
Binche Whut'en Nation			Intergovernmental Communications	

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Blueberry River First Nations			Intergovernmental Communications	
Canadian Council for Sustainable Aviation Fuels			Advice/Recommendations	
Canadian Fuels Association (CFA) formerly the Canadian Petroleum Products Institute				
Centerra Gold Inc.				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Clean Energy BC (formerly Independent Power Producers Association of British Columbia)			Advice/Recommendations	
Clean Energy Canada				
Coastal GasLink				
Community Energy Association				
Defense Metals Corp.				
Doig River First Nation			Intergovernmental Communications	
Efficiency Canada			Advice/Recommendations	

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Ehattesaht Chinehkint First Nation			Intergovernmental Communications	
Enbridge			Advice/Recommendations	
First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC)			Intergovernmental Communications	
Fort Nelson First Nation				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Gitxaala Nation			Intergovernmental Communications	
Halfway River First Nation				
Hudbay Minerals Inc.			Advice/Recommendations	
Imperial Metals Corp.				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Kaska Nation (KN)			Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications	
New Economy Canada			Advice/Recommendations	
New Relationship Trust (NRT)				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Pembina Institute	Advice/Recommendations			
Saulteau First Nation (SFN)	Intergovernmental Communications			
Seabridge Gold Inc.	Advice/Recommendations			
Taseko Mines Ltd.				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
TC Energy	Advice/Recommendations			
Tsay Keh Dene Nation	Intergovernmental Communications			

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Wei Wai Kum First Nation & We Wai Kai First Nation			Intergovernmental Communications	
West Moberly First Nations (WMFN)				
Yekooche				
Association of Major Power Consumers of BC				Advice/Recommendations

>90 days or other

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
BC Aviation Council	Advice/Recommendations			
BC Chamber of Commerce				
BC Sustainable Energy Association				
Canadian Hydrogen Association (CHA) & HydrogenBC				
Canadian Hydrogen Fuel Cell Association				
Canadian Green Building Council (CaGBC)				
Coastal First Nations – Great Bear Initiative				

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
Columbia Basin Regional Advisory Committee (CBRAC)	Advice/Recommendations			
David Suzuki Foundation				
Ecotrust Canada				
First Nations LNG Alliance (FNLNGA)	Intergovernmental Communications			
Fraser Basin Council	Advice/Recommendations			

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
McLeod Lake Indian Band (MLIB)			Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications	
Ksi Lisims LNG			Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications	
Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions			Advice/Recommendations	
Railway Association of Canada				

Stó:lō Nation (11 First Nations) Intergovernmental Communications

Name	Timeframe (30/60/90 days)	Proposed Participant(s) Contact info provided for scheduling, separate scheduling contact noted in italics (if applicable)	Description	Key Issues / Interests
			Intergovernmental Communications	
Tla'amin Nation				
Transport Canada				

Key Events Occurring Within 90-Days

First Nations Energy Summit 2024

Event Information:

- Hosted by Clean Energy BC, this summit will occur on December 2-3, 2024 at the Hyatt Regency in Vancouver.
- The theme is “Powering Economic Reconciliation through First Nations-led and Partnered Clean Energy Projects”.
- Topics include:
 - Indigenous Opportunities in BC’s Hydrogen Economy –
 - Accelerating Transmission, Interconnection and First Nations Equity Ownership
 - Emerging Clean Energy Leaders
 - Project Partnering
 - Energy Storage Opportunities in BC
 - Financing the Energy Transition: Carbon Markets and Access to Capital
 - Post-BC Election Analysis (featuring Vaughn Palmer)
- Website: [First Nations Energy Summit 2024 - Clean Energy BC](#)

Expectations for Ministry/Minister: Ministry staff from the Electricity and Utility Regulation Division are attending. This summit consists of networking, learning and collaboration opportunities.

To be confirmed, it is anticipated that a keynote opportunity could be provided for the Minister such as the Monday keynote luncheon (Dec 2) or the Tuesday luncheon (12:30-13:30) or afternoon plenary (14:30-15:30).

Background:

- The conference MCs are Kwatuuma Cole Sayers and Chastity Davis and will set the tone for the event.
- Cole is the Executive Director of Clean Energy BC and is the Clean Energy Lead with the First Nation Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC) that is a partner for EMLI’s Indigenous Clean Energy Opportunities (ICEO).
- Chastity Davis works as a consultant and focuses on building knowledge and capacities for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals, organizations, communities, and governments.

- The BC Government is a primary sponsor of the conference (through Clean Energy Business Fund).
- Other major sponsors are the New Relationship Trust, IBEW, FortisBC, BC Hydro.
- Clean Energy BC has hosted several First Nations Energy Summits – in November 2021, January 2023 and November 2023.
- Indigenous participants can register for the conference at no cost.

Stakeholders/FN/Industry interests:

- Clean Energy BC promotes the growth of BC's clean energy industry by advocating for environmentally responsible and viable power generation, transmission, and management resources that serve the public by providing cost effective electricity. CEBC has several First Nation members and works in partnership with Indigenous organizations and First Nations to support the advancement of their priorities in the clean energy industry.
- FNEMC has a mandate from the First Nations Leadership Council of B.C. to support and facilitate responsible energy and mining resource development that protects the environment and ensures the cultural, economic and political well-being of First Nations in British Columbia.

Key Events Occurring Within 90-Days

BC Natural Resources Forum

Event Information:

- 22nd Annual BC Natural Resources Forum.
- January 14 -16, 2025, Prince George, BC.
- Website: [BC Natural Resources Forum | Home](#)
- Theme: Natural Resources – Purpose, Partnerships, and Prosperity.
- The 2025 Forum will explore the opportunities created by purpose-driven initiatives, the power of meaningful partnerships both locally and internationally, and the pathways to shared prosperity in British Columbia’s natural resource sectors.
- The Forum covers a range of natural resource sectors including mining, oil and gas, clean energy and forestry.

Expectations for Ministry/Minister:

- Provincial government leadership is expected to attend the Forum.
- It is customary and expected that Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers will attend and be available for one-on-one meetings with industry representatives and Indigenous leaders.

Background:

- The Forum is Northern BC’s largest and best-attended resource conference, attracting over 1,400 delegates.
- The Forum annually hosts a large contingent of federal, provincial, local government, and Indigenous leaders, as well as representatives from resource developers and service and supply sectors.
- The 2024 Forum focused on long-term visions for BC’s export economy and was attended by Premier Eby, who provided opening remarks for the conference.

Stakeholders/FN/Industry interests:

- A focus on NR Forum is typically on government’s support for natural resources sectors and enabling new projects.
- Areas of interest are anticipated to include permitting timelines and resources, Mineral Tenure Act modernization, critical minerals growth, infrastructure and electrification, fiscal policy and sector competitiveness and land use policy.

Key Events Occurring Within 90-Days

Association of Mineral Exploration (AME) Roundup 2025

Event Information:

- Association of Mineral Exploration (AME) Roundup (Roundup) is an annual mineral exploration conference held in downtown Vancouver each January.
- 5000 delegates attend including geoscientists, prospectors, financiers, investors, suppliers, governments, and Indigenous groups.
- <https://roundup.amebc.ca/>
- Topics: Exploration trends and future, government-industry forum, policy and politics, commodities and financial markets, advances in geoscience and geoscience innovation, environmental, social and governance, critical, base, and precious metal, Indigenous participation in exploration and mining.
- Roundup is the largest mineral sector conference in Western North America. Delegates tend to have a BC and western Canada/United States focus, but there is a strong pan-Canadian and global presence.

Expectations for Ministry/Minister:

- Typically, the Premier and/or the Minister provide the keynote address at the opening ceremony or a similar high-profile speaking opportunity, which has, in the past, included announcements such as the Critical Minerals Strategy.
- Minister typically attends and often meets with specific groups. Other Ministries/Ministers with mining interests (eg. WLRS, IRR) often attend meetings and speaking opportunities.
- In addition to the conference, Minister attends the invite-only Chair's welcome dinner and is provided an opportunity to make remarks.

Background:

- EMLI has been a key participant in Roundup since inception in 1982. EMLI hosts a corporate booth on the tradeshow floor where BC Geological Survey releases geoscience publications, reports, and maps and EMLI staff interact with the delegation.
- EMLI has a strong staff presence at Roundup and the Ministry uses the event to meet with stakeholders and rightsholders.
- Roundup has strong First Nations participation including dedicated First Nations programming.

Stakeholders/FN/Industry interests:

- Roundup is an opportunity for communicating with this sector and launching exploration and mining initiatives, there are meeting and networking opportunities, and the presence of a BC Senior Official signals government support for exploration sector.
- Key topics of interest are anticipated to include permitting timelines, Mineral Tenure Act modernization, fiscal policy and sector competitiveness, land use policy, and infrastructure development.

Key Events Occurring Within 90-Days

First Nations Leadership Gathering (FNLG)

Event Information:

- The ninth BC Cabinet and First Nations Leaders' Gathering (FNLG) will take place on January 21-22, 2025, at the Vancouver Convention Centre West.
- A networking reception, typically hosted by the Business Council of BC and the BC Federation of Labour, is scheduled for the evening of January 20, 2025, to kick off the gathering.
- The FNLG is a partnership between the Premier's Office and the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC), with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) co-leading the planning alongside FNLC staff.
- All BC First Nations and Tribal Councils are invited to attend, along with cross-boundary Nations asserting section 35 rights in BC.
- The FNLG's format includes plenary dialogue, discussion sessions, and one-on-one meetings, enabling leadership to address community-level issues important to First Nations and build partnerships on broader provincial priorities.
- One-on-one meetings between Cabinet Ministers, senior government officials, and First Nations leaders are a key component of the FNLG.
- These meetings take place in 15-minute increments over the FNLG's two days.

Expectations for Ministry/Minister:

- The success of the FNLG depends on the active participation of provincial leadership.
- It is customary and expected that all Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers be available for one-on-one meetings with First Nations and attend plenary and discussion sessions throughout the two days of the FNLG.

Background:

- The first FNLG took place in 2014 following the historic Supreme Court decision in the Tsilhqot'in title case.
- In 2023, more than 870 one-on-one meetings took place and more than 1000 requests for meetings were received from First Nations.
- The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) hosted 54 meetings and supported six Premier meetings.

- The November 2024 FNLG is postponed until January 2025, and will take place at the same time as the Association for Mineral Explorations Roundup Mining convention. As a result, it is anticipated that mining related concerns will be front of mind for First Nations who are in attendance.

Stakeholders/FN/Industry interests:

- Topics of interest for EMLI meetings vary from year-to-year, but last year the *Mineral Tenure Act*, law reform, BC Hydro and clean energy opportunities were of particular interest.

Key Events Occurring Within 90-Days

BloombergNEF Critical Minerals Summit

Event Information:

- A preeminent international mining summit focused on critical minerals investment and innovation to be held at the Vancouver Convention Centre West on January 29, 2025.
- This will be the first of its kind held in Canada and, if successful, will become an annual event in B.C.
- The event does not yet have a website. The BloombergNEF [summits website](#) has information on similar events.
- The invite-only, high-level event will provide the Province with an opportunity to showcase B.C. as a global mining hub.
- BloombergNEF will fund the summit (estimated at USD \$50,000).

Expectations for Ministry/Minister:

- The ministries of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) and Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation (JEDI) are supporting BloombergNEF to plan the event.
- The summit provides opportunities for the Premier, Ministers and others to speak to the Province's Critical Minerals priorities, make announcements and meet with business leaders and investors.
- There is potential to organize a Minister's reception on January 28, 2025, which would require funding from EMLI/JEDI budgets.
- The EMLI/JEDI could host a B2B presentation series with investors to promote BC companies on January 28, 2025.

Background:

BloombergNEF, part of Bloomberg LP, is a well-respected, strategic research provider covering commodity markets and the disruptive technologies driving the transition to a low-carbon economy. Since 2008, BloombergNEF has been hosting a series of annual summits in San Francisco, New York, Bali, New Delhi, Munich, London, and Shanghai where they gather government and private sector leaders in industries such as energy and technology to discuss ideas, deliver insights, generate investment and make connections to help shape a cleaner, more competitive future. BloombergNEF has expressed interest to partner with the Province to host a summit series on critical minerals in B.C. which would begin in 2025.

Stakeholders/FN/Industry interests:

- Foster international relationships and attract investment with up to 200 high profile attendees. Key B.C. stakeholders, First Nation partners and industry can be invited.
- Potential to leverage the attendee presence to organize B.C. side events or investor visits with key B.C. projects, companies and First Nations.
- The event will help B.C. meet the goals of the BC Critical Minerals Strategy, which was developed through an inclusive process involving First Nations, industry and other stakeholders.

MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUE NOTE BC HYDRO

Ministry: Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

Issue:

Advice/Recommendations

- BC Hydro has maintained cumulative rate increases below cumulative inflation over the last eight years with customers continuing to benefit from one of the lowest rates in North America.
- BC Hydro is taking steps to sustain and expand its electricity system to meet future demand.
- BC Hydro has also managed the ongoing drought conditions by leveraging its interconnections with Alberta and western U.S. states to meet its customers' demand.

Advice/Recommendations

Background:

Advice/Recommendations

- The last RRA was developed in 2021 prior to the high inflationary period and prior to the ramp up of the energy transition. Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC)

- BC Hydro's IRP is the long-term resource plan for its power system. BC Hydro forecasts customers' demand for energy under several scenarios and develops plans to meet those demands through its IRP.
 - In its 2023 Signposts Update to its 2021 IRP BC Hydro provided an accelerated electrification load scenario showing customer demand increasing by as much as 25% by 2030, and 50% by 2040 before demand side management (DSM) measures.
 - The BCUC, an independent regulator, reviews BC Hydro's IRP for acceptance. The BCUC may accept the IRP in whole or in part, considers many issues laid out in the Utilities Commission Act (UCA) and BC's Energy Objectives in the Clean Energy Act (CEA), and applies public interest tests.
 - If accepted, the BCUC considers the plan when BC Hydro applies for certain approvals in

future, such as electricity purchases or system investments.

- In March 2024, the BCUC accepted BC Hydro’s 2021 IRP, including the need for 3,000 gigawatt hours of new clean or renewable electricity as early as fiscal 2029 and renewal of electricity purchase agreements with existing suppliers up to 700 GWh. The former provided the foundation for the launch of the Call for Power in April 2024.

Drought and Imports

- Over the last year and a half, B.C. has experienced a prolonged period of drought resulting in lower-than-normal reservoir levels across most of BC Hydro’s system and increased net energy imports.
 - Under the *Clean Energy Act*, BC Hydro is required to plan to be self-sufficient (acquire sufficient electricity from within B.C.) to meet demand under average water conditions. When BC Hydro is in a deficit, Powerex can import power to help BC Hydro meet its customers’ needs.
 - While Powerex’s imports to meet BC Hydro’s needs in 2024 have been higher than average years, Advice/Recommendations
Advice/Recommendations Over the last 15 years, British Columbia was a net importer in seven and a net exporter in the other eight.
 - In January 2024, a cold snap resulted in record demand for electricity in the Pacific Northwest and Western Canada. Despite being in a record drought, BC Hydro’s management of its system allowed for the export of electricity to Alberta at a critical period when there was an urgent appeal for Albertans to conserve electricity.

New Generation Resources

- BC Hydro is bringing its Site C project online, with first power expected in December 2024 and full capacity in 2025. When complete, Site C will increase BC Hydro’s current electricity supply by 8 per cent and provide enough electricity each year to power 450,000 homes.
- BC Hydro issued a Call for Power in April 2024 to acquire around 3,000 gigawatt hours of electricity from independent power producers (IPPs). The call closed on September 16, 2024, and BC Hydro evaluations of bids are now underway. Electricity purchase agreements with successful bids are targeted to be complete by the end of 2024. This call will add 5% to BC Hydro’s annual generating capacity, providing enough power for 270,000 homes per year.
 - The Call for Power is a competitive process, in which proponents submit bids. BC Hydro will award electricity purchase agreements (EPAs) to the lowest-cost proposals that also meet the other eligibility requirements of the Call, such as minimum project size and First Nations ownership.
 - Design was informed by extensive engagement, including with 99 First Nations, and projects are required to have at least a 25% ownership stake by First Nations, with additional credits awarded for projects with higher ownership than the minimum.
 - The call has a “no lobbying” provision preventing proponents from discussing their projects – outside of permitting and environmental assessment activities – with the Province and is overseen by a fairness monitor.
- This Call for Power will be the first in a series of calls. BC Hydro expects the next call to be issued in about two years, depending on need as informed by the IRP.
 - Each call may have different volumes, product requirements, locational considerations, etc., depending on BC Hydro’s projected needs at that point in time.

Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

Advice/Recommendations

- BC Hydro's allowable net income of \$712 million is recovered through rates. For the last several years it has been set by government direction at a fixed \$712 million. Advice/Recommendations
- Advice/Recommendations

Drought and Imports

Advice/Recommendations

- Powerex generally acquires energy during lower-price periods, allowing BC Hydro to store additional water behind its dams that is later used to meet domestic needs when prices are high.

Advice/Recommendations

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Advice/Recommendations

MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUE NOTE NEW ELECTRICITY ALLOCATION FRAMEWORK

Ministry: Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

Issue:

- Currently, as a regulated utility, BC Hydro cannot refuse to provide electricity to any customer. For large industrial customers, the allocation of interconnection costs and rates are regulated. BC Hydro has an interconnection queue that is based on first come, first served.
- The recent growth in new industrial customer interconnection requests, both in number and magnitude, requires a broader consideration of how B.C.'s clean electricity resources are managed.

Advice/Recommendations

Background:

Increasing Potential Demand from Industrial Customers

- Government Financial of proposed industrial projects requiring between 150 megawatts (MW) and 1,000 MW of capacity have recently entered BC Hydro's interconnection queue or inquired about connecting.
 - This includes customers in critical mineral mining, oil and gas, hydrogen, data centre (e.g., cryptocurrency and artificial intelligence (AI)), and LNG sectors.

Advice/Recommendations

Current Tariff for Large Industrial Customers

- Industrial customers are subject to Tariff Supplement 6 (TS6) which governs how transmission system and generation resource upgrade costs to meet new load requests are allocated.
 - TS6 includes a 150 megavolt-amperes (MVA) (~150 MW) threshold above which new industrial customers are required to pay the full incremental cost of any new bulk transmission and/or generation required to provide them with service; customers under this threshold are not required to pay any of these costs.
 - The determination and assignment of generation costs may be challenged by customers.
- While this provision is intended to help insulate existing ratepayers from large rate increases should industrial customers over ~150 MW connect to the BC Hydro system, the costs can be prohibitively expensive for these customers as compared to customers below the threshold.
 - Since TS6's introduction in 1991, no projects above 150 MW have proceeded in B.C., in part due to the cost-prohibitive tariff and in part due to market conditions.

Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

BC Hydro Task Force Recommendations and B.C.'s Clean Energy Strategy Commitments

Advice/Recommendations

- *Powering our Future: B.C.'s Clean Energy Strategy* included a commitment to "... develop and engage with industry on innovative approaches for connecting new, large industrial customers that provide greater certainty on timelines and other requirements, prioritize projects that create jobs and benefit British Columbians, and protect existing BC Hydro customers from rate increases."

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

New Electricity Allocation Framework for Large Industrial Customers

- A new electricity allocation framework for industrial customers ("Framework") should balance the needs of industrial customers, while prioritizing projects that provide the greatest benefits to British Columbians and protect existing BC Hydro customers from rate increases.

Advice/Recommendations

Project Evaluation Criteria

- BC Hydro's current interconnection process follows a 'first come first serve' approach based on the 'obligation to serve' model which assumes (but does not guarantee) the availability of supply for any customer.

Advice/Recommendations

- Quebec has recently instituted a policy framework for projects over 5 MW with criteria:

- Environmental impact, social impact, technical capacity and impact, economic benefits, regional development and employment, and alignment with government initiatives.
- B.C. could implement a similar process with criteria designed to align with government priorities. Criteria could include environmental, social, economic growth, affordability, Indigenous, and technical.

A New Allocation Framework for Large Industrial Projects
Advice/Recommendations

Impacts on BC Hydro Industrial Tariffs and Cost Allocation

- Quebec's framework has 5 MW threshold to seek provincial approval to connect. Advice/Re
Advice/Recommendations
- Under TS6, the incremental cost of new generation allocated to large industrial customers is
significant and is a disincentive to final investment decisions. Advice/Recommendations
Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

Decision(s) Required / Next Steps:
Advice/Recommendations

MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUE NOTE MINERAL TENURE ACT MODERNIZATION

Ministry: Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

Issue:

- A Mineral Claims Consultation Framework (MCCF), as ordered by the BC Supreme Court (BCSC) in *Gitxaala v. British Columbia (Chief Gold Commissioner)*, is required to be implemented by March 26, 2025.
- Reform of British Columbia's (BC's) mineral tenure legislative framework to align with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and achieve greater regulatory certainty.

Background:

- Mineral exploration is the first phase in the lifecycle of a potential mine. Exploration is the process of building an understanding of subsurface conditions using various methods (site visits, mapping, surveying, sampling, drilling etc.). Through exploration activities, proponents identify mineral deposits that could potentially lead to an operating mine.
- Mineral exploration companies and prospectors hold mineral titles (also referred to as claims and leases) to explore in their areas of interest.
- The *Mineral Tenure Act* (MTA) and associated regulations, such as the Mineral Tenure Act Regulation (MTAR), set out the provincial legislative framework for managing mineral titles.
- Mineral Titles Online (MTO) is an online registry that, currently, allows individuals (and companies) to register claims (mineral and placer) without any requirement to consult with First Nations. This automatic claim registration can result in mineral exploration activities being undertaken and rights being granted (e.g., right to enter the claim area and produce up to a certain amount of minerals using certain methods) to proponents, which can have cultural, spiritual, physical and economic impacts on First Nations' rights, without any consultation or accommodation.
- First Nations and First Nations Organizations have voiced longstanding concerns around the mineral tenure legislative framework and its impact on First Nations' rights. The Province and First Nations identified the need for legislative change for online staking (i.e., acquiring mineral title) in the [Commitment Document](#) (developed in 2015 and updated in 2018).
- There are two concurrent, but distinct, tracks of work underway in relation to the MTA:
 - The first track is to develop an MCCF to address the BCSC ruling from September 2023, which requires the Province to develop and implement a consultation framework for claims registration by March 26, 2025 to fulfill constitutional obligations.¹
 - In 2021 and 2022, Gitxaala Nation and Ehattesaht First Nation filed a legal challenge that maintained that tenures under the MTA affect their Aboriginal rights and interests and the Province owes a duty to consult pursuant to section 35(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. In September 2023, the BCSC released its decision (*Gitxaala v. British Columbia (Chief Gold Commissioner)*) and found the Province has a

¹ This year will be 20 years since the Haida and Taku River Supreme Court Decisions were rendered, compelling government to consult First Nations when it contemplates a decision that may impact a claimed aboriginal right. While the majority of the NRS has taken steps since *Haida and Taku* to build strategic approaches to fulfilling their duty to consult in their respective decision-making processes, EMLI's response to the Gitxaala decision is the first time a consultation framework has been developed for the mineral exploration industry.

constitutional duty to consult before registering mineral claims. The BCSC suspended the decision for 18 months (until March 26, 2025) to allow time to consult, design and implement an MCCF that addresses the ruling.

Cabinet Confidences

Interim Measures:

Intergovernmental Communications

Precedents and Transformation:

Intergovernmental Communications

² The *Mines Act* and the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in B.C. govern mining activities and protect workers and the public through requirements that reduce the health, safety and environmental risks related to mining activities.

Intergovernmental Communications

Business Confidence:

- There is a real and perceived potential that the MCCF and MTA reform will have a negative impact on business confidence in BC, which will need to be mitigated by consultations with industry associations, the investment community and tenure holders. Initial engagement with industry to inform the early development of the MCCF options was undertaken in July 2024; further engagement is paused due to the provincial election period and is anticipated to continue once a new government is formed. The business community desires a transparent options development process and consideration of their concerns.
- At the same time, situating the MTA reform as part of the broader transformation needed of the mining regime provides an opportunity to incrementally onboard change and demonstrate commitment to further enhance the regulatory certainty associated with mining in BC.

Advice/Recommendations

Industry Concerns:

- Industry has raised significant concerns with the modernization efforts of the MTA, including those related to:
 - any costs resulting from required consultation with First Nations and lengthening timelines to consider and approve mineral title registers; and,
 - the status of industry within the engagement process with EMLI, including comparing the government-to-government process EMLI has with Nations to the dedicated industry tables that have been established.
- Engagement with industry on the MCCF has identified the need to support an accurate understanding of the BCSC decision, the Province's constitutional requirements, and statutory decisions related to the MCCF and MTA reform, specifically:
 - Industry's view is inconsistent with the BCSC's interpretation of the duty to consult in the context of mineral claim staking; and,
 - Industry does not consistently demonstrate an understanding of the difference between the Province's constitutional duty to consult with First Nations and the responsibilities associated with statutory decision-making authority e.g., the Chief Gold Commissioner's authorities.

Advice/Recommendations

Opportunities:

- The work to reform the MTA supports the *Relationship Protocol* between the FNLC and the Province (as represented by EMLI) and demonstrates continued commitment to implementation of section 3 of the *Declaration Act*.
- MTA reform is also expected to address important issues such as:
 - adding clarity and predictability in mineral tenure decision-making and regulatory processes and establishing a strong and stable framework to ensure the Province can carry out its constitutional obligations and commitments;
 - clarifying the economics and realities for responsible mining and global interest in critical minerals; and,
 - identifying new approaches to land use planning, environmental stewardship and management.
- MTA reform is an opportunity to advance the social, environmental, and economic priorities of First Nations, the Province, and industry – and will support a healthy, responsible, and progressive mineral exploration and mining sector in BC.

Cabinet Confidences

Major Corporate Issues Note – Corporate

BC's New Royalty Framework for Oil and Gas Sector

In Progress

MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUE NOTE NORTH COAST TRANSMISSION LINE

Ministries:

- Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation
- Finance
- Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Issue:

- Time sensitive decisions) are required to advance the ongoing co-ownership discussions between the Province, BC Hydro (BCH) and First Nations for the North Coast Transmission Line (NCTL).
- The NCTL is one of BCH's largest transmission capital projects in the last 20 years; one that will support economic development and reconciliation, electrification of the North, mining and critical minerals, ports and LNG sectors.

Background:

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People; Intergovernmental Communications

Implications/Considerations/Opportunities:

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Interests of an Indigenous People; Intergovernmental Communications

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Business Information; Cabinet Confidences

- In 2022, the oil and gas sector contributed \$14.1 Billion (2017 dollars) directly to British Columbia's gross domestic product. Companies in British Columbia's oil and gas sector regularly invest between \$5 and \$9 billion in new developments (capital expenditures) and on-going operations (operating expenditures) in the province, according to an annual survey conducted by Statistics Canada.

Business Information; Cabinet Confidences

Project [Resource]	Proponent/ Owner Location	Capital Costs	Status	Details
Mining Projects				
Blackwater – New Mine (Gold)	Artemis Gold Inc <i>Vanderhoof</i>	\$750 million	In Construction, 90% complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 600 construction; 400 operations • FN Partners: Lhoosk’uz Dene Nation, Ulkatcho First Nation, Skin Tye Nation. • First gold pour expected by end of 2024
Cariboo Gold – New Mine (Gold)	Osisko <i>Wells</i>	\$137 million	Environmental Assessment (EA) complete. Permitting underway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 273 construction; 459 operations • FN partners: Xatsull First Nation, Williams Lake First Nation and Lhtako Dene Nation. • Mines Act (MA)/Environmental Management Act (EMA) referrals expected by November 2024.
Eskay Creek – Revitalization Project (Gold/Sliver)	Advice/Recommendations		Undergoing EA and MA permitting	Advice/Recommendations
Highland Valley Copper – Mine Expansion (Copper)	Teck Resources <i>Logan Lake</i>	\$1.1 billion	Undergoing EA and MA permitting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 650 construction; 1,320 operations • FN Partners: Lower Nicola Indian Band, Citxw Nlaka’pamux Assembly (CNA), Stk’emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation (SSN), Bonaparte Indian Band, Kanaka Bar Indian Band, Nlaka’pamux Nation Tribal Council (NNTC) • EA referral expected December 2024. • MA/EMA referral expected January 2025.
Red Chris – Expansion (Copper, Gold)	Newmont (70%), Imperial Metals Corp. (30%) <i>80 km South of Dease Lake</i>	\$2.6 billion	EA application submission expected November 2024.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 500 operations • FN Partners: Tahltan Central Government. • EAC referral currently expected in Q4 2025. • MA/EMA applications expected in Q2/Q3 2025. Referral currently expected in Q4 2025. • Proponent seeking EAC and MA/EMA authorizations by December 2025.
Quintette – Mine Restart (Steelmaking coal)	Conuma Resources Ltd. <i>28km South of Tumbler Ridge</i>	\$287 million	MA/EMA permitting in progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 500 construction; 350 operations • FN partners: McLeod Lake Indian Band, West Moberly FN, Halfway River FN, Saulteau FN. • Limited restart permitted August 2024. • Full Restart MA/EMA Application review commencing September 2024, referrals expected in Q1 2025.

Project [Resource]	Proponent/ Owner Location	Capital Costs	Status	Details
Copper Mountain – New Ingerbelle Expansion (Copper, Gold, Silver)	Hudbay Minerals Inc. <i>Princeton</i>	\$285 million	MA permitting process paused until early 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 390 operations • FN Partners: Upper Similkameen Indian Band, Lower Similkameen Indian Band. • Hudbay paused process until Feb 2025. • Referral for decision TBD. Intergovernmental Communications
Kerr-Sulpherets-Mitchell – New Mine (Gold, Copper, Silver)	KSM Mining ULC (Seabridge Gold) <i>65km Northwest of Stewart</i>	\$8.35 billion	Undergoing MA permitting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 1800 construction; 1040 operations • FN Partners: Tahltan Central Government, Nisga’a Lisims, Tsetsaut/Skii km Lax Ha Nation, SEITC (Alaska). • MA authorization application received in July 2024, referral for decision anticipated in Q4 2024 – further permitting required. • Received substantial start determination from EAO in July 2024.
Crown Mountain – New Mine (Steelmaking coal)	NWP Coal Canada Ltd. <i>Sparwood</i>	\$450 million	In early stage of EA process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 500 construction; 330 operations • FN partners: Ktunaxa Nation Council, Yaqit ʔa-knuqʔi ʔit First Nation. • Application was submitted to EAO in January 2024, permitting pre-application discussions have not been initiated.
Decar/ Baptiste (Nickel, Cobalt)	FPX Nickel Corp. <i>90km Northwest of Fort St. James</i>	\$2.2 billion	Advanced Exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 800 construction; 550 operations • FN Partners: Binche Whut’en, Takla Nation, Tl’zat’en Nation, Yekooche First Nation • Working w/ First Nations to support drilling program application (2024/2025) • Expected to begin the EA process in 2025. • Opportunity to be major nickel producer supporting BC’s critical minerals goals
Galore Creek (Copper, Gold, Silver)	Galore Creek Mining Corporation (Newmont/ Teck) <i>Stewart</i>	\$6 billion	Advanced Exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment: 600 construction; 400 operations • FN Partners: Tahltan Central Government. • Updated feasibility study expected 2024/2025; expected to re-enter EA in 2025. • Opportunity to be major critical minerals producer

Project [Resource]	Proponent/ Owner Location	Capital Costs	Status	Details
Fording River-Castle Expansion (Steelmaking coal)	Advice/Recommendations		EA in Progress	Advice/Recommendations
Wicheeda (Rare Earth Elements)			Advanced Exploration	

Transmission Projects

Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences

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Project [Resource]	Proponent/ Owner Location	Capital Costs	Status	Details
<p>Site C Clean Energy Project</p>	<p>BC Hydro <i>Fort St. John</i></p>	<p>\$16 billion</p>		<p>Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences</p>
<p>LNG Projects</p>				
<p>LNG Canada Phase 1</p>	<p>Advice/Recommendations</p>		<p>Advice/Recommendations</p> <p>Under construction (95% complete)</p>	

Project [Resource]	Proponent/ Owner Location	Capital Costs	Status	Details
Cedar LNG	Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences			Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences

Project [Resource]	Proponent/ Owner Location	Capital Costs	Status	Details
Woodfibre LNG (WLNG)	Advice/Recommendations		Under construction	Advice/Recommendations
Eagle Mountain Pipeline (EMP)			Under construction	
Tilbury Marine Jetty			EA Certificate issued; Obtaining regulatory approvals	
Tilbury LNG Phase 2			Obtaining regulatory approvals	
Prince Rupert Gas Transmission			Under construction	

Project [Resource]	Proponent/ Owner Location	Capital Costs	Status	Details
Ksi Lisims LNG	Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences			

Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences

Hydrogen Projects
Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences

Project [Resource]	Proponent/ Owner Location	Capital Costs	Status	Details
Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences				

Project [Resource]	Proponent/ Owner Location	Capital Costs	Status	Details
Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Cabinet Confidences				

MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUE NOTE COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY

Ministries:

- Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation
- Finance

Issue:

- Canada and the United States (U.S.) have been negotiating a modernized Columbia River Treaty (CRT) since May 2018. Canada's negotiation team includes British Columbia (B.C.), Ktunaxa, Secwepemc and Syilx/Okanagan Nations (INs), and BC Hydro.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

- An Agreement-in-Principle (AIP) was reached on July 8, 2024.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Interests of an Indigenous People; Intergovernmental Communications

Background:

- The CRT was signed in 1964. Either country can unilaterally terminate the Treaty as early as September 16, 2024, with at least 10 years notice. The US and British Columbia launched separate Treaty review processes in 2013 to provide advice on a course of action to their respective governments.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

- CRT files have historically been attached to the Minister who is the elected official for the Basin area and supported by EMLI staff. For the duration of the negotiations, responsibility for the CRT file has

been held by Minister Katrine Conroy, most recently in her role as Minister of Finance.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

- The Province has been engaging with Basin residents and local governments since 2012 to learn what values and interests they want reflected in a modernized CRT. Engagement to seek feedback on the AIP will include virtual sessions before the interregnum and in-person public community meetings following interregnum in late 2024, early 2025.

AIP

Financial benefits:

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

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**MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUE NOTE- MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES
AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION***

Site C Completion

Issue:

- Site C is nearing first power, and an update on the project will go to Treasury Board in January or early February 2025.
- Once Site C begins to generate electricity, which is projected to occur in December 2024, BC Hydro will begin recovering its costs in electricity rates.
- Once complete, Site C will generate the equivalent of roughly 8% of BC Hydro's total domestic electricity sales.

Background:

Project Details and Initial Investment Decision

- Site C, when complete, will be the third generating facility on the Peace River. It will have a generating capacity of 1,100 megawatts and is expected to generate about 5,100 gigawatt-hours of energy per year.
- In December 2014, the Province announced a decision to proceed with Site C with an estimated construction cost of \$8.3 billion and a project reserve of \$440 million.
- Project construction began in 2015. The dam at Site C will create an 83-kilometre-long reservoir, with an average width of roughly twice to three times the width of the current river.

British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) and First Decision to Continue

- In 2017, the Province asked the BCUC and Deloitte to review the decision to proceed with Site C.
 - The BCUC found that cancelling the project would add \$1.8 billion in termination and remediation costs in addition to \$2.1 billion of sunk construction and planning costs spent to date.
- The Province decided to continue with the project at an amended cost estimate of just under \$10 billion, with an additional \$708 million risk reserve.
 - To contain costs, the Province created a Project Assurance Board (PAB) to provide enhanced oversight.

Second Decision to Continue

- Geotechnical issues, construction delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic, contract management issues, and procurement challenges including escalation in supplier bids led to delays in Site C's construction and further cost increases.
- In 2020, the Province retained Peter Milburn as an advisor to the Ministers of Finance and Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation, to review the governance, costs, schedule, and risk management for Site C. Mr. Milburn provided advice on

Date Updated: August 27, 2024

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*This briefing note outlines a major corporate issue for the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation that was not included in the Corporate Transition Binder.

MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUE NOTE- MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION*

oversight and risk and commercial management and continues to advise the Province on Site C.

- In February 2021, the Province announced a decision to again continue with the project with a budget of \$16 billion and a one-year delay to the in-service date, rather than cancel the project at an estimated cost of \$10 billion.

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

Project Schedule

- On August 25th, BC Hydro began filling the reservoir, on schedule.
- BC Hydro is now working to the key milestone of generation from the first two generating units by December 2024.
 - BC Hydro is currently commissioning equipment needed for this milestone and will continue commissioning through reservoir fill.
- BC Hydro is currently still on schedule to meet this milestone with float in the schedule, but the commissioning process usually uncovers issues with equipment that will erode this.

Government Financial Information

- The four remaining units are to be brought on over 2025.

Project Budget

- BC Hydro continues to manage the cost of the project within the updated \$16 billion budget set in 2021, under the continued supervision of the PAB.

Government Financial Information

- Site C construction will continue after the first two units enter service and is expected to be substantially complete in December 2025. Continued oversight by PAB is expected through completion, although cost and schedule risks are expected to decrease after first power.

Rate Impacts

- When Site C enters service, BC Hydro will begin recovering its costs in rates. While a current stand-alone estimate of the impact of Site C is not available, BC Hydro's most recent revenue requirements application contemplated an 8.5% rate increase in fiscal 2026. For more detailed information, please see Major Corporate Issues Notes on BC Hydro.

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- Site C's in-service date is one factor in the increase, other factors include inflationary pressures not in previous years' rates and the impacts of historic drought in 2023 and 2024.

Decision(s) Required / Next Steps:

- Site C is scheduled to reach its first power in December 2024, with its first two generating units in-service that month.
- In late January/early February 2025, Treasury Board will be updated on the status of Site C. This will be informed by reports from Ernst & Young (Oversight Advisor) and from Peter Milburn, who have been retained to advise Site C's Project Assurance Board and the Province, respectively.

Integrated Utility Planning

Issue:

- An integrated and innovative oversight of utility infrastructure planning and investment is needed to address the evolving needs of energy consumers and to balance energy security, system reliability, affordability, climate action and economic growth.

Background:

B.C.'s Regulated Public Utilities

- BC Hydro, Fortis Energy Inc. (FEI), and Pacific Northern Gas (PNG) are the largest utilities in BC, delivering most of the energy to homes and businesses.
- They are regulated by the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC), an independent agency that balances ratepayer interests with the needs of regulated utilities to earn a fair return on investments.
 - Utility regulation ensures that customers receive safe and reliable service at reasonable rates.

Utility Working Group Scenarios Analysis

Advice/Recommendations; Business Information

- Dual fuel heat pumps can reduce peak electrical demand by burning natural gas on the coldest days of the year, while achieving relatively high levels of energy system electrification and decarbonization in buildings.

BC's Clean Energy Strategy Commitment

- Powering Our Future: BC's Clean Energy Strategy emphasizes the need to advance integrated utility planning in the future to help keep our energy system affordable,

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reliable and efficient in the transition to clean energy and a net zero economy. It specifically highlighted that enhanced integrated utility planning would enable:

- More efficient use of energy resources, with electricity and gas each used where and when they make the most sense (e.g., based on infrastructure constraints or climate regions).
- Understanding how clean electricity and a decarbonized gas system can work together in the future, with a focus on meeting peak demand while cost-effectively reducing emissions.

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

Further Analysis in Progress

- The Ministry is currently building on the Utility Working Group Scenarios with further analysis.
- The Energy System Infrastructure Modelling (ESIM) project models growing base and peak demands for electricity and gas in select B.C. communities under a range of scenarios.
 - Scenarios will consider how communities can be reliably and cost-effectively served using different combinations of technologies and planning approaches while meeting the Province's climate goals.
 - The results will be conveyed through a visualization tool which may allow government, utilities, and communities to engage in concrete, evidence-based dialogue about the optimization and integration of local energy infrastructure investments.
 - The project may in future be expanded to cover all BC communities.
 - Results will also be used to enhance existing provincial climate policy modelling.
- BC's Clean Energy Strategy also committed to undertaking a future independent net-zero pathway assessment – a comprehensive study of all credible pathways for achieving a net-zero economy by 2050.

Advice/Recommendations

- A pathway assessment that provides long-term scenarios for the provincial energy mix could provide a shared understanding of possible outcomes that

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all utilities could plan for.

B.C.'s Energy Transition and Integrated Utility Planning

- B.C.'s energy systems are evolving and decarbonizing, and a more modern and innovative approach is needed to ensure regulators have the tools to keep up with technological changes, social objectives, and climate targets.
 - Electricity and gas can be complementary energy sources but currently their systems are planned independently through separate resource planning processes.
 - In the future, enhanced coordination when planning both the electric power and gas systems is critical to optimize investments, reduce emissions, and keep energy affordable as BC's energy mix changes in the coming years.
- To decarbonize our energy system and significantly increase electrification, utilities will be required to make new investments which may result in a significant mobilization of ratepayer expenditure, impacting overall affordability.
 - At the same time, the way gas infrastructure is used is likely to evolve over time in response to government climate objects.
- In recognition of the need for better coordination among utilities, jurisdictions around the world, such as the United Kingdom, Japan, and Denmark, are increasingly adopting a variety of integrated utility planning models.
 - Mechanisms such as integrated system operators, joint utility filings, inter-utility agreements, or unified data systems are being utilized to achieve optimal energy and economic efficiency to coordinate planning between electric and gas utilities.
- The Utility Working Group started the conversation about utility collaboration and integrated utility planning. It was also the first truly collaborative and widely supported integrated planning process held in B.C.
 - The Ministry plans to maintain this momentum, utilizing the ESIM analysis and pathway assessment process to hold further discussions with utilities focused on how to implement integrated utility planning.

Decision(s) Required / Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations

Ksi Lisims LNG and the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Pipeline

Issue:

- The Ksi Lisims LNG export terminal and the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission (PRGT) pipeline are significant infrastructure projects in BC's natural gas sector that are both owned (in part) by the Nisga'a Nation.
- Both projects will require near-term regulatory decisions by the Province. The Environmental Assessment Certificate (EAC) for PRGT expires on November 25, 2024; if the project is not substantially started by the expiry date, the EAC expires, and the project cannot proceed.
- The Ksi Lisims LNG project has submitted its application for an EAC. The Ksi Lisims project is undergoing a provincial environmental assessment. The Application has entered into the 150-day effects assessment phase; following the 150 days effects assessment, a referral package will be forwarded to both the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of EMLI for decision on the certificate and is anticipated to end within 90 days of the referral.
- As the projects are interdependent, both will require approvals such that both can proceed.

Background:

Ksi Lisims LNG

- The Ksi Lisims LNG export terminal is a large-scale liquefied natural gas facility designed to export natural gas to global markets.
- The Nisga'a Nation, Rockies LNG and Western LNG are jointly proposing to develop the energy project.
- The facility is located on the northern end of Pearse Island, owned in fee simple by the Nisga'a Nation, and is approximately 15 kilometers west of the Nisga'a community of Gingolx (which is the closest community), and at full capacity will produce 12 million tons of LNG per annum.
- The project must secure an EAC, an LNG Facility Permit (issued by the BC Energy Regulator), as well as various other permits from federal and provincial governments ahead of proceeding.

Business Information

Prince Rupert Gas Transmission (PRGT)

- PRGT is a proposed 900-kilometer natural gas pipeline that would connect northeast B.C. to the project.
- The project was initially proposed by TC Energy, but on March 14, 2024, a subsidiary owned jointly by Nisga'a Nation and Western LNG announced they had entered into a binding agreement with TC Energy to acquire all of its outstanding

MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUE NOTE – MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION*

shares in PRGT.

- The pipeline received its EAC in 2014, with a 5-year extension granted in 2019.
- In order to proceed, the PRGT project must receive a substantial start decision from the EAO.
- In August 2024, the project started construction within a 40-50 kilometer portion of the pipeline wholly within the territory of the Nisga'a Nation. Construction will continue in this area up until the middle of November when the project intends to submit its application for a substantial start decision from the EAO.
- Construction is currently only authorized in this portion of the route.
- EAO understands that the proponent is planning on requesting a determination of substantial start in November/December 2024.

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

Intergovernmental Communications

Some leaders have also raised questions about whether sufficient data was provided during the original agreements, insufficient consideration of cumulative effects, and have called for re-evaluations that incorporate more recent environmental and social factors. These items have been reported on the Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs website as well as The Narwhal.

Community Relations: There has been growing public opposition to the project, which includes concerns with the substantial start decision, time since the EA was conducted, cumulative effects, permit splitting, and proposed routes changes. The majority of enquiries have come from members of the Kispiox community.

Government Financial Information

Date Updated: September 16, 2024

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while the costs involve significant capital investment and potential environmental mitigation expenses.

Legal: On August 24, 2024, the Skeena Watershed Conservation Coalition, Kispiox Valley Community Centre Association and the Kispiox Band launched a judicial review of recent a permit amendment decision by BCER for PRGT that allowed for construction to commence in the portion of the route on Nisga’a Lands, seeking an injunction prohibiting further construction until a cumulative effects assessment is conducted for the entirety of the project. ^{Advice/Recommendations}

Advice/Recommendations

Environmental Considerations: The projects must navigate strict environmental and emissions regulations. To electrify the Ksi Lisims LNG project will require the North Coast Transmission Line to be operational, as well as a new transmission line from Terrace to the facility. Without this new electricity supply the LNG facility would need to be powered by natural gas turbines and subject not only to the province’s carbon pricing system but would also need to purchase substantial offsets or face carbon compliance costs to align with the government’s direction that the project is net zero by 2030.

Advice/Recommendations

Decision(s) Required / Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

Methane Emissions Reduction and Oil and Gas Emissions Cap

Additional Ministries:

- Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV)

Issue:

- Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the oil and gas sector is an opportunity to mitigate climate change and achieve BC's climate action targets.
- Through CleanBC, the Province has established two climate action targets specific to the oil and gas sector:
 - Methane emissions: Reduce by 45 percent below 2014 levels by 2025, 75 percent below 2014 levels by 2030 and near elimination by 2035.
 - GHG emissions: Reduce by 33 to 38 percent below 2007 levels by 2030 (this goal includes carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane emissions).
- BC has publicly committed to design provincial regulatory measures to backstop the federal oil and gas emissions cap in support of BC meeting its own sectoral target.

Background:

- The oil and gas sector accounts for about 20 percent of BC's total GHG emissions and about 50 percent of BC's GHG emissions from industry.
- The natural gas sector creates two significant GHGs: CO₂ and methane. These emissions are created from gas extraction and refining processes, transporting gas and gas liquids through pipelines, and the liquefaction of natural gas.
- BC's natural gas production has one of the lowest methane emission intensities in the world. Methane emissions intensity is the quantity of methane released into the air relative to the amount of gas produced.
- BC is on track to achieve the 2025 and 2030 methane targets and is making progress towards the ultimate provincial target of near elimination by 2035 through new methane regulations and complementary policy and programs (e.g., BC Output Based Pricing System, CleanBC Industry Fund).
- BC regulates methane emissions primarily under the Drilling and Production Regulation (DPR). The DPR is a board regulation of the BC Energy Regulator (BCER).
- In April 2020, BC signed an equivalency agreement with the federal government, which has similar methane emissions reduction targets. This five-year term agreement stands down the federal methane regulations in favour of BC's equivalent regulatory requirements.
- New enhanced provincial methane regulations, designed to support achieving the

MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUE NOTE – MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION*

provincial emission targets and maintain equivalency with the federal regulations, will come into effect in January 2025.

- The enhanced regulations were developed by the BCER in partnership with EMLI and ENV Climate Action Secretariat. The BCER administers the regulations, including compliance and enforcement, and leads the annual reporting required under BC's equivalency agreement with the federal government.
- To reduce oil and gas GHG emissions and achieve provincial targets, additional actions are required. These include significant investments to electrify the upstream natural gas sector in the northeast and LNG facilities on the North Coast, as well as the accelerated uptake and deployment of carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology.
- The BC commitment under the New Energy Action Framework (NEAF) to design an emission cap that supports the upcoming federal emission cap is seen as a tool to support these additional actions.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

Considerations:

- BC is committed to collaborative research partnerships and the use of advanced technologies to enhance our understanding of the sector's emissions inventory. Examples include the BC Methane Emissions Research Collaborative and aerial surveys to advance world leading measurement research done through Carleton University in partnership with the United Nations Emission Programme.

Advice/Recommendations

Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations

Date Updated: October 3, 2024

Advice/Recommendations

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Advice/Recommendations

- Engagement will be with the oil and gas sector, environmental non-governmental organizations, Indigenous organizations and First Nations rights and title holders.

Date Updated: October 3, 2024

Advice/Recommendations

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Advancing BC Hydrogen Strategy and Projects

Issue:

- In 2021, the Government of BC (the Province) released its Hydrogen Strategy (the Strategy) to accelerate the development of B.C.'s hydrogen sector. While considerable progress has been made to implement the Strategy, *Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences*

Advice/Re The Strategy update should also highlight key market developments in hydrogen and lessons learned over the past three years.

Background:

- Hydrogen is expected to play a key role in helping the Province achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, as it is one of the only practical replacements for fossil fuels in the hardest-to-abate sectors and applications, including, transportation, natural gas, and industry.
- The strategy includes 63 actions to undertake over the short term (2020-2025), medium term (2025-2030) and long term (2030-beyond) that clarify how the Province will support and promote the production, use, and export of hydrogen in British Columbia.
- The Clean Energy and Major Projects Office (CEMPO) is leading the implementation of the Strategy actions with \$3M in implementation funding over three years (2022/23 - 2024/25).
- The Province has already delivered on key actions since the Strategy's 2021 release, including:
 - **Standing up the Clean Energy and Major Projects Office** to accelerate the development of hydrogen projects across B.C.
 - **Expanding the B.C. Energy Regulator's mandate** to include regulation of hydrogen, ammonia, and methanol production.
 - **Completing a regulatory mapping study for hydrogen** in partnership with the B.C. Center for Innovation and Clean Energy.
 - **Advancing the Northern BC Hydrogen Hub** through provision of support to the City of Prince George and Prince Rupert.
 - **Supporting Indigenous Nations** through partnerships such as the Indigenous Clean Energy Opportunities (ICEO) and First Nations Major Projects Coalition.
 - **Expanding the use of hydrogen and fuel cells in the transportation sector** through provincial funding to advance the use in heavy duty trucking sector.
- During 2024/25, CEMPO will further advance the Strategy commitments, including:
 - **Supporting development of regional hydrogen hubs** in partnership with

MAJOR CORPORATE ISSUES NOTE – MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION*

- regional and federal governments, and Indigenous partners, and industry across additional regions, including, the Lower Mainland, Northeast BC, Vancouver Island, and the Interior (Okanagan).
- **Developing hydrogen educational, awareness, and safety materials** to inform the public regarding hydrogen and clean energy opportunities in BC.
 - **Studying the use of hydrogen in remote and end-of-line communities** (those at the end of the electricity transmission line).
 - **Assessing the workforce and skills needed for hydrogen in B.C.**, including a gap analysis to assess the need for additional training and education.
 - **Assessing the opportunities and challenges of transporting clean energy fuels across BC**, including working collaboratively with the Government of Canada on transporting hydrogen-as-ammonia by rail.

Considerations:

- A refreshed Strategy would ensure hydrogen sector development actions align with recently released provincial strategies, such as, *Powering our Future: BC's Clean Energy Strategy* and the *Clean and Competitive: A Blueprint for B.C.'s Industrial Future*.

Advice/Recommendations

- In April 2024, the Government of Canada released a Progress Report to their *Hydrogen Strategy for Canada* to highlight key developments, report on progress, and provide updated next steps and priorities.

Next Steps:

- CEMPO continues to work across ministries, regulatory agencies, and all levels of government to advance resolution to the potential barriers to hydrogen development.

Advice/Recommendations

Date Updated: October 2, 2024

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*This briefing note outlines a major corporate issue for the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation that was not included in the Corporate Transition Binder.

Decarbonization Approach for Built Environment, Transportation and Low Carbon Fuels

Issue: Adaptive management of EMLI decarbonization policies and programs

Background:

- The *Climate Change Accountability Act* sets out provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets, including:
 - 2030: 40% below 2007 levels
 - 2040: 60% below 2007 levels
 - 2050: 80% below 2007 levels
- The Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation (The Ministry) is responsible for implementing a portfolio of energy efficiency and clean energy statutes, policies and programs to achieve these targets and broader affordability, economic development and reconciliation objectives in the built environment, transportation and low carbon fuel sectors.

Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

¹ Incorporates data from: [Energy Efficiency Employment in Canada](#) (Eco Canada, 2024), [Economic Opportunities Assessment for Zero-Emission Vehicles in B.C.](#) (EMLI, 2023), and [Canada Energy Dashboard](#) (Navius, 2024).

² [Green Buildings Market Forecast: Demand for Building Products, Metro Vancouver 2019-2032](#) (Vancouver Economic Commission, 2019).

³ [BC-LCFS Credit Market Data \(2015 to present\)](#) (EMLI, 2024).

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- **driving and backstopping this progress** through regulations that scale up overtime and are regularly reviewed in relation to market conditions (i.e. regulations under the *Zero-Emission Vehicles Act*, *Energy Efficiency Act*, and *Low Carbon Fuels Act*).
- The Ministry's portfolio has resulted in a significant transformation of markets towards clean solutions and momentum towards B.C.'s longer-term emissions goals, including the reduction or avoidance of over 22.6 million tonnes of GHG emissions between 2010 and 2023⁴. However, preliminary emissions modelling completed by the Ministry of Environment (ENV) based on policies that have been funded and implemented⁵ suggests that B.C. will miss its short-term targets, only reducing emissions below 2007 levels by 6-9% by 2025 and by 20-25% by 2030.⁶

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

- The next B.C. government will need to provide direction on provincial climate commitments, informed by an assessment of market readiness for clean energy solutions across the built environment, transportation and low carbon fuels sectors to achieve the 2030 and 2050 targets.
- Adaptive management of the Ministry's decarbonization policies and programs will be required given the state of market readiness in each sector, government priorities and limited provincial resources going forward.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

⁴ [Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements Summary, 2010-23 \(EMLI, 2024\)](#).

⁵ This does not include the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Standard or Clean Transportation Action Plan which were previously expected to deliver 26 percent of the GHG reductions required to meet the 2030 target.

⁶ To put current GHG emissions in the context of the growing economy and population: Between 2007 and 2021, B.C.'s net GHG emissions declined by 4% while GDP grew by 35%. That means the net GHG intensity of the economy has fallen by 29%. From 2007 to 2021, B.C. experienced significant population growth – over 20%. Net GHG emissions per person have also declined by roughly 21% between 2007 and 2021 – from 14.9 to 11.7 tonnes of CO₂e.

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Advice/Recommendations ; Business Information ; Cabinet Confidences ; Government Financial Information

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Advice/Recommendations; Business Information

Decision(s) Required / Next Steps:

- EMLI staff will work with the Ministries of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation and Finance to refine options and provide a recommendation to the incoming government on increased support for B.C. biofuel production.

Date Updated: October 2, 2024

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*This briefing note outlines a major corporate issue for the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation that was not included in the Corporate Transition Binder.

BC Mining Sector’s Ability to Compete Nationally and Internationally

Additional Ministry:

- Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation

Issue: British Columbia (BC) competes globally for investment into its mining sector. Strong government action, outreach and collaboration with capital markets is needed to demonstrate that BC is a jurisdiction of choice with competitive fiscal and land policies.

Background:

- The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) is committed to position BC as an attractive, responsible, and competitive jurisdiction for investment in the mining sector.
- On May 14, 2024, the Fraser Institute released its annual report ranking jurisdictional investment attractiveness for 2023; BC ranked 25th out of 86 jurisdictions. In 2022, BC ranked 15th.
- In 2023, exploration expenditures in BC totaled an estimated \$643.5M which was down from \$740.4M in 2022. This is the fourth highest amount on record for the province. Approximately 69 percent of these expenditures were made in northwest BC.
- The Mining Association of BC (MABC) and independent studies commissioned by EMLI have noted the carbon tax has impacted the competitiveness of BC operations, along with low ore grades, distance of mines to tidewater and regulatory complexity. Engagement with First Nations can be a challenge due to lack of administrative and governance capacity to meaningfully engage with proponents.
- Investors have communicated to EMLI that BC is viewed as a complex jurisdiction to operate in, given the high prioritization of environmental and indigenous responsibilities in addition to economic interests. Receiving the necessary approvals from regulators and stakeholders can be viewed by investors as both cumbersome and costly relative to other competing jurisdictions.
- To address these challenges and encourage growth and competitiveness more broadly, the Province has implemented a wide range of initiatives to support mining in BC.

Critical Minerals

- On January 22, 2024, the Premier announced Phase 1 of the BC Critical Minerals Strategy (CMS). Phase 1 includes eleven actions that are impactful first steps to

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support the development and growth of the critical minerals sector, attract investment, and ensure a stable workforce in a competitive jurisdiction.

- These actions begin to address the barriers to critical-mineral project development and create the conditions to enable project advancement. They also align with the Province’s commitments to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, BC’s *Declaration Act*, and other government priorities such as land use planning, conservation requirements, and CleanBC and StrongerBC.
- One of the key actions of Phase 1 is the creation of a Critical Minerals Office (CMO). The CMO will identify and support near-term critical minerals mining and value chain projects, and to help advance projects that support the low carbon energy transition. The CMO will facilitate investment in critical minerals projects through outreach and collaboration with capital markets and the federal government.
- Phase 2 of the CMS will build on these actions and is expected to be announced in early 2025.

Fiscal Measures

- Budget 2019 made the Mining Flow-Through Share Tax Credit and the BC Mining Exploration Tax Credit permanent incentives. These tax incentives are among the most competitive in Canada when compared to other competing mining jurisdictions such as Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan.
- Budget 2020 extended the New Mines Allowance for five years and removed location restrictions on pollution control and waste management machinery/equipment from the Provincial Sales Tax exemption.
- Budget 2024 announced the intention to create a First Nations Equity Financing Framework. The framework includes a special account with a cumulative loan guarantee limit of \$1 billion, with an initial balance of \$10 million earmarked for First Nations considering equity participation in priority projects.
- As part of Phase 1 of the CMS, the Province is working with Ernst & Young to conduct a fiscal environment assessment and analysis to assess the need for targeted incentive programs that can drive investment throughout the critical mineral lifecycle, incentivize production and maintain competitiveness. This work will involve a jurisdictional review and financial modelling to identify competitiveness issues. Recommendations will be provided to mitigate any issues identified.

Permitting

- Budget 2024 made 38 full-time equivalents (FTEs) permanent across mining regulatory agencies, increasing capacity to ensure thorough, timely reviews of major mine projects and address backlogs in regional permitting.
- Budget 2023 provided \$77 million over three years to help speed up natural resource permitting timelines and modernize the permitting service delivery

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model. EMLI was allocated \$3 million, which provided for nine new FTEs focused on strategic work to improve permitting timelines and certainty.

- Permitting timelines continue to improve for major projects. Recent examples include Blackwater (10 months), New Afton C-Zone (10 months), and the Premier Mine Restart (7 months).
- Major project review timelines have reduced from an average of 259 business days to 164 business days since 2019. In addition, backlogs for review of Notice of Work applications for regional mines have been reduced by 52 percent since March 2022.

Carbon Tax

- Budget 2023 announced that on April 1, 2024, BC will transition from its current industrial carbon pricing system, the CleanBC Program for Industry, to a made-in-BC Output-Based Pricing System (OBPS). These changes will ensure that BC's carbon pricing regime meets federal stringency requirements.
- Critical mineral mining and smelting are given distinct reduction factors under the OBPS that place less stringent requirements on reducing emission limits over time and will help support critical mineral competitiveness.
- The details of BC's OBPS have been finalized and are supported by the MABC.
- The CleanBC Industry Fund (CIF) invests a portion of carbon tax revenues into businesses working on emission reduction projects, including mining companies. Approximately \$33 million of funding was invested in all CIF projects for 2023. Funding allocations to mining have been substantive, with a combined total of approximately \$37 million invested since the fund's implementation in 2019.

Environmental Social Governance (ESG)

- EMLI is working to position BC as a leading jurisdiction to attract ESG investment capital, valued at over \$100 trillion globally, through branding efforts and a digital platform to surface relevant ESG data in a verifiable way.
- The Mines Digital Trust pilot is underway in partnership with the Ministry of Citizen Services and Mining Association of Canada. This initiative will provide mine operators with digital credentials that verify that their products originated in a jurisdiction that is internationally recognized for strong environmental, social and governance standards.
- BC is recognized internationally for strong ESG fundamentals including commitments and actions to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and action on climate change through investments in clean-energy infrastructure and a strong climate plan that supports the transition to a cleaner economy.
- Through StrongerBC, the ESG Centre of Excellence was established in early 2024 to provide support to BC businesses to develop, promote and market the ESG advantages of their goods and services.

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Infrastructure

- In January 2024, BC Hydro released a 10-year capital plan called “Power Pathway: Building B.C.’s Energy Future”. The plan includes investing \$36 billion over the next 10 years on capital projects throughout the province to support CleanBC emissions reduction targets and meet future load growth factoring in areas with advanced stage mineral development projects.
- Phase 1 of the CMS included an action to conduct an infrastructure and electrification gap assessment. This assessment will identify and make plans to address infrastructure gaps that are barriers to critical-mineral development with a focus on opportunities along the entire value spectrum of critical minerals, from extraction to processing, manufacturing and recycling.
- Phase 1 of the CMS also includes identifying infrastructure funding sources to secure critical minerals growth in priority areas of the province. Potential funding sources include the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB) which will target critical minerals enabling infrastructure that require investments of at least \$100 million. CIB will also be providing loan guarantees to Indigenous communities to support them in acquiring an equity stake in infrastructure projects.
- In July 2024, the federal government and the Province announced that they will be investing \$195M in Northwest BC to upgrade the highway 37 corridor that is essential to support increased mining activity in the area.
- The investment, facilitated through the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund (CMIF), will see the federal government contributing \$75 million, and \$120 million to be provided by the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

- Mining and mineral exploration provides jobs across the province and revenues that fund provincial social programs and are shared with First Nations.
- BC’s mining sector provides many of the critical minerals and metals needed for the clean energy transition, like the integral components of technologies such as electric cars, wind turbines and solar power.
- Global demand for critical minerals is growing substantially and BC has the potential to be a supplier of choice for many of these minerals including copper, molybdenum, nickel, antimony, rare earth elements, zinc, and cobalt.
- There are up to 17 new mines and expansions that have begun or could begin construction prior to 2040. However, significant capital investment (approx. \$34 billion) will be required to bring these mines into production.
 - In the near term, BC could see four critical minerals projects reach final investment decision in the next three years, representing \$12B in capital investment and 3,200 long-term jobs (HVC Expansion, Red Chris Expansion, New Ingerbelle – Copper Mountain, and KSM project).

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- The BC government can attract new investment dollars by making strategic improvements to infrastructure and establish new fiscal incentive programs, bolstering partnerships with Indigenous communities to create certainty on the land base, and improving regulatory processes and timelines.
- The CMO is coordinating engagement with capital markets in Canada and internationally to showcase BC's attractive investment climate and seek insights to boost competitiveness and investment in critical minerals opportunities.

Decision(s) Required / Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations: Cabinet Confidences

Critical Minerals Opportunity

Issue: Critical minerals present a generational opportunity for BC’s responsible economic growth. To capitalize on this and compete effectively, priority must be given to initiatives that support the sector by addressing infrastructure gaps, enhancing First Nations capacity, and improving regulatory certainty. These steps will attract investment, drive economic growth, create jobs, and support global technology transition.

Background:

- Global demand for critical minerals is expected to grow six times by 2050 and attention is increasingly focused on actions to support the development of critical mineral resources and secure, resilient value chains for the digital and green economy. Global markets for the critical minerals foundational to clean technology doubled from 2018 to 2022 and reached USD \$325 billion in 2023¹, as jurisdictions act to secure supply chains.
- Canada’s 2022 Critical Minerals Strategy includes \$3.8 billion to grow critical minerals across the value chain and provides significant opportunities for BC to secure co-funding.
- BC has at least 16 of the 31 identified critical minerals in the Canadian Critical Minerals List². Of these, copper, molybdenum, and magnesium are already being produced across nine of BC’s operating mines.
- There is significant potential to further develop these and other critical minerals, such as nickel, cobalt, rare earth elements and zinc, and the province also has substantial potential to develop critical mineral processing, manufacturing, and recycling capacity.
- There are over 30 potential critical mineral mine developments and advanced stage exploration projects across the province, plus several manufacturing, processing, and recycling projects that have significant potential.
- There are 17 critical mineral projects that could be developed by 2040, representing over \$34 billion in capital investment, over \$900 million in annual mineral tax revenue and over 12,000 jobs during construction (9,000 during operations). There are four projects that could advance in the next three years representing 3,200 jobs in the northwest and south-central regions of the province.
- British Columbia’s (BC) competitor jurisdictions, inside and outside of Canada, are aggressively taking action to secure critical minerals supply and grow the industry

¹ International Energy Agency Market Review report: <https://www.iea.org/reports/critical-minerals-market-review-2023/key-market-trends>

² BC Critical Minerals Atlas summary: https://cmscontent.nrs.gov.bc.ca/geoscience/PublicationCatalogue/InformationCircular/BCGS_IC2024-05.pdf

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to attract investment, create jobs and initiate mining and manufacturing opportunities through policy shifts, strategies and new funding programs.

- Policies such as the US *Inflation Reduction Act* with a commitment of over \$300 billion, and the EU *Critical Raw Materials Act* have potential to reshape supply chains to benefit reliable and responsible trading partners like BC.

BC Critical Minerals Strategy

- On January 22, 2024, Phase 1 of the BC Critical Minerals Strategy was released, setting out 11 actions to support critical minerals sector growth largely within existing resources allocation. Ongoing implementation includes:
 - establishing the Critical Minerals Office using existing resources to focus on investment attraction and concierge service to early-stage projects;
 - Confirmation of resources to support efficient mine permitting, and modest new resources for Mineral Tenure Act reform, in collaboration with First Nations while engaging with industry and communities;
 - Collaboration with the federal government on shared critical minerals priorities, including securing \$75 million in federal funding through the CMIF for the Northwest BC Highway Corridor Improvements Project and up to \$40M for the Galore Creek project in the northwest (a Teck / Newmont partnership);
 - Publication of the BC Critical Minerals Atlas by the BC Geological Survey with information on the province's critical minerals endowment, to help support exploration and modernized land use planning;
 - The announcement of a \$1 billion First Nations Equity Financing Framework, creating the tools to support meaningful First Nation partnerships, including (but not specific to) critical minerals projects;
 - Partnership with First Nations and industry to identify and advance critical-mineral infrastructure like Transmission Lines that are essential to critical-mineral development and growth, supported by a \$36-billion BC Hydro capital plan;
 - Ongoing engagement with First Nations across the province and work with the First Nations Energy and Mining Council on the alignment of respective critical minerals strategies; and,
 - Work to develop Phase 2 of BC's Critical Minerals Strategy.

Opportunity/Challenges:

- BC competes for investment in this sector on a global scale, and action is required to ensure the competitiveness of our critical minerals projects and address barriers to development such as infrastructure gaps, First Nations capacity and regulatory certainty.

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- Although BC is viewed as a stable jurisdiction with strong Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards, rising interest rates and inflation are impacting financing conditions, affecting the availability of funds for mining projects as institutional investors are looking at other jurisdictions.
 - Annual industry mining reports ranks government regulation as the highest risk to mining in BC and have seen BC continue to fall down the list.
 - Early indications of 2024 exploration spending shows in BC show a decline from 2023 while Ontario and Quebec are trending up.
 - Ontario and Quebec have invested over \$20B in the critical minerals value chain since 2021 and have initiated aggressive media marketing strategies.
- The perception of permitting mines in BC is shaped by a mix of factors, including:
 - Permitting timelines and regulatory scrutiny – viewed as lengthy and complex; recent government initiatives to improve process efficiency are viewed positively but leave room to improve timeline certainty;
 - Indigenous engagement – complex with evolving and increasing expectations for consent-based decisions, project partnership and revenue sharing in absence of clear policy;
 - Infrastructure gaps – particularly availability of power and access to ports, are identified as key project risks;
 - Environmental concerns – heightened scrutiny including from cross-border interests, and new cumulative effects and biodiversity policy that increase complexity for individual projects; and,
 - Government commitment – Recent efforts to improve permitting efficiency and process certainty are viewed positively but skepticism remains about governments commitment to the mining sector in light of limited significant action relative to other jurisdictions.
- For BC to remain competitive in the critical minerals space and realize the regional and provincial economic growth opportunity, targeted initiatives are required to provide certainty for the mining industry, investors.
 - Government invested \$6M over three years to develop and begin implementing phase 1 of BC’s Critical Minerals Strategy.
 - EMLI is making modest progress within existing resources while not meeting expectations of industry or First Nations.

BC Critical Minerals Strategy – Phase 2
Advice/Recommendations

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- BC's current fiscal outlook indicates projected deficits. However, the critical minerals sector presents a strategic opportunity to drive economic growth. By implementing an enhanced funding package, government can strengthen its fiscal position while fostering a robust mining industry in British Columbia. The results of comprehensive engagement and analysis by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and the First Nations Major Project Coalition (FNMPC) informs the understanding of the scale of the critical minerals opportunity, barriers to success, and the actions needed to secure a competitive BC mining sector.

Advice/Recommendations

- Phase 2 can advance the development of critical minerals value chains in a way that aligns with the values of British Columbians focusing on the circular economy and sustainable resources required for modern technology.
- Investment is required to realize this opportunity and transform BC's critical minerals sector.

Considerations:

Advice/Recommendations

- Without new investment, BC will fall further behind competitor jurisdictions who have strategies with significant investments to address barriers and create certainty, jeopardizing BC's ability to establish itself in the critical minerals value supply chain.

Advice/Recommendations

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Advice/Recommendations ; Business Information ; Intergovernmental Communications

- In July 2024, Deputy Minister’s Committee on Natural Resources established a Southeast Initiatives Secretariat (SEI Secretariat) comprised of representatives from the Natural Resource Sector (NRS) Ministries, including EMLI, under the leadership of a dedicated Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) to develop and implement a coordinated and aligned cross-ministry strategy to establish conditions necessary to support continued responsible metallurgic coal mining in the Elk Valley.

Advice/Recommendations

- In addition to supporting the work of other NRS Ministries and the collective priorities of the SEI Secretariat, EMLI is advancing ministry-specific work around permitting, bonding, and reclamation and closure.

Permitting

- Mining is a highly regulated industry requiring many authorizations from multiple different provincial permitting agencies.
- EMLI, through the Major Mines Office, manages the coordinated authorizations process for major applications to streamline, avoid duplication of efforts, and harmonize a single consultation process with Indigenous Nations for proposed projects requiring multiple provincial authorizations.
- Dedicated staff from permitting agencies (EMLI, ENV and WLRs) are assigned to administer the regulatory processes associated with EVR’s Elk Valley mines. Given the complexity and scale of EVR’s mines, EVR advances, and BC staff adjudicate a high volume of permitting work. In 2023, 57 authorizations were issued to EVR, each requiring review and assessment by BC staff.
- BC’s permitting priorities in the Elk Valley are water quality mitigation projects, and mine expansions.
 - EVR’s ability improve water quality conditions is needed to mitigate environmental impacts of historic and current mining, and to establish support for continued responsible mining in the Elk Valley.
 - Until the broader SEI Secretariat strategy is implemented and BC is positioned to consider large, EA-level expansions, smaller mine expansions under EA thresholds need to be advanced by EVR and considered by BC to maintain operations at the mines.

Bonding

- Under the *Mines Act*, the Chief Permitting Officer has the authority to set the amount and form of security reflective of the reclamation, environmental, and closure liability obligations present at a mine.
- The current liability assessed for EVR’s five Elk Valley mines is \$2.495B which has

been fully bonded: \$1.9B in surety bonds and the remainder through the exploration incentive security.

- EMLI is undertaking a review of the liability associated with EVR's water treatment facilities that will result in an increase in the total bond required for the five coal mine sites. The decision to increase the bonds for the five coal mine sites is anticipated to be referred to the Chief Permitting Officer for decision in early 2025, following discussions with EVR and consultation with First Nations.

Reclamation and Closure

- BC and EVR's ability to demonstrate and plan for effective, long-term, mine reclamation and closure is critical for establishing support for continued mining in the Elk Valley.
- Mines in BC are required to submit updated Reclamation and Closure Plans (5 Yr RCPs) every five years, which include updated reclamation liability cost estimates.
- The 5 Yr RCPs for each of EVR's five Elk Valley sites have been reviewed by technical staff from BC and the Ktunaxa Nation Council (KNC).
- EMLI has initiated a process to amend the EVR 5 Yr RCP requirements to ensure reclamation and closure planning and reporting are effectively demonstrating EVR's reclamation and closure obligations and total liabilities.

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

- EVR's four operating metallurgic coal mines in the Elk Valley are important to the BC economy and are a major employer in the region. However, decades of development have resulted in negative environmental impacts which makes authorizing further mine expansions challenging.
- To support establishing the conditions necessary to enable continued mining, EMLI will continue to advance priority work related to permitting (water quality mitigations and non-EA mine expansions), bonding, and reclamation and closure, in addition to the broader SEI Secretariat strategy.

Decision(s) Required / Next Steps:

- EMLI is putting substantial effort into amalgamating and modernizing the Elk Valley permits and closing the gap between estimated liabilities and security held for those sites in the next 6 months.
- There are no decisions or next steps required by the incoming Government specific to EMLI's mandate in the Elk Valley.

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Northeast Electrification Strategy and Projects

Issue:

- A coordinated electrification strategy is required in northeast B.C. to enable future economic growth, achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions, while supporting industry competitiveness and meeting Treaty 8 obligations.

Background:

Transmission/Distribution

- In the North Montney region of northeastern B.C., there is currently no transmission infrastructure to electrify the significant development arising from abundant natural gas reserves.
 - BC Hydro is working with prospective customers and government to facilitate, and, where appropriate, fund industry collaboration in building the infrastructure needed to connect to BC Hydro's grid.
 - The goal is to reduce the cumulative effects of each customer building its own line to BC Hydro's system, as well as the time and cost to interconnect.
- Low carbon resource development is driven by Provincial emissions targets and the federal oil & gas emission cap, carbon taxes, and industry and global Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) expectations. These have created an imperative within industry to electrify (or supply by natural gas generation with CCS) by 2030 to maintain the financial viability of projects.
 - Electrification in the North Montney seems to be the preferred option to achieve significant emission reductions without curtailing natural gas production.
 - A group of producers have shown potential interest in constructing natural gas power generation combined with carbon capture and storage as an alternative to some transmission infrastructure. The commercial viability and costs of this alternative are in the early stages of exploration by proponents.

Business Information; Government Financial Information

- In alignment with BC Hydro's interconnection tariffs, industry is required to build their own transmission infrastructure to connect to BC Hydro's existing system, with the option to transfer the lines to BC Hydro once built, thereby avoiding the long-term operation and maintenance of the lines.
 - Business Information

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Business Information

- Distribution lines from substations across the region to individual facilities that are converting electric drive compression will be needed to deliver electricity once transmission infrastructure is in place.
- North Montney customers have asked BC Hydro to consider a potential tolling arrangement where BC Hydro finances the transmission lines upon the start of construction or asset transfer.
 - The customer(s) would pay an annual toll for an agreed upon term at a rate that would be aligned with BC Hydro's cost of capital and a reasonable return.
 - BC Hydro is assessing the feasibility of this approach and the regulatory implications.
 - The feasibility of a finance arrangement will in part be subject to BC Hydro's borrowing capacity, defined by its debt-to-equity ratio.
 - The recent increases to forecast capital expenditures will put pressure on BC Hydro's debt to equity ratio and may constrain additional debt requirements in fiscal 2026/2027.

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

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Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Government Financial Information

Generation

The current call for power has generated considerable potential interest in wind generation opportunities in northeast BC. Infrastructure considerations to connect future projects will also need to be considered in the context of NE planning. Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications Subsequent calls to power are anticipated at 2-4 year intervals going forward.

First Nations

- BC Hydro has met with Treaty 8 Nations to provide context on drivers for North Montney electrification and new power generation. Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- First Nations are seeking to understand the full picture of electrification to meaningfully engage on projects and potential economic participation.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Implications / Considerations / Opportunities:

- Emissions policy has made it imperative for North Montney producers to decarbonize for their projects to remain financially viable and electrification is currently the preferred option. Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Decision(s) Required / Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION
30-60-90-Day Issues

Issue / Decision / Activity	Brief Description
30 Days (by Nov 30)	
	Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications
	Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
	Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications
	Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Two items in **PURPLE** (Mount Polley 30 and 60 day and Electricity System Strategic Review 60-day) were added after submission of the Corporate Binder.

Issue / Decision / Activity	Brief Description
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Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications

60 Days (by Dec 31)

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications

Issue / Decision / Activity	Brief Description
Canada-BC Equivalency Agreement on Release of Methane from the Upstream Oil and Gas Sector – <i>Minister’s decision and signature</i>	Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications	
Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications	
Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications	

Issue / Decision / Activity	Brief Description
	Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications
90 Days (by Jan 31)	
	Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications
<i>Ksi Lisims LNG – Decisions pending with EAO on Facility and Pipeline</i>	Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications
	Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications

Issue / Decision / Activity	Brief Description
Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications	

Issue / Decision / Activity	Brief Description
	Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications

Decision Items in this list may have further detail in either Major Corporate Issues Notes or Briefing Notes on 30/60/90-day Decision. Please see Section Four: Issues and Decisions.

Briefing Note on 30-day Decision

LNG Canada Phase 2

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

Decision Required From: Cabinet

Background and Context:

Intergovernmental Communications

Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

ADM Responsible: Nathaniel Amann-Blake, Energy Resources Division

¹ Phase 1 consists of two liquefaction trains that will produce 14 million tonnes of LNG per annum. Development of Phase 2, if it moves forward, would double that output (two additional trains) with additional compressor stations along the connecting Coastal GasLink pipeline.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

Briefing Note on 30-day Decision

Industrial Electricity Allocation Framework

Issue/Decision/Activity: Advice/Recommendations
Advice/Recommendations

Decision Required From: Minister

Background and Context:

- The growth in new industrial customer interconnection requests, both in number and magnitude, requires a broader consideration of how British Columbia's (B.C.'s) clean electricity resources are managed.
- New policy approaches are needed to balance industrial competitiveness and new investment with electrification in other sectors of the economy, all while keeping the system reliable and rates affordable.

Advice/Recommendations

Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations

ADM Responsible: Chris Gilmore, Electricity and Utility Regulation Division

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Advice/Recommendations ; Cabinet Confidences

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Briefing Note on 30 Day Decision

Blueberry River First Nations Land Use Planning

Issue/Decision/Activity: Continuation of Blueberry River First Nations High Value and Watershed Management Basin Planning

Decision Required From: Treasury Board/Cabinet

Background and Context:

- The Blueberry River First Nations (BRFN) Implementation Agreement (IA) outlines commitments to complete High Value (HV) Plans and Watershed Management Basin (WMB) Plans as core components of a new Cumulative Effects Management Regime.
- Substantive delays have impacted completion timelines. These delays are related to data availability, technical resource capacity, community and industry engagement, extreme weather and wildfire events, Interests of an Indigenous People
- A B.C.-BRFN planning team is developing a proposed Terms of Reference (TOR), building on the learnings of previous HV1 planning processes. Specifically, the draft TOR sets out revised timelines and a new governance model for completion of future HV Plans as outlined in the IA.

Legal Information

- The transitory measures in the BRFN IA were given legal effect through regulation. Interests of an Indigenous People
Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

Next Steps:

- There is a high degree of urgency and need from industry to advance their development projects within HV and WMB Plan areas. These developments cannot occur until planning is complete.
- Delivery of accelerated planning commitments may require re-alignment of provincial planning teams across agencies.

Intergovernmental Communications

Briefing Note on 30 Day Decision

- Anticipated timelines for the next HV1 Plans are March 2025. Landscape Planning Pilots with other Treaty 8 Nations are on track for completion in winter 2025. Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences
Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences
- Ministerial Orders may be required to support environmental offsetting associated with HV1 Plans and landscape planning pilots.

ADM Responsible: Viva Wolf, A/ADM, Strategic and Indigenous Partnerships Division

Briefing Note on 30-day Decision

Ammonia Transportation by Rail

Activity: Canadian National Railway (CN) and Hydrogen export projects in Alberta and BC are asking Canada to support the transportation as Hydrogen-as-ammonia, a dangerous good. Tripartite discussions are underway with Canada on a risk assessment, liability framework, and First Nations engagement strategy.

Decision Required From: Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI)

Background and Context:

- Hydrogen-as-ammonia is expected to play an important role in the global future energy mix as it is more efficient than gaseous hydrogen to transport and there is existing infrastructure (e.g., rail, marine vessels, etc.) in many jurisdictions to support large-scale ammonia transportation.
- CN is exploring the potential to transport ammonia from producers in Alberta to B.C.'s coastal export facilities in Prince Rupert and has completed a preliminary risk assessment to inform discussions with the federal government.
- Findings from CN's preliminary risk assessment indicate that safely transporting large volumes of ammonia – an extremely hazardous Toxic Inhalation (TIH) substance – by rail will require the development of new rail infrastructure and the establishment of an appropriate liability regime.

Advice/Recommendations

- EMLI and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) continue to lead the Province's participation in trilateral discussions with Alberta and the federal government to ensure B.C.'s interests are protected.

Advice/Recommendations

Briefing Note on 30-day Decision

Advice/Recommendations

Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations

ADM Responsible: Nathaniel Amann-Blake, Assistant Deputy Minister, Energy Resources Division

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Advice/Recommendations ; Business Information ; Cabinet Confidences ; Intergovernmental Communications

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Advice/Recommendations ; Business Information ; Cabinet Confidences ; Intergovernmental Communications

Briefing Note on 30-day and 60-day Decisions

Mount Polley Mine Material Change Determinations

Issue/Decision/Activity: Determination of whether the separately proposed tailings storage facility dam raise and open pit expansion activities constitute a material change to the Development as defined under the Mount Polley Mine Development Certificate.

Decision Required From:

1. Ministerial determination regarding materiality of proposed dam raise for the Mount Polley Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) from 970 to 974 masl (30-day).
2. Ministerial determination regarding materiality of proposed Mount Polley Springer Pit expansion (60-day).

Background and Context:

- Mount Polley Mine, located 100 km northeast of Williams Lake, is owned by Imperial Metals Corp, and Operated by Mount Polley Mining Corp (MPMC).
- The mine was in Care & Maintenance between 2019 and 2022 in response to unfavorable market conditions. In 2022, with improving conditions, the mine resumed developing the permitted open pit (Phase 4 Cariboo-Springer Pit) as approved under M-200.
- MPMC has submitted separate M-200 amendment applications to the Major Mines Office (MMO) for the TSF dam raise and the Springer Pit expansion.
- MPMC has indicated that a TSF dam raise from 970 to 974 masl is required to provide storage capacity for tailings resulting from already approved mining. MPMC has indicated that the dam raise must be completed prior to freshet (spring) 2025 to avoid an impact to operations (~200 jobs).
- While Phase 4 mining is anticipated to finish in ~2026, MPMC recognizes an opportunity to extend life-of-mine with the development of the Springer Pit expansion. This proposed project is within the existing mine boundary and would support an additional ~8 years of operation, depending on market conditions.
- In 1992 the mine was granted a Mine Development Certificate (MDC), a form of ministerial approval that pre-dates the Environmental Assessment Act.
- The MDC Condition 2 states: Imperial Metals shall, prior to material alteration of the Development as described in the Application, obtain the written consent of the Minister (e.g. Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation) and the Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks (e.g.

Briefing Note on 30-day and 60-day Decisions

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy), and the Ministers may determine what constitutes a material alteration.

- No material alterations to the Mount Polley Mine may be permitted under *Mines Act* permit M-200 without first receiving Minister consent or an amendment to the MDC.
- MPMC has submitted separate reports to the Minister concluding that the TSF dam raise and Springer Pit Expansion do not represent material alterations to the Development as defined in the MDC.
- First Nations have expressed a desire for a full environmental assessment of the proposed activities.

Advice/Recommendations

ADM Responsible: Tania Demchuk, Responsible Mining and Competitiveness Division

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Advice/Recommendations ; Cabinet Confidences ; Interests of an Indigenous People ; Intergovernmental
Communications

Briefing Note on 60-day Decision

Cedar LNG

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Background and Context:

- Cedar LNG is a floating LNG facility under construction in Kitimat. The project is positioned to leverage BC's natural gas supply to provide up to 3.3 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) of LNG to overseas markets.
- Cedar LNG is a partnership between the Haisla Nation and Pembina Pipeline Corporation. Haisla Nation owns 50.1% of the project, making Cedar LNG the first Indigenous-led and majority-owned LNG export facility in the world.
- In June 2024, Cedar LNG announced a positive final investment decision on the project. The project has a total estimated cost of \$4.0 billion USD. Construction has started and Cedar LNG is anticipated to commence operations in late 2028.

Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Briefing Note on 60-day Decision

Next Steps:

Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

ADM Responsible: Nathaniel Amann-Blake, Energy Resources Division

Briefing Note on 60-day Decision

Go Electric - Advanced Research and Commercialization (ARC) Program

Issue/Decision/Activity:

On April 8, 2024, the administration by MNP LLP of the Go Electric - Advanced Research and Commercialization (ARC) Program was paused in response to an alleged conflict of interest. At that time the Ministry was in the final stages of making a funding decision for the third ARC funding call. The Office of the Comptroller General (OCG) and the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) separately reviewed the administration of the program. The OCG found the program was in compliance with government core policy and applicable legislation, and the OAG found no evidence of conflict of interest. With the OCG and OAG reviews now complete the program can be taken off pause and the Ministry can proceed to make funding decisions for the third call. Advice/Recommendations; Business Information; Government Financial Information; Intergovernmental Communications

Decision Required From: Minister

Background and Context:

The ARC Program is intended to support the economic development of British Columbia's (B.C.) zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) industry sector. The program provides targeted commercialization support for researching, developing, and demonstrating B.C.-based ZEV technologies. A total of \$9.3 million (M) was committed to 23 projects during the first two funding calls, completed projects (eight to date) are summarized in Appendix A. Examples of the program's ongoing noteworthy projects are summarized in Appendix B. There is \$9.7M in available funds for the third ARC Program funding call which received 53 Expressions of Interest (EOIs) requesting approximately \$33M. The Ministry invited 24 proponents to submit full proposals, and 20 proposals requesting approximately \$16.3M were submitted in early 2024. The ARC Program's technical review panel completed evaluations of all EOIs and proposals.

Next Steps: The Ministry will prepare a decision note for the Minister to confirm which projects will receive ARC funding. Applicants have been waiting for a funding decision since proposal submissions in February 2024; therefore, the Ministry recommends notifying successful/unsuccessful recipients by December 31, 2024.

ADM Responsible: Nat Gosman, Energy Decarbonization Division

Briefing Note on 60-day Decision

Attachments:

Appendix A - Completed Projects

Appendix B – Ongoing Projects

Appendix A - Completed Projects

Funding Call	Proponent Name	Project Description	Primary Location	Funding Amount Committed
ARC 2018	IRDI Systems Inc.	Developed and commercialized a controller that allows trucks and buses to utilize hydrogen filling more effectively.	Richmond	\$54,990
ARC 2020	HTEC	Developed a Back Up Dispenser (“BUD”) for fueling hydrogen fuel cell vehicles. The BUD module is produced in B.C. and will support hydrogen fueling stations across the province.	North Vancouver	\$100,000
ARC 2018	AVL	Developed a simulation tool that provides an accurate measure of fuel cell degradation, cost, and performance.	Burnaby	\$146,750
ARC 2020	Grin Technologies Ltd.	Scaled up a manufacturing facility and processes to meet market demand for the Front All-Axle Light Electric Vehicle motor.	Vancouver	\$348,333
ARC 2020	Capilano Maritime Design Ltd.	Designed a hydrogen fueled harbour cruise boat.	North Vancouver	\$178,145
ARC 2020	Ionomr Innovations Inc.	Advanced the development and commercialization of ion exchange membranes for fuel cell batteries.	Vancouver	\$205,780
ARC 2020	Delta-Q Technologies Corp.	Developed a high power and high voltage onboard battery charger for commercial and industrial EVs.	Burnaby	\$300,000
ARC 2020	GreenPower Motor Company	Developed the first purpose-built, zero emissions-all-electric HandyDART. The product utilizes GreenPower’s EVStar Cab and Chassis.	Vancouver	\$161,180

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Business Information

Briefing Note on 60-Day Decision

Regulatory Efficiency Pilot or Expression of Interest

Issue/Decision/Activity: Confirmation of pilot project *or* approval of Expression of Interest (EOI) for Regulatory Efficiency Pilot in priority sectors (e.g., critical minerals, hydrogen, and electrification).

Decision Required From: Minister

Background and Context:

- The British Columbia Regional Energy and Resource Table, launched in June 2022, is a partnership of the Government of Canada, the Government of B.C. and the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) to develop joint actions to advance regional growth opportunities.
- One of the priorities identified through Regional Table engagement was improving regulatory efficiency and permitting timelines to advance projects in key sectors such as critical minerals, hydrogen and electrification. This issue was raised as a major concern by business, industry, labour and environmental organizations during the engagement process.
- Strategic Initiatives Branch (SIB) staff have been working with provincial and federal colleagues since fall 2023 to identify suitable projects for a regulatory efficiency pilot. As no pilots have been confirmed to date, the July 2024 Regional Table One-Year Progress Report included a commitment to advance an EOI from proponents to solicit proposals for regulatory pilots.
- SIB staff continue to work with relevant EMLI and Environmental Assessment Office contacts to identify projects for potential regulatory pilots. Should one or more regulatory pilot projects be confirmed by mid-November, the decision note would request approval to proceed with them. If not, the decision note would seek approval for public release of the EOI.

Next Steps:

- Decision Note to seek direction on approval of regulatory pilot(s) or public release of the EOI.
- Engagement with FNLC will be required prior to public release, if direction is given to proceed with the EOI.

ADM Responsible: Viva Wolf, Strategic and Indigenous Partnerships Division

Briefing Note on 60-day Decision

Columbia River Treaty Agreement-In-Principle Amendments Engagement

Issue/Decision/Activity: Continuation of virtual and in-person engagement with Columbia Basin communities to provide details on the Columbia River Treaty Agreement-In-Principle Amendments and seek feedback.

Decision Required From: Minister

Background and Context:

- For information on the Columbia River Treaty Agreement-in-Principle, please see Major Corporate Issues Note: Columbia River Treaty in Section 4, tab 8.
- The Province has publicly committed to engaging with Columbia Basin communities and local governments before a modernized Columbia River Treaty (CRT) is finalized, to explain what it includes and seek feedback.
- This engagement began in July 2024, shortly after Canada and the United States reached an Agreement-In-Principle (AIP) to modernize the CRT.
- Engagement activities before the British Columbia (B.C.) interregnum focused on sharing information about the AIP and answering questions. Virtual and in-person community meetings are being planned after the interregnum, to continue answering questions and seek feedback.

Next Steps:

Cabinet Confidences

Executive Responsible: Les MacLaren, Strategic Energy Advisor, Office of the Deputy Minister

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Advice/Recommendations

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Advice/Recommendations ; Cabinet Confidences ; Interests of an Indigenous People

Briefing Note on 60-Day Decision

Canada-BC Equivalency Agreement on Release of Methane from Upstream Oil and Gas Sector

Issue/Decision/Activity: To avoid dual federal and provincial regulation of methane emissions from oil and gas operations, a new Canada-BC equivalency agreement needs to be approved and signed Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Decision Required From: Minister Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

Background and Context:

- BC has an equivalency agreement with Canada for oil and gas sector methane emissions regulations which expires in March 2025.
- The agreement allows for the federal oil and gas section methane emission regulations to be disapplied in BC provided that BC regulations are demonstrated to be equivalent.
- Both BC and the federal government are now advancing enhanced methane emissions regulations to achieve a 75 percent reduction target by 2030.
- The enhanced federal regulations and associated equivalency assessment will not be completed before the current agreement expires.
- To avoid dual federal and provincial regulation of methane emissions from oil and gas operations, a new equivalency agreement is needed in the interim. Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
- Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
- ECCC has completed a 60-day public consultation period, as required by federal process and published for comment in Canada Gazette (CG) Part I:
 - the draft BC - Canada equivalency agreement;
 - a draft Order-in-Council (OIC) package to stand down the federal regulations, and a Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement.

Next Steps:

- ECCC is preparing a report on the comments to publish and will reengage with BC to negotiate a final equivalency agreement that the parties will advance for their Ministers' approval/signatures.
- Once the final agreements are signed, ECCC will seek federal Cabinet approval of the OIC to stand down the federal regulations; then publish the final agreement and OIC in CG Part II, prior to the expiry of the current agreement.

ADM Responsible: Nathaniel Amann-Blake, Energy Resources Division

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Briefing Note on 60-day Decision

Expiry of Various Appointment Terms – BC Hydro Board

Issue/Decision/Activity: Expiry of various appointment terms

Decision Required From: Cabinet (Order-in-Council)

Background and Context:

- BC Hydro’s Board of Directors is appointed by Cabinet and is responsible for overseeing BC Hydro's affairs.
 - The **Chair** provides leadership to the Board and coordinates its activities in the best interests of BC Hydro.
 - **Directors** are mandated to be stewards of the corporation. As a member of the Board, Directors are responsible for overseeing conduct of business, supervising management and ensuring that all major issues affecting the business affairs of the corporation are given proper consideration.
- Five members of the BC Hydro Board – including the Board Chair – have terms which expire on **December 31, 2024**:

Name	Date Appointed
Lori Wanamaker (Chair)	January 1, 2023
Amanda Hobson	May 6, 2022
Chief Clarence Louie	July 12, 2021
Victoria MacMillan	July 12, 2021
Nalaine Morin	February 10, 2020

Next Steps:

- BC Hydro’s Corporate Secretary’s Office liaises with the Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO) regarding Board appointment decisions with decisions ultimately made by Cabinet (and approved via an Order-in-Council with the Lieutenant Governor General).
- The Minister Responsible is also involved in appointments via communications with the Board Chair.

Briefing Note on 90-day Decision

North Coast Transmission Line Regulatory Decisions and Permitting Responsibility

Issue/Decision/Activity: Decisions regarding regulatory and permitting responsibility will be required for the North Coast Transmission Line (NCTL).

Cabinet Confidences; Intergovernmental Communications

Decision Required From: Minister (new North Coast Tariff) and/or Cabinet (CPCN)

Background and Context:

- The NCTL is a proposed 500 kiloVolt (kV) transmission line (approx. 450 kms) between Prince George and Terrace, parallel to the existing 500 kV transmission line that would significantly increase electricity capacity in region.
- The NCTL Project is being advanced in two concurrent phases:
 - Phase 1 (Prince George to Glenannan substation near Fraser Lake) - primarily through territory of 4 Nechako First Nations (Nechako Coalition); and,
 - Phase 2 (Glenannan to Terrace) - through territory of 10 Nations including the Wet'suwet'en and Tsimshian Nations, several that are represented by the K'uul Power group.
- BC Hydro (BCH) must apply for a CPCN for any system extensions or power system projects with an estimated cost over \$250 million. Intergovernmental Communications
- Section 22 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) allows the Minister to exempt BCH from requiring a CPCN through a ministerial order; Section 3 of the UCA allows Cabinet, through the Lieutenant Governor in Council, to issue directions to the BCUC regarding the exercise of its powers requiring BCH to obtain a CPCN for the NCTL.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications; Legal Information

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Advice/Recommendations ; Business Information ; Cabinet Confidences ; Government Financial Information

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Government Financial Information

Briefing Note on 90-day Decision

***Fuel Price Transparency Act* Treasury Board Submission**

Issue/Decision/Activity: The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) is requesting continued funding (~\$1 million annually) for the British Columbia Utilities Commission's (BCUC) activities as the *Fuel Price Transparency Act* Administrator.

Decision Required From: Minister

Background and Context:

- In November 2019, the Province passed the *Fuel Price Transparency Act* (FPTA) to provide more transparency to consumers on how gasoline and diesel prices are set in British Columbia (B.C.), and to understand market competitiveness.
- Under the FPTA, companies in the fuel industry in B.C. must submit fuel data (such as imports, storage capacity, sales and wholesale prices) to the BCUC.
- The BCUC is required to recover its costs as Administrator from Government. Funding from FY 2024/25 Contingencies expires on March 31, 2025. For consideration of additional funding, Treasury Board directed the EMLI to report back by June 2024 on how the BCUC's outputs are affecting public confidence or informing policy making.

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

Next Steps:

Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences

ADM Responsible: Chris Gilmore, Electricity and Utility Regulation Division

Date Updated: August 26, 2024

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Briefing Note on 90-day Decision

Formalization of Statutory Spending under *Mines Act* s.17

Issue/Decision/Activity: Access to consolidated revenue is granted under Section 17 of the *Mines Act* to protect public safety (e.g. closing mine openings) and the environment (e.g. protecting the integrity of tailings dams) at abandoned mine sites. The appropriation requires formalization through Treasury Board.

Decision Required From: Treasury Board

Background and Context:

There are approximately 2,500 abandoned mines in British Columbia. Since 2020, the Abandoned Mines Branch (AMB) has been actively inventorying and assessing the physical hazards posed by these sites. Abandoned mines present significant risks to human health and safety, including open portals (tunnels), vertical openings (stopes and shafts), and tailings storage facilities (tailings dams).

AMB has prioritized these hazards by risk and has initiated the development of work plans to address them. Under Section 17 of the *Mines Act* (S.17), the Chief Inspector and the Director of Abandoned Mines have the authority to “cause work to be done” at these sites where there is a risk to public safety or to prevent or abate pollution. Additionally, S.17 provides the Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) with access to funding from the consolidated revenue fund. A cost recovery provision states that any work conducted under S.17 creates a debt to the government and forms a lien against the land and mineral title where applicable.

High-level cost estimates for addressing these priority risks were developed in 2023, with expected expenditures for de-risking work in the 2024/2025 fiscal year ranging between \$0.7 million and \$1.2 million. This work will include closing mine openings, conducting repair work, and investigating crown-owned TSFs.

While access to consolidated revenue is granted under Section 17, the appropriation requires formalization through the Treasury Board. Treasury Board has been notified of the estimated expenditure range and has asked the AMB to update and formalize the statutory decision and related spending by the end of

Briefing Note on 90-day Decision

this fiscal year. We anticipate that the 2024 work will be completed and invoiced by February 2025, with the formalization process concluding shortly thereafter.

Next Steps:

Draft Statutory Decision Records: The AMB will draft a record of the Statutory Decision for each abandoned mine where funding from the consolidated revenue fund was accessed.

Determine Actual Spending: The AMB will present actual spending details to the Treasury Board.

ADM Responsible: George Warnock, Mines Health, Safety and Enforcement Division

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Communications

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Communications

Briefing Note on 90-day Decision

Clean Transportation Action Plan

Issue/Decision/Activity: Development of a comprehensive Clean Transportation Action Plan (CTAP) was a commitment made in the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030. Following policy development and engagement with interested parties and Indigenous peoples, the CTAP portfolio of actions received support in February 2024. A public document has been prepared but not yet released. Direction is required on if, how and when to release CTAP.

Decision Required From: Ministers of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation and Transportation and Infrastructure

Background and Context:

Development of a CTAP was a CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 commitment (Roadmap, published October 2021). It was also a mandate letter commitment for the Ministries of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (EMLI) and Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI), most recently in January 2024.

CTAP profiles a comprehensive set of policy and program actions government is taking to work toward transportation sector targets outlined in the Roadmap, including greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets, medium and heavy duty zero emission vehicle (ZEV) targets, and transportation efficiency targets. Clean and efficient transportation options have significant benefits for people, businesses and organizations in British Columbia including: enhanced affordability and competitiveness, reduced energy demand and costs, more clean jobs and economic development, reduced congestion, improved public health and enhanced access to services and markets.

Following policy development and engagement with interested parties and Indigenous peoples, the CTAP portfolio of actions received Cabinet support in February 2024. A graphically designed public document has been prepared but not yet released. Direction is required on the public release of the CTAP document.

Next Steps:

A joint decision note for EMLI and MOTI Ministers, seeking direction on CTAP document public release in early 2025 will be prepared.

ADM Responsible: Nat Gosman, Energy Decarbonization Division

Briefing Note on 90-day Decision

OIC: BC Energy Regulator Board Appointment

Issue/Decision/Activity: Terms of BC Energy Regulator's board members ending in October and February – replacements needed

Decision Required From: Cabinet

Background and Context:

- The *Energy Resource Activities Act* requires there to be at least five directors and no more than seven directors, appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, for the BC Energy Regulator board of directors to have quorum.
- Board member Patrick Kelly will have his appointment end on October 19, 2024. Four more board members will have their appointments end on February 17, 2025 (Shannon Baskerville, Ken Cameron, Chris Hayman and Natascha Kiernan).
- As the board will be losing five members in total, an Order in Council to appoint at least three board members will be required before February 17, 2025, to ensure the board of directors has quorum and can continue to govern the BC Energy Regulator. This could be done with one Order in Council to appoint all board members at the same time or separate Orders in Council to appoint members in batches.

Next Steps:

- The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, the BC Energy Regulator and the Crown Agency Board and Resourcing Office will continue to work together to recommend appointees to Cabinet and the Lieutenant Governor in Council before February 17, 2025.

ADM Responsible: Nathaniel Amann-Blake, Energy Resources Division

CROWN AGENCY PROFILE

Name: British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro)

Legislative Authority:

BC Hydro was created in 1962 with the passing of the BC Hydro Act. As a provincial Crown Corporation, BC Hydro reports to the Provincial Government through the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation. Government’s expectations are expressed through the following legislation:

- The Hydro and Power Authority Act
- The BC Hydro Public Power Legacy and Heritage Contract Act
- The Utilities Commission Act
- The Clean Energy Act

While legal obligations are not directly imposed on BC Hydro by the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, BC Hydro expresses its commitment to reconciliation and principles of UNDRIP through BC Hydro’s Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation Action Plan.

Mandate:

BC Hydro is a provincial Crown corporation with authorities to generate, manufacture, conserve, supply, acquire and dispose of power and related products and services. It generates and delivers electricity to 95% of the B.C. population and serves over five million people. BC Hydro’s mission is to safely provide its customers with reliable, affordable, clean electricity and its vision is a cleaner more sustainable future for all British Columbians. BC Hydro’s system includes: 30 hydroelectric plants, 80,000km of transmission and distribution lines, 125 contracts with independent power producers, 170 electric vehicle fast charging ports and over 9,000 customers enrolled in the net metering program allowing customers to generate their own electricity.

Current Appointees:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| • Lori Wanamaker (Chair) | • Lynette DuJohn, P.Eng. |
| • Daryl Fields, ICD.D. | • Amanda Hobson, CPA, CA, C. Dir. |
| • Irene Lanzinger | • Bill Lee, P.Eng. (Retired) |
| • Chief Clarence Louie | • Victoria McMillan, CPA, CA |
| • Nalaine Morin | • Vasee Navaratnam, P.Eng. |
| • John Nunn, P.Eng. | • Catherine Roome, P.Eng., FEC, ICD.D. |
| • Karen Tam Wu | • Mike McDonald, KC |

Appointments Required (60 Days – by December 31):

Name	Term	Name	Term
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Advice/Recommendations

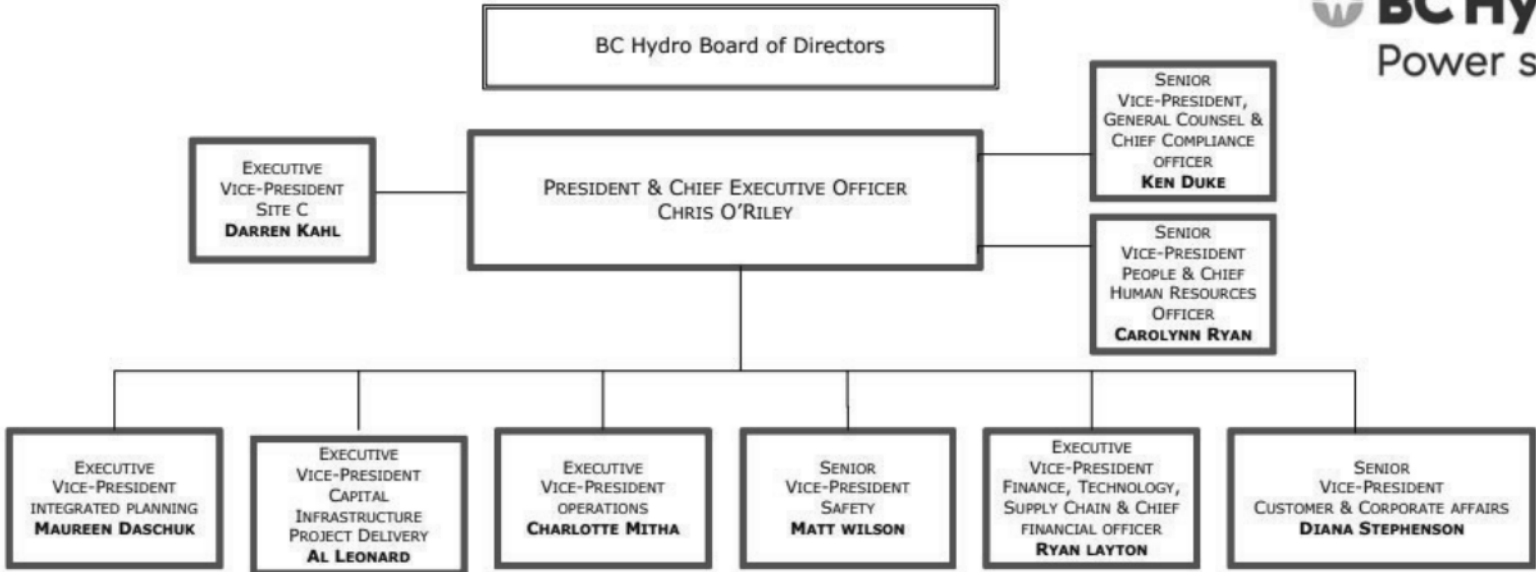
Issue(s):

The priorities and strategic issues are based on the 4 pillars of BC Hydro’s current 5-Year Strategic Plan (F22-26):

GOAL 1: ENERGIZE OUR PROVINCE	Upcoming Milestone
<p><u>BC Utilities Commission Proceedings— Residential Rate Options, Distribution Extension Policy:</u> BC Hydro is proposing to expand its rate options through an optional flat rate to further help British Columbians choose how they pay for electricity to meet their needs while saving on their energy bills. BC Hydro is proposing to modernize its Distribution Extension Policy to meet growing demand associated with B.C.'s population and housing growth</p>	<p>BC Utilities Commission decisions on BC Hydro's applications are expected in 2025.</p>
<p>Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information</p>	
<p><u>North Coast Transmission Line:</u> This project is a proposed expansion to our transmission system from Prince George to Terrace to meet growing demand and support the objectives of both our Electrification Plan and GHG emissions reductions targets. Discussions with First Nations regarding their interest in a co-ownership agreement for the project are on pause during the interregnum period. <i>This item also aligns with Goal 4: Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.</i></p>	<p>Discussions with First Nations are expected to resume after the election.</p>
<p><u>Call for Power:</u> On April 3, BC Hydro launched the first competitive call for power in 15 years to acquire approximately 3,000 gigawatt hours per year (GWh/y) of electricity to meet growing demand. The request for proposals period closed on Sept 16.</p>	<p>BC Hydro is targeting to award electricity purchase agreements to successful proponents in December 2024.</p>
<p><u>2025 Integrated Resource Plan:</u> The BC Utilities Commission set a target filing date of October 31, 2025 for BC Hydro's next Integrated Resource Plan – the long-term plan to ensure that we can meet the future electricity needs of our customers. Phase 1 engagement launched in May 2024 and concluded in September 2024. BC Hydro will release the summary report for Phase 1 of consultation in late fall/early winter.</p>	<p>BC Hydro will consider results of Phase 1 engagement as we begin drafting the 2025 Integrated Resource Plan. The draft 2025 Integrated Resource Plan will then be used in Phase 2 engagement from Feb-April 2025.</p>
GOAL 2: CONTROL OUR COSTS	Upcoming Milestone
<p><u>Revenue Requirements Application</u> BC Hydro seeks approval for customer rate increases or decreases through the Revenue Requirements Application, based on our financial forecasts. BC Hydro filed its last application in August 2021, which covered a three-year period from Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2025. BC Hydro is targeting to file our next application in February 2025, which will cover a two-year period for Fiscal 2026 and 2027.</p>	<p>BC Hydro has historically aligned the filing with the timing of the provincial budget and is engaging with Government on the potential implications of the transition period on the timing of our filing.</p>
<p>Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information</p>	
<p><u>Site C Clean Energy Project</u> Site C will provide 1,100 megawatts (MW) of capacity and increase BC Hydro's current supply by 8%. Site C will produce about 5,100 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity each year – enough energy to power the equivalent of about 450,000 homes per year in British Columbia. Reservoir filling began in late summer 2024.</p>	<p>The first unit power date is anticipated for December 2024, with the project being fully completed by late of 2025.</p>
GOAL 3: STRENGTHEN OUR RESILIENCE AND AGILITY	Upcoming Milestone
<p>Advice/Recommendations; Cabinet Confidences; Government Financial Information</p>	

GOAL 4: ADVANCE RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES	Upcoming Milestone
<p><u>Call for Power:</u> BC Hydro is requiring equity ownership by First Nations (minimum 25% held by one or more First Nations, whose territory includes the location of the project). Additional credits will be awarded for higher equity ownership and benefits to non-equity holding First Nations. <i>Please see summary under “Energize our Province” section for further detail.</i></p>	<p>BC Hydro is targeting to award electricity purchase agreements to successful proponents in December 2024.</p>

Organizational Chart:



Subsidiaries

- Powerex Corp.
- Powertech Labs Inc.

Lori Wanamaker

Chair of the Board, BC Hydro



Appointed January 1, 2023

Lori has over 30 years of experience with the B.C. provincial government. Most recently Lori served as the Deputy Minister to the Premier, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the B.C. Public Service for the former Premier John Horgan.

Prior to this appointment, Lori held the position of Deputy Minister for the ministries of Finance; Children and Family Development; Justice; Public Safety and Solicitor General; Tourism, Culture and the Arts; and Labour and Citizens' Services. She also served as an Assistant Deputy Minister of several different portfolios within the ministries of Municipal Affairs and Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services.

Dedicated to serving the province, Lori was awarded the Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal for Excellence in Public Administration in 2014. She was also selected as one of Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 in 2013, B.C.'s Most Influential Women in Finance: Public Service in 2019, and in 2011 was honoured with a Fellowship from The Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia.

BC Hydro Executive Team



Chris O'Riley
President & CEO

Chris O'Riley leads BC Hydro, B.C.'s largest Crown corporation and the ninth largest company in the province as ranked by annual revenue. Powered by water, BC Hydro safely provides reliable, affordable, clean electricity to its five million customers.

To ensure a reliable supply of this critical product, BC Hydro is spending approximately \$2.9 billion per year over the next 10 years to refurbish and expand its electricity assets. With construction of the Site C Project currently underway, BC Hydro continues to seek opportunities to support clean energy development in B.C., such as through low-carbon electrification.

Chris built his career at BC Hydro, starting as an engineer-in-training fresh out of university in 1990. He has held positions throughout the organization and across the province during his career, including working with customers, leading operations, overseeing capital projects, and managing risk for BC Hydro's trading subsidiary, Powerex.

Chris is a Professional Engineer in electrical engineering and holds a master's degree in Business Administration from the Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario. Personal Information he is active in his local community.



Al Leonard
Executive Vice-President, Capital Infrastructure Project Delivery

Al Leonard is BC Hydro's Executive Vice-President, Capital Infrastructure Project Delivery. Al joined BC Hydro in 1998 and has held positions in a number of areas across the organization including properties, strategic partnerships, and customer care. Prior to his current position he was the Director of Indigenous Relations.

Al leads the delivery of BC Hydro's capital infrastructure projects of over \$500 million per year – about 300 projects with the exception of Site C. His portfolio includes Indigenous Relations, Properties, Project Delivery and Environment. These groups are critical business partners that support BC Hydro's projects. Together they ensure the projects that are vital to reliably meeting the province's electricity needs are completed on time and within budget, while considering Indigenous interests, the environment and meeting our greenhouse gas reduction targets. Al and his team lead BC Hydro's efforts towards advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, by working with Indigenous nations to build mutually-beneficial relationships and implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Right of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

Prior to joining BC Hydro, Al worked for Canada Post Corporation, where he headed up the National Account program for the utility and finance sectors. Al completed a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of British Columbia and is active in his community and on a number of external boards.

BC Hydro Executive Team



Carolynn Ryan
Senior Vice-President, People & Chief Human Resources Officer

Carolynn Ryan is BC Hydro's Senior Vice-President, People & Chief Human Resources Officer and has been with the company since 2018. She leads the team of HR professionals who support employees through the entire employment life cycle from recruitment to retirement.

Carolynn's portfolio includes recruitment, people development, inclusion and diversity, labour relations, benefits and ethics. Her team works collaboratively with many groups across the organization to support managers and employees to do their best work, recognizing that everyone comes to work every day wanting to add value and be valued.

Carolynn has worked in HR for her entire career, specializing for many years in Labour Relations and collective bargaining. Before joining BC Hydro, she worked at WorkSafeBC for 25 years in progressively more senior positions in Human Resources, with her final positions as Director of Labour Relations & Strategic Partnerships and Director, HR Operations - Worker and Employer Services. She also served on the Board of Directors for the Law Society of BC as a Bencher for four years and as HR Committee Chair for several non-profit childcare Boards.

Personal Information

Personal Information

She lives by the motto "lead, learn, share" recognizing that when we lead by example, learn from one another, and are open to sharing our knowledge and experience, we all grow.



Charlotte Mitha
Executive Vice-President, Operations

Charlotte Mitha is BC Hydro's Executive Vice-President, Operations. Charlotte joined BC Hydro in 2004, and most recently held the position of Director, Operations Work Management, responsible for nine process and technology projects impacting 2,600 employees, 300,000 work orders and over \$300 million of capital and maintenance work.

Charlotte leads a team that includes construction services, lines and stations field operations, generation and T&D system operations, distribution design and customer connections, as well as program and contract management parts of our business. This team operates the hydroelectric system, executes maintenance and capital work and connects customers.

Prior to joining BC Hydro, Charlotte worked in engineering and construction management roles on hydroelectric generation projects.

Charlotte is a Professional Engineer in mechanical engineering and holds Masters of Business Administration from the Royal Holloway College at the University of London.



Darren Kahl
Executive Vice-President, Site C

Darren joined the Site C project team in 2015 and was named Executive Vice President in July 2022. In this role, he holds overall responsibility for the delivery of BC Hydro's largest capital project, a third dam and hydroelectric generating station on the Peace River in northeast B.C.

Darren joined at BC Hydro in 1992 as a Graduate Engineer-in-Training. Prior to joining Site C, he was the General Manager of Generation Operations where he led the team to meet the availability, reliability, and maintenance performance standards for BC Hydro's fleet of hydroelectric and thermal plants.

Before that, as Director of Generation Engineering, Darren led the team that implemented the Portfolio and Project Management (PPM) system with the Generation Engineering Group. PPM is an enterprise-level solution to manage and implement major capital projects all across BC Hydro which BC Hydro continues to use today on its projects including Site C.

Darren is proud to be leading the incredible team that's working to safely complete the Site C project on time and on budget. Site C is a once-in-a-generation project that will be instrumental in supporting our Electrification Plan and contribute to building a sustainable economy in B.C.



Maureen Daschuk
Executive Vice-President, Integrated Planning

Maureen Daschuk is BC Hydro's Executive Vice-President, Integrated Planning. Maureen joined BC Hydro in 2009, and most recently held the position of Director of Program & Contract Management, responsible for delivering more than \$500M of capital and maintenance program work annually.

Maureen's portfolio includes energy planning, asset management, dam safety and engineering. This team plays an integral role in planning a safe, efficient and reliable system that meets the needs of our customers, today and in the future.

Prior to joining BC Hydro, Maureen worked in senior roles at TELUS, including Director of Corporate Strategy and Director of the Project Management Office.

Maureen holds a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Western Ontario. With a passion for employee development and coaching people to be their best selves, Maureen is in the process of becoming an ICF certified coach and has delivered more than 100 hours of coaching to BC Hydro employees.

BC Hydro Executive Team



Ken Duke
Senior Vice-President & General Counsel

Ken Duke is BC Hydro's Senior Vice-President & General Counsel, responsible for Legal Services and the Freedom of Information Coordinating Office. Ken joined BC Hydro's Legal Services department in 2008 and was appointed General Counsel in 2017.

Ken leads a team that supports the Board and Executive Team, provides legal advice and services to all aspects of BC Hydro's business and manages compliance with access to information and privacy laws.

A member of the BC Law Society, Ken has practised as a lawyer since 1996. He has a law degree and Masters of Public Administration from the University of Victoria. Before BC Hydro, Ken worked for a Vancouver law firm and Alcan.



Diana Stephenson
Senior Vice-President, Customer and Corporate Affairs

Diana Stephenson is BC Hydro's Senior Vice-President of Customer and Corporate Affairs. She joined BC Hydro in December 2021, and has nearly two decades of electricity industry experience in Western Canada's regulated and competitive electricity marketplaces. Diana's team works directly with customers, stakeholders, Indigenous Nations, employees, regulatory bodies, and our shareholder – the provincial government – to support our customers, conservation and teams within our organization.

Before joining BC Hydro, Diana served as Vice-President, Public Affairs & Sustainability with ENMAX Corporation. During her time with ENMAX, she led the organization's public affairs, shareholder relations, environmental, social and governance (ESG), branding, governance, communications, executive projects, organizational change management and community portfolios.

From 2010 to 2012, she was the Chief Governance Officer for Mountain Equipment Co-op, where she held a range of organizational and stakeholder accountabilities. She also worked for BC Hydro and the former BC Transmission Corporation from 2001 to 2010, holding roles in corporate governance, regulatory affairs and executive project management.

Diana currently serves on the board of WaterAid Canada, part of a global not for profit organization working to increase access to and awareness of the critical need for clean water, sanitation and hygiene in economically challenged and marginalized regions across the world. She is also a member of the management board for Invest Vancouver.

Personal Information

BC Hydro Executive Team



Ryan Layton
Executive Vice-President, Finance, Technology and Supply Chain and CFO

Ryan Layton is BC Hydro's Executive Vice-President, Finance, Technology and Supply Chain and Chief Financial Officer. Ryan's team provides corporate-wide financial services and support to the organization including budgeting, planning and forecasting to support management plans and decisions. His team leads the planning, design, delivery and operation of BC Hydro's technology asset portfolio and supports the entire organization by providing safe, cost-effective and timely delivery of materials, vehicles and services needed to keep our business running. Ryan joined BC Hydro in 2006 and held a number of progressively more responsible leadership roles in Finance before joining the executive team in July 2023. His

previous role was Chief Accounting Officer, where he led BC Hydro's financial team and provided senior leadership to most of BC Hydro's Finance function. He also provided leadership to the business planning and risk management teams. In addition to his roles in Finance, Ryan has previous leadership experience within BC Hydro's Technology and Fleet Services teams.

Prior to joining BC Hydro in 2006, Ryan was a Manager of Transfer Pricing in PwC's Vancouver office. Ryan assisted clients in international tax planning, as well as negotiations/dispute resolution with Canadian and international tax authorities. Ryan holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from UBC and is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA). Ryan also served as a volunteer member of the BC SPCA Board of Directors.



Matt Wilson
Senior Vice-President, Safety

Matt Wilson is BC Hydro's Senior Vice-President of Safety. Matt leads a team that includes Safety, Security & Emergency Management, and Learning & Development. The Safety group helps ensure that everyone who interacts with the BC Hydro system gets home safely, every day. This team develops and implements our Safety Framework, provides learning solutions to enable a trained, competent, and qualified workforce, and establishes and implements a corporatewide approach to protecting and preparing our people, assets and operations from events or incidents.

Matt joined BC Hydro in 2006, and most recently held the position of Director, Construction Services within the Operations team where he was responsible for leading a province wide multidiscipline team in the delivery of capital construction projects, maintenance, emergency support and vegetation management. He previously held senior leadership roles at BC Hydro as Senior Field Operations Manager, Regional Manager – Lower Mainland Distribution and Stations.

Prior to joining BC Hydro, Matt worked in the telecom utility sector at TELUS. There he led a team of construction and customer-facing staff in the Sea to Sky corridor with accountability for delivery of major construction initiatives including World Cup ski events at Whistler Blackcomb. He brought this experience with him to BC Hydro, where he played a key role in the successful construction and operation of the Winter Olympic venue energization program in 2010.

BC Hydro Executive Team

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

DUPLICATE

CROWN AGENCY PROFILE

Name: British Columbia Energy Regulator (BCER)

Legislative Authority:

The BCER regulates energy resources primarily through the Energy Resource Activities Act (ERAA) and other associated laws as outlined below. As a provincial Crown Corporation, the organization reports to the provincial government through the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation.

- [Energy Resource Activities Act](#)
- [Water Sustainability Act](#)
- [Environmental Management Act](#)
- [Heritage Conservation Act](#)
- [Forest Act](#)
- [Land Act](#)

Mandate:

The BCER is the regulatory agency responsible for overseeing energy activities in British Columbia. Its role includes the management of natural gas, hydrogen, ammonia, methanol, oil, carbon capture and storage (CCS) and geothermal resources.

As derived from the Energy Resource Activities Act – “The purpose of the regulator is to regulate energy resource activities in a manner that protects public safety and the environment, supports reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and the transition to low-carbon energy, conserves energy resources and fosters a sound economy and social well-being.”

Further direction is provided through a Minister’s [Mandate Letter](#).

Current Appointees:

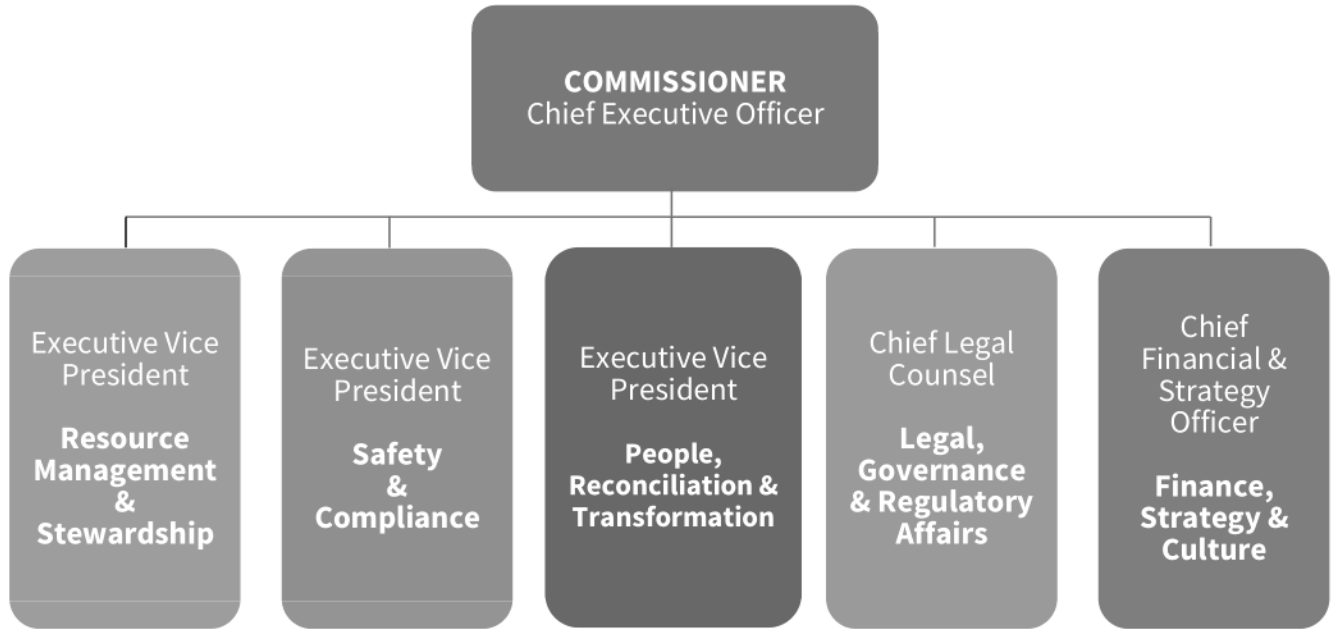
- Commissioner and Chief Operating Officer – Michelle Carr
- Board Chair – Chris Hayman
- Board Director – Shannon Baskerville (Deputy Minister, Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation)
- Board Director – Kevin Brewster
- Board Director – Ken Cameron
- Board Director – Patrick Kelly
- Board Director – Natascha Kiernan
- Board Director – Sharon Singh

Advice/Recommendations

Issue(s): As of Aug. 12, 2024

1. Treaty 8/Blueberry River First Nations Agreements – ongoing implementation of the Gundy Plan and other agreements
 - The BCER has worked to accelerate restoration in areas of cultural importance by designating priority dormant sites identified by BRFN and Treaty 8 communities.
2. Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project – key permitting and construction
 - The BCER has issued all major pipeline permits for the different sections of the pipeline required for this project.
 - The BCER is working closely with the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) and Nisga’a to manage compliance on this project.
 - Pre-construction permit requirements have not been met for other portions of the pipeline route.
 - The BCER permits for PRGT currently expire on or before Nov. 25, 2024.
3. LNG Canada – phased start up and flaring activities
 - The BCER issued an air discharge permit to LNG Canada on July 15, 2024.
 - Flaring, which is anticipated to begin in late August 2024, will be most prominent during start-up and commissioning until early operations is achieved in 2025. Flaring will be intermittent during the early operations stage.
 - Leave to operate (LTO) submissions are anticipated to be received throughout 2024 and into Q1 of 2025 as LNG Canada seeks approval to commission different parts of the facility.
4. Woodfibre LNG Project and Eagle Mountain Pipeline – key permitting
 - Woodfibre LNG commenced early works in November 2023. Leave to construct submission is under review, and construction under the BCER LNG Facility Permit in anticipated commence in August 2024.
 - Fortis BC construction on the Eagle Mountain Pipeline (tunnel and mainline) is ongoing and will continue into 2025.
5. Erikson Remediation – outstanding Orders
 - The BCER undertook action to drain the pond, remove the liners, assess and remediate any contamination and decommission the pond within defined timelines.
 - The BCER has issued an Order to Erikson to pay the costs associated with the above work.
 - All permit holders are continuously monitored for compliance and financial risk in the assessment of security requirements, which serve to mitigate impacts to the Orphan Site Reclamation Fund.
6. Water Use – ongoing/new/lifting of suspension Directives possible
 - The BCER is closely monitoring water levels and drought conditions for industry use, and:
 - Worsening conditions could result in further short-term water withdrawal suspensions through 2024 and continuing into 2025;
 - Improving conditions may result in lifting of current short-term water withdrawal suspensions.
 - Negative media/public perception possible surrounding continued water use by industry during ongoing drought and short-term water withdrawal suspensions.

Organizational Chart:



BCER Board Chair, CEO and Executive**Chris Hayman – BCER Board Chair**

Chris was appointed as a director of the board on Feb. 17, 2023 for a term of two years, ending Feb. 17, 2025.

Chris has over 30 years' experience in the oil and gas, mining services and regulatory environment. Trained as a public practice Chartered Accountant, Chris most recently served as President of a multinational mining services company with operations in Canada, the United States and South America. Prior to that Chris was the CFO for Clearstream Energy Services. Chris spent nearly 10 years with Enbridge at the start of his career working in the financial and regulatory areas. Chris spent a similar amount of time with Finning in senior financial and operational roles leading the growth of new business units as well as establishing new governance frameworks in line with changing corporate regulations.

Michelle Carr, ICD.D - Commissioner, Chief Executive Officer

Michelle Carr was appointed Commissioner and CEO of the BCER on Nov. 15, 2021. In these roles, Michelle is the strategic and operational leader and carries out statutory accountabilities as Commissioner.

Michelle is passionate about innovation, regulatory effectiveness, reconciliation, governance, and empowering leadership. She has over 27 years of expertise in regulatory oversight, industry and government relations, organizational transformation and development, engagement and public policy/legislative development. Before coming to the BCER, Michelle held diverse executive portfolios in the B.C. Public Service, overseeing transformational change.

Michelle came to the BCER as Assistant Deputy Minister from the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation where she was provincial executive accountable for the \$40 billion LNG Canada facility and associated Coastal GasLink natural gas pipeline, the largest private sector investment in Canadian history.

From January 2017 to October 2018, Michelle was the Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager of the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch, accountable for oversight of public safety and public interest of liquor and cannabis control and licensing of \$2B industry comprised of hospitality, retail and manufacturing businesses. Michelle oversaw the development of the first-ever non-medical cannabis retail regime in B.C.

Michelle spent almost four years as Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Lead with B.C.'s Environmental Assessment Office leading the Operations Division, where her team conducted environmental assessments for projects worth an estimated \$121 billion in potential capital investment as the first significant one-window regulator for major projects.

Michelle obtained her ICCD designation through the Institute of Corporate Directors in 2023, holds Master and Bachelor of Arts degrees in Geography from the University of Victoria and received a Certificate in Advanced Leadership from the UBC Sauder School of Business Executive Program.

BCER Executive Leadership Team

Peter Robb - Executive Vice President, Resource Management and Stewardship



Peter Robb is responsible for overseeing the full life cycle of responsible energy resource development, including stewardship of the surface and subsurface areas from which energy is produced. He also leads the BCER's orphan site management program.

Prior to joining the BCER, Peter spent 17 years at the B.C. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, along with a four-year hiatus at the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. In 2016, Peter was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister of the Mines Competitiveness and Authorizations Division with the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation.

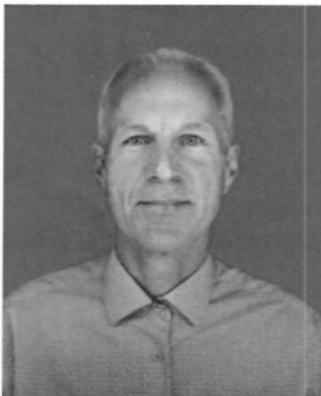
Peter is a passionate leader and a strong advocate of regulatory excellence in the natural resources industry. Peter has vast experience within government in regional operations, permitting and the development of major infrastructure projects. Before joining the Government of British Columbia in 2001, Peter spent several years working in the B.C. Treaty negotiations process and the forest sector as a consultant.

Personal Information

Personal Information

Peter has spent his entire career working in the natural resource sector with a focus on regulatory excellence and engaging and negotiating with First Nations in the forestry, mining and oil and gas sectors.

Andy Johnson - Executive Vice President, Safety and Compliance



Andy Johnson has been the Executive VP, Safety and Compliance at the BCER since 2023, having served in this role on an interim basis for eight months. Andy is responsible for overseeing the Safety & Compliance Division by providing strategic direction to both the division and the organization through collaboration and values-based leadership. For four years previously, he was VP, Compliance and Operations.

A professional Forester with over 35 years of experience in both forestry and the oil and gas sectors, he has held various leadership roles in the B.C. mid-stream oil and gas sector for 18 years prior to the BCER.

Personal Information

Personal Information

out of the BCER's Fort St. John office.

He currently works

Sara Dickinson - Executive Vice President, People, Reconciliation & Transformation

Sara leads the Reconciliation, Community Engagement, Human Resources & Workplace, Digital Innovation & Public Trust portfolios.

Located out of the Fort St. John office, Sara has lived in northeast B.C. for over 15 years and has 14 years of experience with the BCER. Her experience across the oil and gas regulatory lifecycle includes multiple strategic and operational roles in petroleum and natural gas tenure, permitting, stewardship, reconciliation, and strategic relations.

Personal Information

Personal Information and demonstrated ability to build bridges and manage conflict through negotiation and diplomacy.

Dean Skinner - Chief Financial and Strategy Officer

In this role, Dean is responsible for leading the development of the strategic framework for the organization and providing expert advice to Executive and support to the organization in the areas of finance, performance planning, change management and corporate property. Dean prides himself on building and maintaining strong relationships, and leading and developing highly engaged teams. Dean also has a passion for, and experience in the important role of finance and related accountabilities in organizations.

Dean has worked in the public service for over 20 years. In 2018, he was appointed the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) of Corporate Services and Executive Financial Officer of the Ministry of Citizens' Services. He was the ADM responsible for such areas as finance, human resources, strategic planning & reporting, and facilities. In 2021, Dean moved to the Public Service Agency in the same ADM role but with additional focus on information management and technology and government's outsourced model for human resource and payroll services. Dean also has 10 years of experience as a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) with the BC Public Service Agency and with the Crown corporation, Destination BC. In 2014, he was the newly formed Destination BC's first ever CFO and led the finance and human resource teams.

Personal Information

holding a CMA/CPA designation.

and is a professional accountant,

**Sara Gregory - Chief Legal Counsel, Governance & Regulatory Affairs**

Sara has over 15 years of experience with the British Columbia Energy Regulator. As Chief Legal Counsel, she leads the BCER's Governance, Legal and Regulatory Affairs Division, including holding responsibility for risk management, regulatory development, energy transition and major projects. Sara is an experienced lawyer.

Prior to joining the BCER, her legal practice focussed on regulatory law, administrative law and commercial litigation, with a focus on project development, regulatory compliance and environmental law issues. As well as appearing before courts and tribunals, Sara utilized dispute resolution processes, including arbitration and mediation.

CROWN AGENCY PROFILE

Name: Columbia Basin Trust

Legislative Authority: Columbia Basin Trust Act

Mandate:

The Trust is mandated under the *Columbia Basin Trust Act* to manage its assets for the ongoing economic, environmental and social benefit of the region, without relieving governments of any obligations in the region. The Trust is also mandated under the *Columbia Basin Management Plan* to include the people of the Basin in planning for the management of the assets, and to work with others to coordinate activities related to the purpose of the Trust.

Current Appointees:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Jocelyn Carver, Chair | 7. Betty Anne Marino, |
| 2. Owen Torgerson, Vice-Chair | 8. Don McCormick |
| 3. Angus Graeme | 9. Codie Morigeau |
| 4. Karen Hamling | 10. Ronald Oszust |
| 5. Suzan Hewat | 11. Krista Turcasso |
| 6. Christine Hoechsmann | 12. Bill van Yzerloo. |

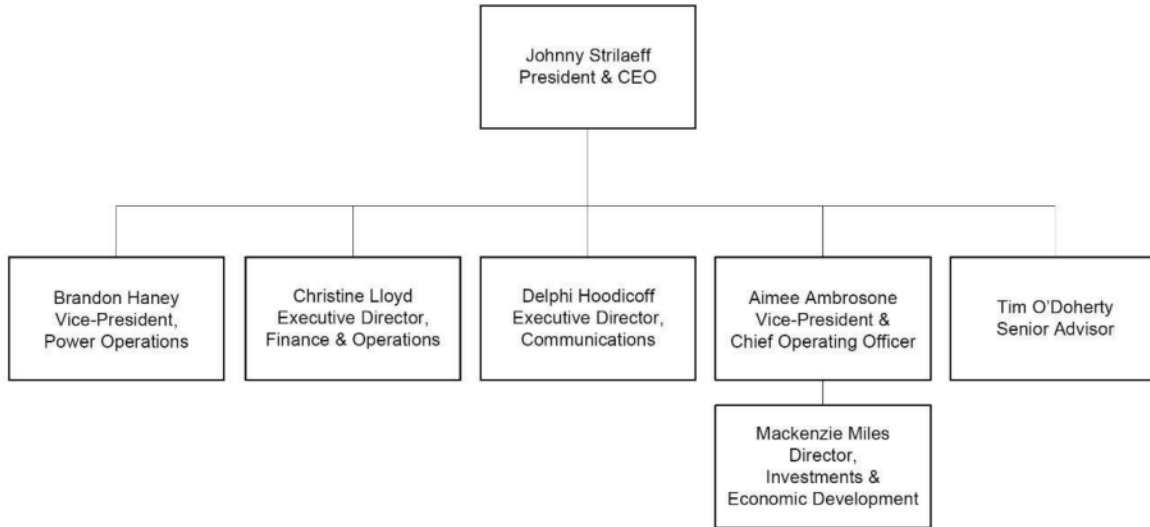
Advice/Recommendations

Issue(s):

None anticipated.

Organizational Chart

COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST
Executive Organizational Chart



COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST
Biographies




Jocelyn Carver

Board Chair – January 2020 to Present, Trust Director as of January 1, 2018

Jocelyn Carver has been living and working in the West Kootenay since the mid 1990s, having lived previously in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Alberta. She was immediately struck by the commitment to community development and regional self-determination that characterizes so many Basin communities. This led to many years happily engaged in the development of regional cooperatives and non-profit initiatives. She worked in both Human Resources and Marketing/Outreach at the Kootenay Coop in Nelson, as it grew to become Canada's largest natural foods retail consumer cooperative, as well as sitting on the founding board of Kootenay Cooperative Radio and contributing to the creation of the Upper Columbia Cooperative Council. From 2015 to 2024, she was the Executive Director of Kootenay Career Development Society, providing a variety of employment and career development services in in the Boundary/West Kootenay and Central Kootenay region. She has served on multiple boards and advisory committees including the Nelson & Area Economic Development Partnership Advisory Committee, the 'Nelson at its Best' Poverty Reduction Initiative, City of Nelson's Cultural Advisory Committee and currently serves on the Youth Climate Corps BC board. She holds a degree in History from Dalhousie University and a Graduate Certificate in Community Economic Development from Simon Fraser University. She lives in Nelson, and her term expires December 31, 2025.

Johnny Strilaeff

President and Chief Executive Officer



Johnny Strilaeff was born and raised in the Columbia Basin region. He joined the Trust in 2005 after working for several years in the financial services sector. He became Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer in 2012, and the Board of Directors promoted him to President and CEO in November 2016. In 2017 Johnny also assumed Acting CEO responsibilities for Columbia Power Corporation, and following a reorganization he continues to have oversight responsibilities for all power asset related business. Johnny attended Selkirk College prior to completing his Bachelor of Commerce degree at the University of Calgary (with a concentration in Finance) and is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Charterholder. He resides in Castlegar with his wife Tracy.


Aimee Ambrosone

Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer

Aimee Ambrosone has worked at the Trust since 2001. She was raised in Salmo and Trail and received her MBA in Strategic Management from UBC. She has generated, negotiated and managed major funding partnerships with local governments, Crown corporations and non-profit societies for both the Trust and Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation. With extensive experience in community development, business management and strategic partnerships, she has developed and overseen strategies, programs and initiatives and manages a large team of staff. She resides in Castlegar.

Brandon Haney

Vice-President, Power Operations



Brandon Haney started with Columbia Power in 2014 as an Electrical Engineer working on Asset Reliability and Plant Operations & Maintenance. He previously worked for BC Hydro in Design,

COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST Biographies

Resource Management and Operations & Maintenance and is a practicing Professional Engineer with EGBC since 2009. His passion lies in renewable energy asset management, particularly through the application of predictive technologies to the O&M of hydro equipment to ensure high reliability. Brandon has a Bachelor of Applied Science in Electrical Engineering, a Masters in Electrical Power Engineering and is a UBC Sauder MBA Candidate of 2022. He and his family are happy to call the West Kootenay home.

Delphi Hoodicoff

Executive Director, Communications

Delphi Hoodicoff joined the Trust in 2008. She was raised in the West Kootenay and holds a BBA from Simon Fraser University with a focus in Marketing, and a Diploma in Broadcast Journalism from BCIT. Prior to the Trust Delphi worked in communications for the BC Government Caucus and the Premier's Office from 2001-2006. She and her family live in Crescent Valley.

Christine Lloyd

Executive Director, Finance and Operations

Christine Lloyd started with the Trust in 2000 as an Accounting Technician. She was born and raised in Castlegar. Prior to the Trust, Christine worked in a legal office, and then a large construction company, and studied accounting and Business Administration. Christine later pursued her CGA designation and completed her Bachelor of Accounting through Thompson Rivers University. In her current role at the Trust, she oversees Human Resources, Accounting, Information Services and Corporate Operations. Christine lives in Castlegar with her husband Ken, and has two daughters, Emma and Maxie, and two dogs, Ozzy and Archie.

Mackenzie Miles

Director, Investments and Economic Development

Mackenzie Miles joined the Trust in 2016 as a Business Support Analyst. Prior to joining the Investments & Economic Development department, he was instrumental in the development of key business processes for Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation and provided financial expertise with respect to the development of large-scale capital projects. He was born and raised in Cranbrook and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Calgary. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Charter holder. Based in Cranbrook, he enjoys golfing and quality time with his friends and his cat, Baron.

Tim O'Doherty

Senior Advisor

Tim O'Doherty joined the Trust in 2008. He was raised in Burnaby and spent a number of years in the Kootenays prior to working at the Trust. He worked in financial services for 30 years, primarily focusing on commercial lending and investment management. He now resides in Castlegar with his family and is an active member of the local Rotary Club and enjoys the Kootenay lifestyle.

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CROWN AGENCY PROFILE

Name: Columbia Power Corporation

Legislative Authority: Business Corporations Act

Mandate:

Continue to ensure long-term profitability, reliability, safety and environmental sustainability of the power facilities in which Columbia Power has an ownership share through effective and efficient management of plant operations and maintenance.

Current Appointees:

1. John Stephens, Chair
2. Alison MacLeod, Vice-Chair
3. David de Git
4. Les MacLaren

Appointments Required:

None anticipated.

Issue(s):

None anticipated.

Organizational Chart: Power project management and other services provided by Columbia Basin Trust under Shared Services Agreement (see Columbia Basin Trust Crown Agency Profile)

COLUMBIA POWER CORPORATION
Biographies



John Stephens, Chair

John Stephens is a Professional Mechanical engineer and together with his wife, Ursula, they have raised their three children in Rossland. John is an avid sailor, skier and hiker. He has spent many years volunteering with Scouts Canada, and Red Mountain Racers. John has many years experience in mechanical design, construction and management of heavy industrial projects. His work has mainly been in the Kootenays at metallurgical and pulp and paper sites, though several special projects in the nuclear industry, with ammonia plants and metallurgical refineries allowed him to work outside of BC and Canada. John has authored and co-authored papers on ammonia tank corrosion, nuclear waste management, and pipe stress analysis. John has been actively involved in various volunteer roles for Engineers and Geoscientists of BC and was the West Kootenay Branch Chair for several years.

Alison MacLeod, Vice-Chair

Alison is a professional structural engineer and has been providing engineering services since 2003 in Western Canada. She started her career working in construction gaining valuable field experience prior to moving on to consulting engineering. Her experience includes the design of residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial structures as well as bridges and highway structures. Her passion for skiing, mountain biking, and art brought her to the West Kootenay, and the strong community has made her stay. Alison has been involved in volunteer roles for the Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia.

David de Git



David de Git, CPA, CMA, is owner of DeGit Consulting Ltd., a company providing business consulting services to not-for-profit and public sector organizations. David was previously Director, Finance for Columbia Power Corporation and director on the Waneta Expansion General Partner Ltd. Board. He served on the board of the Certified Management Accountants Society of BC from 2006-2008 and the CMA West Kootenay chapter executive for many years.

Les MacLaren

Les MacLaren is the Strategic Energy Advisor, Deputy Minister's Office, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation. Les has been with the BC Public Service since 1991 with responsibilities for electricity policy, alternative energy development, utility regulation, energy efficiency policy and programs, Crown corporation governance and performance, and the Columbia River Treaty. Les has served on the Board and Governance Committee of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council. Les holds a BSc in Geology from Queen's University and a MBA from the University of British Columbia.

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