BC Utilities Commission

As a member of the Hudson's Hope Community and as family members of mine are directly affected by the flooding that will be caused by the Site C reservoir, I have been "submitting my opinion" of the project for years. (Please see: FB Stop Site C)

In this instance I would like to urge the committee to look nationally at other hydro projects ongoing in Canada at present.

Muskrat Falls in Newfoundland for one, “technically, but not economically, feasible” and warned of “inevitable cost overruns.” as of last month, now at 12.7 billion "The extra costs largely relate to the settlement of claims for past delays and changes to agreements with contractors, but Marshall also stressed that the original budget to build and operate the mega-project was way off the mark."

Keeyask Dam in Manitoba, "The 695-megawatt generating station, approximately 725 kilometres north of Winnipeg on the Nelson River, was originally estimated to cost $6.5 billion and expected to be in service by November of 2019. In September of 2016, the Boston Consulting Group completed an analysis for Hydro that adjusted the estimate to $7.8 billion."

BC’s Minister of Energy said in mid October that the $7.9 billion budget for Site C had been examined by top international experts and was assuredly “reliable.” Two months later, Premier Clark revealed the dam budget had jumped to $8.5 billion. Days passed and when project approval was announced, the budget had jumped to $8.775 billion.

"Once again, the British Columbia Liberals demonstrate practiced mendacity. They are consistent though since mega-projects of the past five years typically doubled between first announcement and completion but were invariably pronounced to be on-time and on-budget. The mantra will be used again for the Peace River project, and it will be echoed by the compliant proMedia, even if the dam costs $18 billion"

As this is a proven fact, I absolutely do not understand why this project is STILL to this date continuing. The environmental concerns, the agricultural concerns, the First Nation concerns. The numbers state that BC is fast learning energy conservation causing demand to continue to decrease NOT increase.

BC Ratepayers do not want this project to continue...

Melodie Godsman